

AGENDA ITEM 14

POLICY, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

28 SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CORPORATE ISSUES

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To brief Members on issues and matters of interest which have occurred since the last meeting of the Committee.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 **Members note the content of the report.**

3.0 KEY ISSUES

3.1.1 Combined Authority

The officers across the nine partners of the proposed Combined Authority have worked diligently to prepare draft documents for consideration by the constituent councils and the Economic Growth Board. As Members are aware, it is expected that this Council will consider its membership of the Combined Authority and its associated documentation at the next Ordinary Full Council meeting.

- 3.1.2 It is possible that the Order will be issued to constituent Authorities prior to the next Full Council meeting and if this is the case, the Chief Executive will exercise her Delegated Authority should the Order be substantially in line with the Scheme which Members approved December 2015.

3.2.1 Service Development

Members will recall in the last Corporate Issues report, they were advised that the Council had been shortlisted in the three IRRV Awards (Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation), in the areas of excellence in partnership, excellence in social inclusion and excellence in training and development. The Judges visited the Council 22 August 2016 to look at evidence relating to our training and development approach and social inclusion. With respect to the presentation and evidence given to the Judges relating to training and development which is of interest to this Committee, the officers were able to show the modern approach to Appraisals, the councils approach to apprenticeships, professional development, Management development, all routed in the 'Melton Extending to Excellence Programme'.

- 3.2.2 In particular, two officers spoke to the Judges about their experience of the training offer available at the council. One had undergone professional training and now had a place on the councils Management Development Programme and the second had successfully completed an apprenticeship and was now carrying an impressive workload assisting in Me and My Learning. Both officers gave an excellent account

of the support and training they had received from the Council and it was evident that this had impacted on their ability to deliver services and offer support to the most vulnerable people in our community. Judges will also visit in the coming weeks to assess the council's evidence in relation to the final short-listed award.

3.2.3 The Council has also been successful in nominating an officer to go on the Local Government Association Management Development Programme which is a National Programme offering coaching, training and opportunities to Local Government employees embarking on a management career in the sector. Support will be given to the officer as he moves through this Programme.

3.3.1 Partnership Working

The Council has been invited to take part in the "Breaking Barriers" Programme led by Lord Patel in relation to two parts of the project, one concerning worklessness and the second relating to health and well-being. The Leader and Chief Executive visited the House of Lords recently to discuss the opportunity with Lord Patel and his advisors and subsequently contact has been made to suggest that the Council becomes part of the Programme. It is interesting to note that there may be an opportunity to work with a larger Unitary Authority to consider a hub and spokes approach developed from this Council's delivery ethos, particularly related to worklessness. Further reports will be made to this committee on this Programme as appropriate.

3.3.2 The Council has also been requested to assist Charnwood Borough Council through a period of shortage of resources in relation to its revenues and welfare services. Two officers from this Council will work with Charnwood in situ, by telephone and through shared representation at meetings to assist during this period. This brings opportunities for learning to this Council with respect to how a larger District Council uses its services but also the opportunity to pass on knowledge in relation to the Councils integrated working as Charnwood already have Job Centre Plus at their offices.

3.4.1 Performance Information

As members may recall at the request of the Performance Management Information Task Group, the officers are carrying out a light touch review of performance information to ensure that it is fit for purpose and offers good insight into the councils working arrangements, outputs and achievement of outcomes. Progress has been made with respect to mapping the current performance information to the new One Council Delivery and Development Plan which includes the Corporate Priorities. Members will recall that this is an outcome focussed approach which integrates performance across a variety of relevant services to track performance against the outcomes. A presentation on this approach was given to members at the Away Day when it was introduced.

3.4.2 Also, relevant Business Information which is used in services to manage both operational and business improvement has been requested so that the Task Group can drill down to a more granular level to see the use of performance information across the authority and consider any changes necessary to the current approach.

3.5 Five Years of Parkside

On 12th September, the Council has worked from Parkside as its main Head Office for five years. A celebration during the week was held with a daily “CE Blog” reminding the staff of their progress and achievements over the years and the distance travelled. A “You Tube” video recording staff reflections and our progress made which has been widely shown. Also “sweet” celebrations were available during the week to reflect the value of our staff’s contribution to the Council’s service delivery.

4.0 **POLICY AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The initiatives and actions set out in the body of this report reflect Council policy and its direction of travel. The partnership arrangement with Charnwood Borough Council has been formalised and income is being received for the services provided.

5.0 **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

5.1 There are no particular implications arising from this report.

6.0 **EQUALITIES**

6.1 There are no particular implications arising from this report.

7.0 **RISKS**

There are no specific risks arising from this report.

8.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE**

8.1 There are no particular implications arising from this report.

9.0 **CONSULTATION**

9.1 Members will recall that the Combined Authority Scheme was fully consulted upon in the Autumn of 2015 and reported to Full Council at its meeting in December 2015.

10.0 **LEGAL**

10.1 There are no major implications from this report, however, a formal Agreement is being entered into with Charnwood Borough Council.

10.2 Officers carrying out the work with Charnwood Borough Council have been fully consulted and engaged in the settlement of the arrangements.

11.0 **WARDS AFFECTED**

11.1 All.

Date: 9 September 2016

Background Papers: Presentation Training and Development to Judges

Reference : X:/Cttee, Council &Sub Cttees/PFA/ 2016-17/28 Sept 2016/Corporate Issues