

AGENDA ITEM NO: 8

Report To: Environment & Regeneration Date: 7 March 2019

Committee

Report By: Corporate Director Report No: ENV020/19/SA

Environment, Regeneration &

Resources

Contact Officer: Scott Allan Contact No: 01475 712764

Subject: Joint Collaboration with West Dunbartonshire Council, Strategic

Leadership Update

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on activities within the Shared Services Joint Committee following the meeting of 11 January 2019.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Following the appointment of a Shared Head of Service across Roads and Transportation services in Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire, a meeting of the Shared Services Joint Committee was organised for 11 January 2019. The Joint Committee was given updates on the outcome of the appointment process, namely that Inverclyde Council and West Dunbartonshire Council now share a Strategic Lead covering Roads and Transportation, what the role will involve and the associated timescales. The new Strategic Lead will review existing services across Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire Councils and prepare plans for mutual policy development and identify areas of potential professional support across employee groups on a voluntary basis. The Strategic Lead will also develop strategic business cases across wider front line services including grounds and greenspace, waste and environmental services, fleet and transportation across the two councils.
- 2.2 The Joint Committee agreed to engagement with East Dunbartonshire Council to explore their aspirations for a strategic partnership form of collaboration.
- 2.3 The Shared Services Joint Committee will now meet every 3 months and receive updates on the progression of further collaboration opportunities. The regular monitoring of progress on collaboration will therefore be through the Joint Committee and Members are advised to look to the Joint Committee reports for information on progress.
- 2.4 Any matters requiring a decision will be brought back to the Environment & Regeneration Committee.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Committee is asked to note the issues discussed at the recent Shared Services Joint Committee, that the Joint Committee will now meet on a 3-monthly basis and that reports will only be brought to the Environment & Regeneration Committee when decisions are required.

Scott Allan Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Members will recall the report to this Committee on 27 September 2018 which approved a revised governance arrangement in respect of West Dunbartonshire Council and Inverclyde Council within the Shared Services Joint Committee combined with the joint appointment of a Shared Strategic Lead (Head of Service) leading on collaboration across West Dunbartonshire Council and Inverclyde Council. Subsequent to approval of a similar paper in West Dunbartonshire Council a shared strategic lead was appointed.
- 4.2 The shared Strategic Lead titled Head of Roads and Transportation in Inverclyde, is employed by Inverclyde Council reporting directly to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources but in terms of duties manages the Roads and Transportation Service in both councils. All decision making remains in each individual council and the new Strategic Lead attends departmental management teams in both councils. All decision making continues to be through the existing committee structure in each council.
- 4.3 The focus in the first few weeks has been to review the existing services and consider areas for joint policy development or collaboration on a voluntary basis.
- 4.4 Following the appointment of the Shared Strategic Lead, a Joint Committee was arranged for 11 January 2019 and updated on progress. The Joint Committee is already structured to allow two councils to share and will operate in this model in the meantime. On 11 January 2019, there were no decisions required only by the two councils in formal collaboration arrangements and consequently all three councils participated for the duration of the meeting.
- 4.5 The meeting was advised of the proposed development and implementation of joint working across roads services and also the intention to develop strategic business plans for grounds and greenspace, waste and environmental services and fleet and transportation.
- 4.6 There are regular management meetings between West Dunbartonshire Council and Inverclyde Council at Chief Executive level and Corporate Director level. There are also monthly meetings involving the Corporate Directors in both councils and the Strategic Lead for Roads and Transportation.
- 4.7 All matters of information and progress of the Roads and Transportation Collaboration will be reported to the Joint Committee. Members are advised to monitor the Joint Committee papers in this respect. Any matters of decision however will be brought back to the Environment & Regeneration Committee.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

5.1 Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	_	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

Legal

Human Resources

5.3 There are no human resources implications.

Equalities

5.4	Has a	Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?					
		Yes	See attached appendix				
	✓	No	This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.				

Repopulation

5.5 There are no repopulation implications.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 N/A.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 N/A.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 N/A.