



London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Cabinet

9 MAY 2011

LEADER

Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh

TRI-BOROUGH PROGRESS REPORT

This paper highlights the recommendations in the attached report which works up the proposals considered by this Authority, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster City Council in the report, *'Bold Ideas for Challenging Times.'*

Wards:

All

CONTRIBUTORS

All departments

Recommendation:

That the recommendations set out in section 3 of this report be approved.

REASON FOR URGENCY

This report was not available for circulation five clear days before the meeting as officers did not have all the information required in order to be in a position to report on progress made since the meetings in February.

HAS A EIA BEEN COMPLETED?
N/A.

HAS THE REPORT CONTENT BEEN RISK ASSESSED?
YES

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham and the City of Westminster considered the report, '*Bold Ideas for Challenging Times*' at their Cabinet meetings in February. The report detailed the outcome of the work undertaken at that point on potential closer working and included proposals to make annual savings of £35 million by combining a wide range of services.
- 1.2 At the heart of the proposals were propositions for moving towards a single Director of Children's Services and one Director of Adult Social Care responsible to the three Councils for a combined service. The report noted that discussions would commence with Central London Community Health NHS Trust (CLCH) on them becoming the main provider vehicle for community care services. In addition the report recommended in principle the combination of the library services and the commissioning of further work necessary to bring forward a detailed plan in due course.
- 1.3 The report was agreed in principle by the Cabinet meetings and has been subject to wide consultation. Stakeholder views on integration are referred to in paragraph 12, and show a high number agreeing that the sharing of services will help their Council to meet the financial challenges it faces.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Since the February meetings, the Chief Executives have worked up the proposals in more detail including robust, costed business plans for each service and developing service operating models consistent with the sovereignty guarantee.
- 2.2 The report is split in two sections and sets out -

Section One

- An analysis of the key issues and findings from proposals to date, cutting across the various programmes (Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Environmental Services, Corporate Services, Libraries Services)

Section Two

- Detailed proposals for combining Fostering and Adoption, Youth Offending, Environment and Libraries Service and for the creation of a single Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB)
- Progress papers around Adult Social Care, Corporate Services, and other parts of a proposed Children's Tri-Borough service.

These proposals are being further developed and will be put before June Cabinets.

3. DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet is invited to endorse this report in full and, in particular:

- (i) to note the positive public response to the proposals;
- (ii) to note the draft business cases highlight continued confidence in achieving £35m savings target;

Adult Social Care

- (iii) to mandate continued negotiations with Central London Community Health around integrated health and social care services, with a view to putting before Cabinets firm proposals later in the year;
- (iv) to mandate continued discussions with GP consortia around joint commissioning arrangements;
- (v) to note the intention to put proposals for a single Director of Adults' Commissioning and for the creation of a combined commissioning hub to June Cabinets;

Children's Services

- (vi) to note firm proposals for combined Fostering and Adoption and Youth Offending services, and for a single Local Safeguarding Children's Board - recommendations to endorse proposals to be put to the June Cabinets;
- (vii) to note that firm proposals around a single management team to be recommended to June Cabinets;
- (viii) to note that proposals for a combined Education Service are being reviewed to ensure that they reflect current policy requirements and that a further report will be brought to June Cabinets;

Corporate Services

- (ix) to note progress to date in developing proposals and to note the intention to bring more detailed cases particularly for combined HR, IT and Finance services to June Cabinets;

Libraries

- (x) to note firm proposals around a combined library service and to invite public comment and views from scrutiny committees - recommendations to endorse further developed proposals to be put to June Cabinets; and

Environmental Services

- (xi) to note first stage proposals for a combined RBKC and H&F senior management team and plans to begin the process of reconfiguring services, with an invitation to WCC to later combine as contractual arrangements allow - a more detailed implementation plan to be brought to June Cabinets.

4. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES

- 4.1 The Director of Finance and Corporate Services has been fully involved in the development of the report '*Bold Ideas for Challenging Times*' and concurs with the financial analysis within the report.
- 4.2 The savings identified through tri-borough working should be seen in the context of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy which anticipates further government funding reductions over the next three years. Tri-borough working could contribute a significant proportion of the Council's required spending reductions in ways that protect 'front line' services better than alternative options would do.

5. COMMENTS OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES)

- 5.1 The Assistant Director's comments appear in the main report. The Council's equality duties as set out in the Equality Act 2010 will need to be considered and complied with as proposals are developed.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

No.	Description of Background Papers	Name/Ext of holder of file/copy	Department/ Location
1.	The Tri-Borough proposals report (February 2011)	Kayode Adewumi X2499	FCS
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