

Agenda item 3

Dear Councillor Mitchell

Request for Scrutiny Review of EB4U and East Brighton Trust

I am writing to you to request formally that the Overview & Scrutiny Commission gives consideration to conducting a scrutiny review into EB4U and the East Brighton Trust.

As Ward Councillor for Moulsecoomb & Bevendean I have received numerous queries and complaints from residents in recent months about how the money allocated to the New Deal for Communities programme in East Brighton has been, and is being, spent. In my role of Cabinet Member for Housing, I also have some concerns about the effectiveness of the various programmes in an area with a very high level of council-owned housing.

I understand that a thorough review was carried out on EB4U in 2005 – effectively the halfway point of the 10 year Government funding programme. This review was set up following some concerns raised about the effectiveness and accountability arrangements of EB4U.

However, now we have come to the end of the 10 year period I feel the time would be right to carry out another review to try and make some sort of objective assessment of what worked and what didn't. I would like the focus of this study to both be on the issues which have been raised with me by residents but also to look forward to how we can learn the lessons of EB4U to inform future work on tackling deprivation across the whole City.

I would be happy to come and speak to the Commission to expand on some of these issues if you feel it would be helpful.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Maria Caulfield

