

## POLICY, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

30 SEPTEMBER 2014

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### CORPORATE ISSUES

##### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the progress with respect to the Council's activities and working with other Councils across the Region and elsewhere. Also to seek support for this submission of the Transformation Challenge Bids which were explained to Members in this report to the July Committee.

##### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

**It is recommended that:**

- 2.1 **Support be given to the submission of the Transformation Challenge Bids, subject to approval of the Section 151 Officer as required by the process.**

##### 3.0 KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 As Members aware, following the successful visit of representatives of the Public Services Transformation Network Panel (PSTN) to Leicestershire, which in part focussed upon Melton Borough and particularly Parkside, several other Districts and Counties have asked to visit the site to understand the ethos, principles and practicalities of working as this Council does in Parkside with its Partners. These visits have allowed the Council to pass on its learning to others in Local Government and Public Sector, as well as gain knowledge itself upon current approaches to transformation. Also, our Partner DWP, has promoted visits from several of their sites to understand how the integration of Melton Borough Council and its Partners with Job Centre Plus has worked so well. Members may also recall that it is the opinion of senior officers that the approach adopted by DWP to their location within Parkside has been exemplary and your officers are very happy to explain this to their colleagues. The Job Centre Plus Team have also won awards around their relocation approach.
- 3.2 The PSTN have also advised the Council that they wish to undertake two case studies relating to the Melton Way. These will revolve around the concepts of the integrated working in Parkside and its ethos, together with the further case study on Me and My Learning. PSTN Officers will locate themselves within the Council for several days over the preparation period and will interview a variety of staff to understand and develop the case studies. It is understood that these may be illustrated in draft form at a PSTN meeting on 15 October 2014, thereafter the work will be completed in further detail.
- 3.3 Finally, in relation to PSTN activity, the Chief Executive is working with two other Chief Executives on behalf of the District Councils to develop a Transformation Strategy for Leicester and Leicestershire under the City Deal 'Asks'. This is being carried out in partnership with the Leicestershire County Council and Leicester City Council and it is hoped that the ethos, principles and approach to integration, alignment and development of services and the partnership approach exhibited in Parkside can, in some way, form the basis of this Transformation Strategy. However, discussions are at an early stage.
- 3.4 The Council is also continuing its practical support to Rushcliffe Borough Council in its project to provide and refurbish new offices allied to a leisure provision. The Strategic Director (CAM) is supporting the Council at certain practical and project meetings as well

as arranging a variety of visits for Rushcliffe Teams to meet Melton staff and discuss how they have made the open plan nature of the building work as well as increased integration with Partners and developed service provision. Rushcliffe are compensating the Council for the capacity used.

### 3.5 Transformation Challenge Bids

The Council was advised by formal Regulatory Order that it had been successful with its first Bid to the PSTN Challenge Panel in a sum of circa £45,000. This was a small Bid which fitted into the categories for delivery in 2014/15 as well as being able to start to realise the cost benefits during that time. The Bid made, as Members may recall, was for additional IT and facilities to assist with the running of certain types of training and courses for those clients attending Me and My Learning. This provision was not allowed under the ESF award and therefore the PSTN grant gives added value to the Phoenix House facility. Members may wish to note that the Partners using Me and My Learning are integrating well, cross-referring amongst themselves and developing the ethos in a very proactive way. This is very pleasing and adds value for those using the facility.

- 3.6 As required by the process, the Section 151 Officer has to be satisfied with the Bids submitted and in particular the approach developed to Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA). The Finance Team are checking the requisite Bids and advising the Head of Central Services as appropriate. The Council led Me and My Learning Bid has been worked up in partnership by the Business Partner for the Project in association with the Central Services Manager. Consultation has also taken place with New Economy, the Government sponsored organisation which is providing detail and analysis of the Bids submitted and giving advice. This advice and guidance has been sought by the Business Partner and encouraging responses received.
- 3.7 The next stage Me and My Learning Bid includes Blaby District Council as a Partner who will over the period of the Bid develop the ethos of the concept in their locality. Officers have agreed a simple document which sets out the ethos and Melton will assist Blaby in the development of the rollout of this in their area. The Council were also requested in feedback to approach other Districts within the County to see if they would be willing to participate within the project to develop an understanding of how this works, to see how Blaby works through the introduction in their locality and to consider the extension of the Me and My Learning ethos into their Districts and Locality Partnerships. At the time of writing, three other Districts within Leicestershire were positively considering being named in the Bid. As appropriate an update will be given to the Committee. This is also in line with LLEP aspirations for potential roll out of the concept.
- 3.8 The IT Partnership Bid is explained elsewhere on this Agenda in association with a policy development paper and it is therefore not proposed to go into any detail with respect to that Bid, however Members are asked to recall and note that it is part of the PSTN Challenge Bid process in association with the other Bids mentioned in this report.
- 3.9 The 'Lightbulb' project has also been worked up to a full bid for submission. Officers have been fully engaged with this project which Members may recall involves the provision of 'low level' integrated services for older people who can be supported and encouraged to retain their independence and lifestyle within the community. This Bid promotes integrated partnership working across the County between the County Council, Health Partners, the Districts (all participating) and other voluntary and community sector organisations, as appropriate. This project has stages where its development will be assessed and Partners can ensure that it still meets the required priorities of the various organisations.
- 3.10 The 'Early Help' Bid is also moving towards its final stages. This Bid proposes a modernised approach to community development on a set of principles called Asset Based Community Development which involves developing the community to gain resilience and the ability to work together to deal with local problems of neighbourhoods, families and

people. The Bid includes locality co-ordinators and at the present time Melton, Blaby and Hinckley have agreed to be full partners in the initial rollout if the Bid is successful. The Bid also promotes a development in these localities of Corporate Social Responsibility which will be an interesting development to promote locally as it is clear that there is much activity by certain companies in this field.

- 3.11 Finally, the Council has offered to Charnwood Borough Council to be 'mentioned' in its Asset Rationalisation and Development Bid around any staffing/integration cultural aspects that the Council or Partners may feel require development if the Bid is successful. Charnwood have responded positively to this offer and Officers have supplied information in detail which may assist with the development of this strand of the Bid. An update will be given as appropriate at the meeting on this offer.

#### **4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 If these Bids are successful in part or in whole, they will assist the Council in moving forward its ethos and priorities, not least the concept of integration of services based around Parkside and Me and My Learning. Members may recall the '0-90'ies Continuum' presented to the July meeting and how these Bids gave added value on coverage to the services and support that the Council was giving to its Community, particularly the vulnerable. It is therefore considered appropriate that the Council gives capacity to the development of these Partner initiatives as they fit into its own Direction of Travel.

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 At this stage there are no financial implications which the Council needs to be aware of other than the successful Bids will bring grants to the Council which will have to be appropriately managed.

#### **6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS**

- 6.1 As indicated above it would be expected that appropriate grant conditions will apply to any successful ward and the Council as Accountable Body for at least two of the Bids will need to ensure that it properly adheres to and manages those conditions.

#### **7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY**

- 7.1 Other than the impact of the improved working and support for the Community, there are no particular Community safety implications arising from this report.

#### **8.0 EQUALITIES**

- 8.1 Equalities Impact Assessments will be carried out for the Bids as part of the process. The Council has a responsibility for those for which it is the Accountable Body.

## 9.0 RISKS

9.1 The main risk is detailed below.

**Probability**  
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Very High A				
High B				
Significant C				
Low D		1.2.		
Very Low E				
Almost Impossible F				
	IV Neg- ligible	III Marg- inal	II Critical	I Catast- rophic

→  
**Impact**

Risk No.	Description
1.	Unsuccessful Bids.
2.	Integration of new approaches into existing services which are functioning well.

## 10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 There are no particular implications arising from this report.

## 11.0 CONSULTATION

11.1 There has been much consultation and engagement in the development of all the Bids. Partners have worked together well in endeavouring to take the opportunity presented by the PSTN Challenge Panel Bids.

## 12.0 WARDS AFFECTED

12.1 All.

Contact Officer: Lynn Aisbett, Chief Executive  
 Date: 26 September 2014  
 Appendices: None.  
 Background Papers: Draft PSTN Challenge Bids.

Reference : X : Committees\PFA\September 2014\Item 13 LA Corporate Issues