

## Wiltshire Council

### Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

24 September 2019

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#### Executive Response to the Final Report of the Military and Civilian Integration Programme (MCIP) Task Group

##### Purpose

1. To present the Executive Response to findings and recommendations of the MCIP Task Group, which were endorsed by OS Management Committee on 4 June 2019.

##### Background

2. The Task Group's membership was,
  - Cllr Richard Britton (Chairman)
  - Cllr Gordon King
  - Cllr Mollie Groom
  - Cllr Alan Hill
  - Cllr Tony Jackson
  - Cllr John Smale
  - Cllr Graham Wright
3. The Task Group's terms of reference were,
  - 1) *To identify any risks and opportunities presented by the MCIP that are relevant to Wiltshire Council services and priorities, focusing on the following themes:*
    - *Housing*
    - *Health*
    - *Infrastructure*
    - *Budget*
    - *Schools*
    - *Employment (leavers and dependents)*
  - 2) *To make workable recommendations on how any identified risks could be mitigated and opportunities exploited to support delivery of the MCIP and of relevant priorities within the Council's Business Plan.*
4. The Task Group was in operation since 2016. In its first two years the Task Group focused on the impact of the Army Basing in Wiltshire and the work of the council to prepare for the arrival of more military personnel. In January 2018 the Task Group refocused its attention on the work done to encourage military and civilian integration. Later in the year the group chose to look more closely at integration, and the work towards integration, at a community level.

## **Recommendation and Executive responses**

5. On 4 June 2019 OS Management Committee considered the Task Group's report (**Appendix 1**) and resolved the following:

- 1) To disband the Task Group, but to review progress with supporting military-civilian integration at community level in 12 months' time.**

*No Executive response required.*

- 2) To endorse, and refer for response, the Task Group's recommendations, which are:**

- a) That relevant division members are encouraged by the MCI Programme to follow up outstanding local section 106 investments through the relevant area boards.**

*Executive response: The Army Basing Programme (ABP), which to date has been hugely successful, and together with Wiltshire Council, is widely accepted as "best practice" across the UK. The ABP will be completed in Mar 21 and as a result the S106 investments will all have been delivered. As such all the ABP "conditions and obligations" will be subject to audit by the Planning Team within Wiltshire Council.*

- b) That the MCI Programme hold a conference on community integration; agreeing a shared vision of successful integrated communities between the military, Wiltshire Council and affected communities.**

*Executive response: A new workstream, "Communities" has been included in the programme. It makes sense to hold a MCI community conference which will review MCI best practise to date and more importantly will set the direction of travel for the future in terms of the communities workstream. Given the current work load this conference should take place in Q01/20 (Mar - May 20) and should include both the military and civilian communities.*

## **Proposal**

6. That Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee note the Executive responses to the endorsed recommendations of the MCIP Task Group.

**Cllr Philip Whitehead, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Procurement and Economic Development**

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