



Report to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting Date – 26 February 2024

Key Decision – No

Public/Private – Public

Portfolio – Cllr Markus Campbell Savours – Cumberland
Cllr Jonathan Brook - Westmorland and Furness

Directorate – Business, Transformation and Change, Cumberland
Assistant Chief Executive, Westmorland and Furness

Lead Officer – Jo Atkinson – Director of Business, Transformation and Change,
Cumberland Council
Alison Hatcher, Assistant Chief Executive, Westmorland and Furness
Council

Title – Joint Disaggregation Programme progress report

Summary:

This report provides an update on progress against the proposed disaggregation programme for hosted services in Westmorland and Furness Council and Cumberland Council.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that Members of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- Note the update on progress of the disaggregation of hosted services provided in the report.
- Refer any proposed amendments to the disaggregation programme to the Joint Executive Committee for consideration.

1. Background

- 1.1. An overview of hosted services was provided to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 30 October 2023. The report detailed the proposed dates for disaggregation set out within the Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) entered in to by Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council to govern the provision of hosted services.
- 1.2. Under the IAA, the Joint Executive Committee is responsible for the oversight and management of the hosted services including the development and implementation of disaggregation plans.
- 1.3. In some cases, the disaggregation date detailed in the IAA has been changed to meet the needs of each council and to support effective service delivery. All proposed changes to disaggregation dates have been reported to the Joint Executive Committee following completion of an options appraisal and consideration given to the ability for the service to disaggregate safely and legally.
- 1.4. An update on the services successfully disaggregated to date, and those due to disaggregate is set out below.

Hosted services successfully disaggregated

- 1.5. The following services have been successfully disaggregated since the programme commenced on 01 April 2023:

Hosted service	Host authority	Proposed disaggregation date (as per IAA)	Actual disaggregation date (achieved)
Global Resettlement Team	Cumberland	30 September 2023	30 September 2023
School Organisation and Admissions	Westmorland and Furness	30 September 2023	30 September 2023
Customer Service Team (former County Service Centre)	Westmorland and Furness	31 October 2023	31 October 2023
Human Resources / Organisational Development (HR/OD) Centralised Resourcing	Westmorland and Furness	31 March 2025	31 October 2023
HR/OD Pay and Reward and Pension Advisor	Westmorland and Furness	31 March 2025	31 October 2023

Hosted service	Host authority	Proposed disaggregation date (as per IAA)	Actual disaggregation date (achieved)
HR/OD Organisational Development and Workforce Training	Cumberland	31 March 2025	31 October 2023
Children's Services - Improvement / Quality Assurance	Cumberland	31 March 2024	30 September 2023
Children's Services - Integration and Partnerships	Cumberland	31 March 2024	31 October 2023
Children's Services - Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)	Cumberland	31 March 2024	31 December 2023

Services due to disaggregate on 31 March 2024

1.6. The following services are expected to disaggregate on 31 March 2024 (subject to the safe and legal requirements of both authorities):

Hosted service	Host authority	Proposed Disaggregation date (as per IAA)	Forecast disaggregation date (revised dates approved by the JEC)
Public Health – Education Infection and Prevention and Control Team	Cumberland	31 March 2024	31 March 2024 (no change)
Public Libraries – Operational Leadership and Delivery Lead, and Culture and outreach management	Cumberland	31 March 2025	31 March 2024 (disaggregation brought forward by 12 months)
Former county HR/OD – Social Work Academy	Cumberland	31 March 2025	31 March 2024 (disaggregation brought forward by 12 months)

Hosted service	Host authority	Proposed Disaggregation date (as per IAA)	Forecast disaggregation date (revised dates approved by the JEC)
Human Resources (HR) Payroll Administration: Recruitment and DBS	Cumberland	31 March 2025	31 March 2024 (disaggregation brought forward by 12 months)
Independent Placement Team (Commissioning)	Westmorland and Furness	No date stated	31 March 2024
Finance – former county Insurance Team	Westmorland and Furness	31 March 2024	31 March 2024 (no change)
Digital Innovation and Customer Experience	Westmorland and Furness	30 September 2024	31 March 2024 (disaggregation brought forward by 6 months)

Services due to disaggregate after 31 March 2024

1.7. The following services are due to disaggregate after 31 March 2024.

Hosted service	Host authority	Current forecast disaggregation date
Apprenticeship Service (Workforce planning and resourcing)	Westmorland and Furness	30 September 2024
Adults Urgent Care Team	Cumberland	30 September 2024 or 31 March 2025 (at the latest)
Children's Emergency Duty Team	Westmorland and Furness	No date specified
Economic Programmes - Accountable Body Assurance	Westmorland and Furness	No date specified (dependent upon the arrangements to be agreed for the Local Enterprise Partnership function)
Apprenticeship Service (apprenticeship levy)	Westmorland and Furness	31 March 2025
Finance – Core Financial Systems	Cumberland	31 March 2025
Finance – Purchase to Pay/Accounts Payable/Account Receivable	Cumberland	31 March 2025

Hosted service	Host authority	Current forecast disaggregation date
Finance – School’s Finance Team	Westmorland and Furness	31 March 2025
County Records Management	Cumberland	31 March 2025
County ICT	Cumberland	At least 31 March 2025
Human Resources (HR) Payroll Administration: Payroll and HR Administration Services	Cumberland	31 March 2025
Digital Infrastructure / Connecting Cumbria	Cumberland	31 December 2025
Registration Service	Cumberland	31 March 2026

Services currently hosted under a long-term arrangement between Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council.

1.8. The following services are currently hosted under a long-term arrangement.

Hosted service	Host authority
Active Cumbria	Cumberland
Active Travel	Cumberland
Adoption	Cumberland
Adult Learning	Westmorland and Furness
Archive Service	Cumberland
Emergency Planning and Resilience	Westmorland and Furness
Fostering	Cumberland
Residential and Edge of Care Homes	Cumberland
Waste Disposal	Cumberland
Public Libraries Back Office & Stock Management, and Library Services for Schools (LSS)	Cumberland (long-term hosted from 1 April 2024)

2. Proposals

2.1. The report includes details of the current programme for the disaggregation of hosted arrangements.

2.2. Delivery of the disaggregation programme will continue in line with the dates set out in paragraphs 1.6 and 1.7 above unless alternative proposals are approved by the Joint Executive Committee.

3. Alternative options considered

3.1. The Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee could choose to refer any suggested amendments to the disaggregation schedule for consideration by the Joint Executive Committee.

4. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 4.1. The report sets out the current hosting arrangements and the proposed programme of disaggregation for services currently operating across both Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council.
- 4.2. Members of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to note the update on progress of the disaggregation and refer any proposed amendments to the disaggregation programme to the Joint Executive Committee for consideration.

Implications:

Contribution to the Cumberland Plan and Westmorland and Furness Plan Priorities -

The report sets out the arrangements in place for the planned disaggregation of hosted services following Local Government Reorganisation. These arrangements provide the opportunity for each authority to deliver the services in a way that contributes towards each of their council plan priorities.

Relevant Risks – There are no risks arising from this report.

Consultation / Engagement - No consultation is required in relation to the recommendations set out in this report.

Legal – There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Finance – Recommendations in this report are to note progress, so there are no direct financial implications and risk arising from this report / recommendations.

Information Governance – There are no information governance implications arising from this report.

Impact Assessments –

Have you screened the decision for impacts using the Impact Assessment? No - there are no direct equality and diversity implications arising from this report. Individual Equality Impact Assessment screenings are being undertaken for service disaggregation projects.

Contact details:

Contact Officer: Jo Atkinson
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Appendices attached to report:

Background papers:

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government Act 1972 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None