

POLICY, FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**17 APRIL 2012****REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE****CORPORATE ISSUES****1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To update Members on a variety of corporate issues at locality and county wide level.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**2.1 It is recommended that**

- (1) The report be noted;**
- (2) The Council receives the views of the Melton Community Partnership on the Commissioning Plan for the Locality at its next meeting.**
- (3) The Committee receives a report from the Performance Management Task Group at either its June or September meeting dependent upon the views of the Task Group upon its readiness to report back on the pilot Performance Management systems.**

3.0 KEY ISSUES**3.1 Locality Commissioning Plan**

3.2 As Members will recall the new Leicestershire Together Commissioning Framework has requested that localities (for this purpose the administrative area of District Councils) prepare a Commissioning Plan for their area under the auspices of the Local Strategic Partnership which for Melton is the Melton Community Partnership (MCP) which is chaired by the Leader of the Council and includes a variety of partners represented at a senior level with commitment to move forward the needs of the Locality.

3.3 The MCP meets on 19 April 2012 and it will receive the proposed draft Commissioning Plan for consideration. This Plan is based upon the key priorities as agreed by the MCP for the locality area of Melton. The Commissioning Plan is attached to Appendix 1 to this report. As Members may see, the Plan reflects the "People and Places" approach of the MCP which it adopted in 2007 and has subsequently developed. This enables a joined up and integrated approach to service delivery amongst the partners and has seen several successes both for the Council and its partners in relation to service delivery, particularly for people living within the area. The MCP has agreed that it needs to move forward its approach to deal with the aspiration of the community particularly that related to education, employment and skills and this links well to the Council's developing approach.

3.4 It is proposed that a report of the MCP consideration of the Commissioning Plan be made to the next meeting of this Committee.

3.5 Relationship Manager

3.6 The County Council has offered all the District Councils a Relationship Manager as a first point of contact within the county Framework. This offer has arisen from discussions

between the District Council Chief Executives and the officers developing the Countywide Commissioning Framework. The purpose of the role is at an operational level to ensure the smooth flow of information, improved communication, and to develop understanding. The Manager's role has been established for an interim period and will be considered for formal implementation and roll out following the interim trial period.

3.7 "Achieving Standard" in the Equalities Framework for Local Government

3.8 As Members are aware following a peer review on the 27th and 28th March 2012 the Council was advised that it had reached the "Achieving Standard" of the above mentioned Framework. This is a significant outcome for the Council as it has endeavoured to embed equalities activity within its day to day workload and the Peer Reviewers noted this and were impressed at the breadth and quality of the activity carried out by the Council. They further commented that the Council was very open and "self aware" in knowing the areas where it required to improve and further noted that for a district council with a small staffing base there was a clear need to follow the road of embedding within services rather than creating a "support unit" to deal with matters. However, it was acknowledged that the partnership activity amongst the district councils and how that had added significantly to the capacity of the Council in this very specific area.

3.9 A formal report will be received from the Peer Reviewers and Members will have an opportunity to consider and agree the Action Planning resulting there from.

3.10 Investors in People (IiP)

3.11 Members are advised that the formal inspection to renew the Council's IiP accreditation will take place in late April and early May. As with all inspections there will be a need to develop and submit the evidence base and preliminary discussions have taken place with the Assessor to determine his needs and requirements. Whilst this is a full Council assessment as Members will recall the focus is on human resources, relationships with trade unions and staff, and development, learning and opportunity for staff. Several officers are involved in meeting the Assessor's requirements and managing the process for him with particular emphasis on the Communications service.

3.12 Performance Management

3.13 Unfortunately, as a result of illness the Performance Management Task Group was unable to hold its last scheduled meeting. Therefore, a report to the Committee will be made at its next meeting. The Task Group will be reconvening shortly and the up to date position upon the roll out and development of the Council's new pilot Performance Management system will be presented to them for consideration.

3.14 Service Standards

3.15 As agreed, the first quarters outcome for the revised Service standards are attached at Appendix 2. These Service Standards are incorporated within the new pilot system and are part of the review by the Task Group. A more detailed report on learning from the Standards will be included in the Task Group's report.

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are several matters covered within this report which will assist to develop and roll out the Council's policy approach. In particular the Locality Commissioning Plan, the Action Plan associated with the Peer Review of the Council in meeting the Achieving Standard of the Equalities Framework for Local Government and the up and coming IiP inspection. As Members will note from the recommendations within this report they and relevant Committees will be involved in the settlement of the next steps to deal with these matters.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Other than the costs associated with carrying out the inspections there are no specific implications arising from this report, such costs have been accommodated within existing budgets.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

6.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 Within the Locality Commissioning Plan there are community safety activities as the Melton Community Safety Partnership reports through to the MCP as required.

8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 Other than set out within the body of the report there are no particular implications from this update report.

9.0 RISKS

9.1 *To consider and give any Risks related to this report and if there are risks to complete the tables below. If there are no risks identified, then delete the table*

Probability
↓

Very High A				
High B				
Significant C			2	
Low D		1		
Very Low E				
Almost Impossible F				
	IV Negligible	III Marginal	II Critical	I Catastrophic

→
Impact

Risk No.	Description
1	Council does not wish to fulfil its role in the Community Plan
2	Council fails in its IIP Re-accreditation

10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

11.0 CONSULTATION

11.1 Various aspects of consultation have been carried out with respect to the issues covered within this report. This includes staff and community consultation as required at appropriate stages.

12.0 WARDS AFFECTED

12.1 All

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Date: 4 April 2012

Appendices : Appendix 1 – Draft Locality Commissioning Plan
Appendix 2 – Service Standards

Background Papers: Relevant MCP minutes
Performance Management Task Group minutes
Discussions with Leicestershire County Council in relation to the interim post of Relationship Manager
Informal feedback from the Equalities Peer Review

Reference : X : Committees\Ctees, Council & Sub-Committees\PFA/2011 12