

CHESHIRE EAST

Cabinet

Date of meeting: 16 June 2008
Report of: Policy Support Team
Title: Progress Reporting Paper

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide Members with an update on the programme; to draw attention to progress made against key milestones and highlight what the next steps will be for the forthcoming month.

2.0 Decisions Required

The Cheshire East Cabinet is recommended to:

- 2.1 note progress made during May (appendix 1); and
2.2 recognise activities to be undertaken throughout June (appendix 2)

3.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs

- 3.1 None

4.0 Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond

- 4.1 None

5.0 Risk Assessment

- 5.1 All milestones should be considered against the full Risk Register.

6.0 Background - Appendix 1: Progress during May

- 6.1 Appendix 1 sets out the key milestones, as taken from the High Level Implementation Plan, which were due for completion in May. The status of each milestone and a brief description of what has been achieved can be found here.

7.0 Options - Appendix 2: Next Steps for June

- 7.1 Appendix 2 highlights the key milestones to be achieved in June.

8.0 Appendix 3 – Milestone Plan

- 8.1 Appendix 3 provides a visual representation of progress to date in the form of a Milestone Plan.

9.0 Reasons for Recommendations

9.1 Members of the Cabinet are invited to comment on:

- achievements to date; and
- activities that need to be undertaken next month

9.2 Members will be updated on progress against June milestones at the next Cabinet in July.

For further information:-

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Background Documents:-

Documents are available for inspection at:

Member Support Team, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, CW11 1HZ

PROGRESS DURING MAY

Listed below are a number of key milestones that were due to be completed in May. The status of each milestone and a brief summary of what has been achieved can be found in the paragraphs following the table. **(Benefit Critical Milestones appear in bold text)**

Overall Programme	6.1 Elections Take Place 6.2 First Full Council 6.3 Commencement of Chief Executive Recruitment Process
People	6.4 Managing Relationships with Schools – key issues paper produced 6.5 Agree definition and Block (People or Places) of Cultural Services
Places	6.6 Major transport Scheme Funding / LTP Funding (inc Alderley edge By Pass)
Performance & Capacity	6.7 Area & Neighbourhood Working Principles and Community Empowerment Principles to be developed. 6.8 Draft Protocol for general consent in relation to Disposals/Contracts and Agreements (Key DCLG Milestone) 6.9 First of a series of Member Learning & Development events
HR	6.10 Shadow Council to make decision on Pay, Gratings and Conditions of Employment 6.11 Cabinet Council decision on Severance
IT / Knowledge Management	6.12 IT support for all Shadow Councilors to be in place

6.1 Elections Take Place - COMPLETE

Elections took place on 1 May 2008. The results for Cheshire East are set out below:

Conservative	55
Liberal Democratic	12
Labour	6
Middlewich First	3
Nantwich Independent	1

6.2 First Full Council - COMPLETE

The first full Council meeting of Cheshire East Authority was held on 13 May where the Leader, Chairman and Cabinet Members were appointed. Julie

Openshaw had been appointed as interim Statutory Monitoring Officer and Lisa Quinn as the interim Finance Officer for the East. Other business included constitutional arrangements, calendar of meetings and committee structures.

6.3 Commencement of Chief Executive Recruitment Process - COMPLETE

The Chief Executive posts for both Cheshire East and Cheshire West & Chester have been advertised. Closing dates for both posts will be 10th June. The appointments will be made by the Shadow Authorities and the process and timetable will be agreed with their respective Staffing Committees.

6.4 Managing Relationships with Schools: Key issues paper produced - COMPLETE

This item is on the Cabinet agenda for discussion and will be the first of a series of papers that will look at how relationships with schools can be managed especially in relation to Children's Trusts. In the following months a number of papers will be produced and induction events held which will focus on a number of issues including:

- Education and Inclusion Partnerships
- School Funding
- School Admissions Policy
- School Transport Policies
- SEN, Inclusion and Special Schools Provision
- Issues for the new Local Authority arising from 'New Relationships with School' and current legislation; and
- Review of Business Support to Schools

6.5 Agree definition and Block (People or Places) of Cultural Services – COMPLETE

An initial paper has been produced by a working group within the People's Block looking at the definition of Cultural Services and their potential location within the new Member and Officer Structure. A final decision will be sought from the Cabinet in July alongside the wider discussion on service structures.

6.6 Major transport Scheme Funding / LTP Funding (inc Alderley Edge bypass) - COMPLETE

This item is on the Cabinet agenda for discussion and focuses on funding in relation to Alderley Edge bypass.

6.7 Area & Neighbourhood Working Principles and Community Empowerment Principles to be developed - COMPLETE

Officers have undertaken a piece of work looking at Area and Neighbourhood Working and Community Empowerment principles. These principles will be outlined to Members at an event to be held in June along with Partnership and general LSP issues. Officers from the Performance & Capacity Block are keen for Members to be involved from an early stage.

6.8 Draft Protocol for general consent in relation to Disposals/Contracts and Agreements (Key DCLG Milestone) - COMPLETE

The draft Protocol for general consent under the Section 24 Direction was adopted by the Implementation Executive on 21 May.

6.9 First of a series of Member Learning & Development events - COMPLETE

The first Member Learning and Development Session for Cheshire East was held on 7 May where the group addressed the overall vision, culture and values for the Council, the potential challenges services face, Code of Conduct and future political arrangements.

Future Member Induction events are likely to be structured around the three departmental 'Blocks' – People, Places and Performance & Capacity.

6.10 Shadow Council to make decision on Pay, Gradings and Conditions of Employment - COMPLETE

The proposals were agreed subject to agreement by Trade Union Stewards. There may be a need to report back depending on the outcome of the discussions with the Unions.

6.11 Cabinet/Council decision on Severance - DELAYED

This milestone has not been completed due to central Governments delay on issuing the national staffing regulations and continuing discussions with the Trade Unions. A paper on severance will be taken to the Implementation Cabinet and Council meetings in July.

6.12 IT support for all Shadow Councillors to be in place - COMPLETE

Members have responded to the ICT group with their requirements and appropriate security forms have been completed.

NEXT STEPS FOR JUNE

The following milestones have been grouped under the relevant Block, Joint Transitional Project or Overall Programme and are to take place throughout June. **(Benefit Critical Milestones appear in bold text)**

Overall Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation Executive
People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise on budget setting for schools Commissioning Arrangements Health Social Care and Supporting People Health & Social Care Integration
Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No key milestones for the month of June
Performance & Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define Area & Neighbourhood Working and Community Empowerment Principles
HR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options on office locations, Headquarters and approach to Flexible and Mobile Working
Finance & Asset Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise on budget setting for 2009/10 Initial Financial Cost Envelope 2009/10 (and beyond) included Dedicated Schools Grant and other funding streams
IT / Knowledge Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shadow Authority websites operational Develop a high level ICT Protocol