

Briefing Note for Members in relation to Council Motion 16b

27th May 2010

Programmes underway to assess or inform joint service delivery between Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and/or South Cambridgeshire District Council.

- a) **Boundary Changes Project** – A joint submission between the City and South Cambridgeshire District Councils was made in January 2009 asking for a review of the administrative boundary between the two Councils. The submission seeks to bring the existing and proposed urban growth areas around the City's fringe within the City Council's administrative control. This will simplify service planning and service delivery. The Councils are working together to lobby the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to bring our review forward. We are also working together to understand in detail what the changes will mean to each authority and to explore options for service delivery.
- b) **Making Cambridgeshire Count** – This is an over-arching 'project' with public sector partners that is examining a number of relevant areas, such as:
- Options and opportunities for re-designing public services under joint leadership and/or management teams
 - Options and opportunities for shared services including support services (HR, ICT, Audit, Finance, Policy, Marketing etc.) plus services such as CCTV and Customer contact
 - Options and opportunities for sharing assets such as land, buildings and vehicles

The County and City Councils are fully engaged with other partners on this work. South Cambridgeshire District Council has pulled back from active involvement and is only engaging in selected projects.

- c) **Joint Local Strategic Partnership** – The City and South Cambridgeshire District Councils combined their LSPs in April (County also attend). This was in order to reduce the number of meetings and to encourage partners to pursue joint solutions to common issues – e.g. growth, transport, climate change etc.
- d) **Growth related programmes** – There are a number of programmes and studies being taken forward jointly with South Cambridgeshire District Council and/or the County Council. Examples are:
- Joint project looking at process and structure for joint delivery of new community facilities and services.
 - Joint Infrastructure Study.
 - Joint Strategic Flood Risk Study.

- Joint Area Action Plan for North East Cambridge.
- Trumpington Meadows development – The S106 Agreement includes for the City Council maintaining pocket parks and play areas across the whole site, including areas within South Cambridgeshire, to provide continuity of service.

e) There are a number of examples of service managers working with counterparts at the County and/or South Cambridgeshire District Councils to explore options for joint service delivery. A couple of examples are:

- Interpretation and Translation

The City and County Councils have been party to a joint contract with CINTRA for some years to provide interpretation and translation services. We are currently re-tendering the contract through ESPO and will be expanding the number of partners to include South Cambridgeshire District Council and the other District Councils in Cambridgeshire.

- Legal Services

Partners including the City, County and South Cambridgeshire District Councils have signed a 'Cambridgeshire Legal Partnership Concordat'. This means partners will share information about skills available within their services and they will seek to undertake work for each other's authorities where capacity allows. Partners are now bidding for funding from the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership for an options appraisal looking at further options for shared Legal services.

Examples of services currently provided jointly with Cambridgeshire County Council and/or South Cambridgeshire District Council

a) Growth

- Joint Urban Design Team
- Joint Committees
- Cambridgeshire Horizons
- Joint studies

b) Young People

- Working with County to jointly commission research into children at risk with a view to jointly aligning priorities.
- Working with South Cambridgeshire and Connections Youth Bus to access children in remote areas and areas which lack facilities.
- Training on Children and Young People's issues is provided jointly with County and South Cambridgeshire (depending upon the issues).

- d) **Housing**
 - Joint Gas Maintenance Contract with South Cambridgeshire
 - City Council contract to carry out housing repairs for South Cambridgeshire

- e) **Customer Service**
 - Cashiering services for South Cambridgeshire at the City's Customer Service Centre
 - 'Tell Us Once' project – with County and the other District Councils – will enable partners to access records about births and deaths from one source. Proposed to go live in December.

- f) **Area Committees**
 - With County and Police – identify local issues

- g) **Community Safety**
 - Joint work with County and Police to tackle anti-social behaviour and reduce crime

- h) **Health**
 - Shared Exercise Referral Scheme with South Cambridgeshire and NHS Cambridgeshire, partly funded by NHS Cambridgeshire.

- i) **Waste**
 - Joint work with the County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and other partners on Waste Strategy. We also work in partnership with Huntingdonshire District Council and Fenland District Council on recycling.

- j) **Local Strategic Partnership – joint work with South Cambridgeshire District Council**
 - Working in partnership to promote greener practices from businesses across the City, South Cambridgeshire and wider.
 - Handyperson project which helps older people to live independently across the City and South Cambridgeshire
 - Skills for Life – joint commissioning of local providers to help adults with basic numeracy and literacy skills across the City and South Cambridgeshire
 - Traveller Health Project – promoting healthy living within Traveller communities in the City and South Cambridgeshire