

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER COUNCIL

SHARED SERVICES JOINT COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 22 November 2019

Report of: Frank Jordan, Executive Director - Place and Acting Deputy
Chief Executive, Cheshire East Council

Mark Wynn, Chief Operating Officer, Cheshire West &
Chester Council

Subject/Title: Best4Business Update

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on the latest position with regard to implementation of the replacement HR and Finance system for the Councils and their partners, and to advise Members on recommendations being taken to each Council's Cabinet.

2.0 Decisions Requested

Members are asked to agree the recommendations to each Council's Cabinet and provide any comments or feedback on the contents of the reports prior to submission to each Cabinet for decision including:

- 2.1 the revised approach to delivery of the Best4Business programme set out in the attached draft Cabinet report, including the approach to go-live, the role of external advisors to the programme, the identified risks and mitigations associated with this approach, and the proposed governance structure set out in Appendix C (Appendix B to the Cabinet report);
- 2.2 the legal and financial approach set out in the Legal Implications and Financial Implications sections of the draft Cabinet report, and the confidential appendix D (Appendix C to the Cabinet report); and
- 2.3 the ongoing activity to finalise the legal and contractual impact of the revised delivery approach set out in the draft Cabinet report.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 This paper provides information to the Committee Members to enable them to review the plans for the implementation of the future Finance and HR system and agree to the recommendations to each Council's Cabinet, to progress a revised delivery approach (subject to the conclusion of detailed commercial negotiations).

4.0 Report Background

- 4.1 At the May 2016 meeting of this Committee, Members approved a programme of work to procure a new system to replace the existing Finance and HR system. Both Councils' Cabinet meetings approved a recommendation in July 2017 to award a contract to Agilisys for the implementation of the Unit 4 Business World system.
- 4.2 At the 2 August 2019 meeting of this Committee, Members were provided with an update on progress with the programme since the previous formal update report.
- 4.3 The attached Cabinet report provides an update to the Committee regarding the status of the programme since that report, comprising:
- Background
 - External review outcomes
 - Implications of the recommendations
- 4.4 The report attached uses the Cheshire East Council Cabinet decision paper template. An equivalent report for Cheshire West and Chester Council using the appropriate template has been produced, containing substantially the same content but amended as required to reflect equivalent references to officers, governance bodies and dates.

5.0 Wards affected

- 5.1 The implications of the recommendations in this report and the attached draft Cabinet report are borough-wide for both Councils.

6.0 Policy implications

- 6.1 There are no policy implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 The financial implications of the recommendations in this report and the attached draft Cabinet report are set out in the Cabinet report.

8.0 Legal Implications

- 8.1 The legal implications of the recommendations in this report and the attached draft Cabinet report are set out in the Cabinet report.

9.0 Risk management

- 9.1 The risk management implications of the recommendations in this report and the attached draft Cabinet report are set out in the Cabinet report.

10.0 Access to Information

10.1 This report comprises:

- This report
- Appendix A, being the main Cabinet report
- Appendix B, being Appendix A to the Cabinet report – confidential
- Appendix C, being Appendix B to the Cabinet report
- Appendix D, being Appendix C to the Cabinet report - confidential

10.2 The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writers:

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Background Documents:

Documents are available for inspection at:

*Cheshire East Democratic Services
Westfields
Middlewich Road
Sandbach
CW11 1HZ*

or:

*Cheshire West & Chester Democratic Services
HQ Building,
Nicholas Street,
Chester,
CH1 2NP*