Wiltshire Council

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

20 March 2018

Task Group Update

1. Digital Strategy and Implementation Task Group

Membership

Cllr Howard Greenman
Cllr Jon Hubbard (Chairman)
Cllr Bob Jones OBE
Cllr Stuart Wheeler
Cllr Gordon King

Terms of Reference:

- To meet at least 4 times a year and more frequently as required, when key milestones of the Strategy are identified
- For the Task Group's Chairman to hold a position on the Digital Programme Board

Culture Transformation:
- To investigate how the Council is engaging different user groups to support the re-design of Council services
- To help shape and implement the engagement of staff and members, as services are progressively automated

Technology and Platform:
- To provide an additional dimension of quality assurance on projects that emerge as a part of the Strategy
- To help shape and implement how the Council is maximising digital compatibility across all platforms, including legacy and partner systems

Service Re-Design
- To help shape how the Council prioritises its services for automation and the subsequent customer take-up of these services
- To monitor and review how the Council can make effective efficiencies through increased automated services and the cost and the implications of the technology to do so.

<u>Recent Activity</u>

The task group met on 8 February and discussed how other Local Authorities have advanced themselves digitally, for example, perhaps through a re-designed website or automated payment solutions. This exercise was intended to give the members a good knowledge base for when they come to scrutinise the Digital Board's Forward Work Programme (FWP) in May.

The task group supported the fact that services would be re-designed around the user and agreed it would be important for them to consider at a later date why individuals choose to visit the Council's Hubs for enquiries, as opposed to going online or telephoning.

The task group are due to meet again in May to consider the Digital Strategy's Risk Register, the Digital Board's FWP and Security – most notably for a briefing on how the Council's IT system is kept secure and how the Council uses users' data.

1a. Digital Board

Representative: Cllr Jon Hubbard, Chairman – Digital Strategy & Implementation Task Group

<u>Recent Activity</u>

The Digital Delivery Board met on 27 February 2018 and discussed and agreed a composite Digital Delivery plan aligned to the Digital Strategy.
In light of this, Cllr Hubbard felt that the task group may need to review and potentially amend its FWP slightly; to help ensure that the task group is adding value in the most appropriate areas.

2. Financial Planning Task Group

<u>Membership</u>

Cllr George Jeans
Cllr Pip Ridout
Cllr Ian Thorn (Chairman)
Cllr Stuart Wheeler
Cllr Roy While

<u>Recent activity</u>

The task group has not held a full meeting since the Committee's last meeting. Its next meeting is scheduled for 21 March 2018 when it will consider the latest quarterly Budget Monitoring and Performance monitoring reports to Cabinet.

3. Military and Civilian Integration Partnership Task Group

Membership

Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling
Cllr Richard Britton (chairman)
Cllr Gordon King
Cllr Mollie Groom
Cllr Alan Hil
Cllr Tony Jackson
Cllr Graham Wright

Terms of Reference

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.

Recent activity

The task group met for the first time under the current council in January. The group elected a new chairman; Cllr Britton, and welcomed new members; Cllrs Blair-Pilling, Wright and Jackson.

The group took the opportunity to discuss the previous work of the task group and where scrutiny could add most value to MCIP. The conclusion was that more value would be found by investigating the work to encourage integration rather than preparing for army basing. The group identified six areas for investigation:

- To understand the current structure of the MCIP within the council. Groups, personnel, work streams and timelines.
- To know whether any potential adverse impact on existing residents has been identified. Are council services being redesigned in light of additional demand?
- To learn whether economic impacts (advantages and disadvantages) of the army basing have been researched and, if so, what the conclusions were.

- To ask what is the impact on the police service will be.
- To question in what ways are the military are planning to contribute to the wider community (inside and outside the wire). Is there evidence that these benefits are being realised?
- To investigate what actions area boards/parish councils are taking. What is being done to promote integration and what is being done for military families in communities?

Since the first meeting the group has received some evidence from the council's MCIP project Manager and will be discussing this with the project manager at their next meeting scheduled for March.

4. Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Task Group

Membership

Wiltshire Councillors:
Cllr Trevor Carbin
Cllr Christine Crisp
Cllr Alan Hill (Chairman)
Cllr Nick Murry

Swindon Borough Councillors:
Cllr Cathy Martyn
Cllr Des Moffatt
Cllr Chris Watts
Cllr Steve Weisinger

Terms of Reference

1. Develop an overview and scrutiny framework and operational protocols which meet the requirements of democratic accountability for the use of public funds by a partnership body which is led by the business community under a mandate from the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills.

2. Whilst developing the framework, the Task Group will carry out trial activities to scrutinise the outcomes and work of the SWLEP. In fulfilling this role the task group will:
   a) Perform all overview and scrutiny functions on behalf of both Councils in respect of the SWLEP and JSEC
   b) Appoint such sub-groups as it consider appropriate to fulfil those functions.
   c) Review and/or scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge or any of the SWLEP and JSEC functions.
   d) Make reports and recommendations to the Councils relevant partner in connection with the discharge of any functions.

e) Approve a forward work programme, including the programme of any sub-groups it appoints so as to ensure that the Task Group and sub-groups' time is effectively and efficiently utilised.
f) Foster and encourage an inclusive, structured, non-partisan and non-adversarial approach to overview and scrutiny which is reliant on evidence rather than anecdote.

<u>Recent activity</u>

A verbal update will be provided.

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