

15 APRIL 2015

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**CORPORATE ISSUES**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to brief members on the continued expansion and information about Melton Borough Council and its approach to service delivery across a range of activities.**

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The contents of this report be noted

**3.0 KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1 The Council continues, to commit its capacity to request from the “Local Government family” to expand the knowledge and understanding of the Melton Method of service delivery. Visits from interested Councils and colleagues continue. These occur on an almost monthly if not occasion twice monthly basis focusing presently on groups, councils and partners attending, particularly with DWP, to understand how the potential integration of services can work. Should the interest of these Councils or their partners continue from the generalised understanding of how Parkside functions as a co-location venue into more detailed principles around integrated working particularly with respect to certain disciplines such as IT or Human resources, the Council presently charges for its time and any assistance it may give through daily/half-daily quoted rates. In these instances the Council acts as “Critical Friend” to those other organisations explaining its experience and learning in order that this then may be applied to help determine what would work in their localities.
- 3.2 Interest also continues across a range of disciplines in relation to the provision of case studies and written work for dissemination of activity and comment on the Melton Method of service delivery. Attached at Appendix 1 to this report is an extract from the Cabinet Office Publication the “State of the Estate” which included a short case study on Parkside and how that achieved its aims and objectives in relation to property matters. At Appendix 2 is an extract from the most recent publication from DWP which deals with the rollout of the programme through ESF Monies which features Me and My Learning as a case study. Members are aware that on the 31 March 2015 the ESF funding of the Centre came to an end and Officers are pleased to advise that the targets set in relation to this funding were met, particularly that related to placing those furthest away from work into employment. Last week from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 saw the start of the “Rollout” of the Me & My Learning approach into Leicestershire with the commencement of the service in Blaby District Council. This rollout is funded by the Public Services Transformation Programme Network Funding that the Council received for this purpose. Discussion with other District Councils in Leicestershire continue to progress well with several developing early plans for inclusion of the approach within their service delivery.
- 3.3 The work with INLOGOV continues through the District Council Network. The Melton Borough Council case study is to be included in the INLOGOV report details of which are currently being finalised. Arising from this the Local Government Chronicle requested through DCN that a case study of this work be put forward. The DCN put forward Melton

and it is believed an article dealing with the case study will be published shortly. The Society Information Technology Managers (SOCITIM) are also in the final stages of publishing their second report which includes a case study on Melton Borough Councils approach to flexibility in working as assisted and influenced by good use of IT and related services. The first case study concerning Melton was published in January 2015 in the SOCITIM Briefings and this case study follows up on that work.

- 3.4 Council Officers continue to work within the Locality and beyond in accordance with the Council's priorities engaging as appropriate in order to develop partnerships to improve service understanding. The Council was invited to be part of the Bishop of Leicester's Poverty Commission and the Financial Inclusion Officer attended and took part in the development of the published draft document which is currently distributed for consultation. A further case study concerning the council's work with respect to financial inclusion and support is included within this document. The Bishop is moving forward with proactive Action Planning arising from his report and the Financial Inclusion Officer has been asked to remain as part of the commission for that work. The Council's Wheels to Work manager has also been invited to the House of Commons to make a presentation on W2W scheme to interested partners. It is believed the current W2W Project is now the largest operational project in the country. The manager's presentation as well received.
- 3.5 Members may recall that in February that the Council was awarded a Certificate of Excellence by iESE for its work concerning economic development particularly that related to the relationships with businesses, citizens and support concerning grant availability and business support. The Organisation has also expressed a wish to visit Parkside to better understand the work of the team and to view the co-location venues. Your Officers are also pleased to report as set out elsewhere on this agenda that the Council's website has been assessed as a "3 Star" website on the SOCITIM criteria. The Council was advised that the site was one of the "most improved" within their study.

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

- 4.1 The activities outlined in this report illustrate the work of officers and Members at a high level to deliver the Council's Corporate Priorities and develop the Direction of Travel.

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

- 5.1 There are no particular financial implications arising from matters set out in this report. Several of the activities explained above help pave the way for Council to explain its work and potentially access further income streams to develop productive partnerships in the locality.

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

- 6.1 There are no particular implications arising from this report as the individual projects and programmes are examined with respect to legal powers and related matters as they are approved.

#### **7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY**

- 7.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

#### **8.0 EQUALITIES**

- 8.1 There are no implications arising from this report as the individual projects and programmes all will have as appropriate have their own Equalities Impact Assessment.

**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**  
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Very High A				
High B				
Significant C				
Low D				
Very Low E			1	
Almost Impossible F				
	IV Neg- ligible	III Marg- inal	II Critical	I Catast- rophic

→  
**Impact**

Risk No.	Description
1	Understanding across the Council not completed in relation to the direction of travel.

**10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE**

10.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

**11.0 CONSULTATION**

11.1 The Chief Executive through her briefings, articles and other information to staff and Members as appropriate advises and keep staff up to date of the Council’s Direction of Travel, particularly in relation to the delivery of its Corporate Priorities as well as the developing interests in the Council’s activities.

**12.0 WARDS AFFECTED**

12.1 All

Contact Officer: Lynn Aisbett - Chief Executive  
Date: 02<sup>nd</sup> April 2015

Appendices : Appendix 1 – Cabinet Office Publication ( Extract) – “State of Estate”  
Appendix 2 – DWP Publication

Background Papers: None

Reference :