



## **Joint Executive Committee**

**Date:** Tuesday, 30 July 2024

**Time:** 2.30 pm

**Location:** Cathedral Room, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG

**Present:** Cllr L Brown (Co-Chair), Cllr Brook (Co-Chair), Cllr Battye, Cllr Jarvis, Cllr Sanderson, Cllr B Cannon and Cllr M Fryer

**In Attendance** Chief Executive (Cumberland Council)  
Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer (Cumberland Council)  
Director of Business Transformation and Change (Cumberland Council)  
Director of Place, Sustainable Growth & Transport (Cumberland Council)  
Assistant Chief Executive (Westmorland and Furness Council)  
Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer (Westmorland and Furness Council)  
Director of Resources (S151) (Westmorland and Furness Council)  
Director of Thriving Places (Westmorland and Furness Council)  
Programme Manager, Programme Management Office  
Enterprising Cumbria Programme Director  
Democratic Services Manager

### **13 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Williamson, Cumberland Council; Councillor Bell, Westmorland and Furness Council; the Chief Executive, Westmorland and Furness Council; and the Chief Finance Officer and Section 151 Officer, Cumberland Council.

### **14 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

### **15 Exclusion of Press and Public**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

### **16 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Joint Executive Committee held on 14 May 2024 be approved and signed by the Co-Chair.

### **17 Public Participation**

There were no questions, petitions or deputations submitted by members of the public.

## 18 Enterprising Cumbria / Economic Growth Update

(Non Key Decision)

**Portfolio:** Leader (Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council)

**Relevant Scrutiny:** Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Hosted Services

### **Subject:**

The Leader (Cumberland Council) and the Leader (Westmorland and Furness Council) submitted an update on Enterprising Cumbria and the critical workstreams in delivery within the Programme.

The Joint Executive welcomed the Enterprising Cumbria Programme Director to the meeting.

The Enterprising Cumbria Programme Director reported that the Enterprising Cumbria had been adopted as the brand for the delivery body, as agreed by the Leaders of both Councils. It was launched in July 2024, and had been communicated with Cabinet and Executive, as well as staff and wider stakeholders involved in the delivery of this work. A full overview of the Transition Plan had been attached to the report.

In line with Government policy, the functions and responsibilities previously delivered by CLEP, in respect of strategic economic delivery, were transferred to local authorities nationally on 1st April. In Cumbria, Cumberland Council was performing the role as Delivery Body and Accountable Body, and Westmorland and Furness Council were providing the assurance role.

The report detailed the Joint Executive's role in assuming the transfer of decision making powers previously carried out by the CLEP Board and set out three options for the Joint Executive to consider to ensure they had oversight and decision making for the strategic economic functions.

The Enterprising Cumbria Programme Director explained that, following devolution announcements from government the following amendments were proposed to the recommendations:

1. Note and comment on the Programme Update for the LEP Integration Programme
2. Agree with the recommendation in regard to the Joint Executive Committee governance, Option 2 – Continue with single Joint Executive Committee and split the meeting into two parts to deal with Economic Growth items separately in the interim
3. Note the Forward and Transition Plan would need to be reviewed in the light of the emerging government change in policy.

The Joint Executive requested that, given the current 1 October deadline, a clear and realistic timeline of matters included in the Forward Plan be prepared picking up any slippage of items.

The Deputy Leader (Cumberland Council) moved the amended recommendations and the Leader (Westmorland and Furness Council) seconded them.

**Alternative Options:** as detailed in section 2.3 of the report

### **DECISION:**

That the Joint Executive:

1. Noted and commented on the Programme Update for the LEP Integration Programme
2. Agreed with the recommendation in regard to the Joint Executive Committee governance, Option 2 – Continue with single Joint Executive Committee and split the meeting into two parts to deal with Economic Growth items separately in the interim
3. Noted that the Forward and Transition Plan would need to be reviewed in the light of the emerging government change in policy.

**Reason for Decision:**

To enable a robust strategy and economic growth governance as set out in Statutory Guidance.

**19 Joint Executive Committee Forward Plan**

(Non Key Decision)

**Portfolio:** Cross Cutting

**Relevant Scrutiny:** Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Hosted Services

**Subject:**

The Joint Executive Committee Forward Plan was submitted for information.

**Alternatives Options:** None

**DECISION:**

The Joint Executive Committee noted the Forward Plan.

**Reasons for Decision:**

To enable the Joint Executive to consider, monitor and comment on key decisions programme for future meetings.

**20 Update on Disaggregation Programme Delivery**

(Non Key Decision)

**Portfolio:** Deputy Leader (Cumberland Council) and Leader (Westmorland and Furness Council)

**Relevant Scrutiny:** Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Hosted Services

**Subject:**

The Deputy Leader (Cumberland Council) and Leader (Westmorland and Furness Council) submitted an update on the delivery of the Joint Disaggregation Programme.

The Director of Business Transformation and Change (Cumberland Council) reported that the Joint Executive Committee was responsible for the oversight and management of the hosted services including the development and implementation of disaggregation plans for the hosted services. Any changes to disaggregation dates must be approved by the Joint Executive Committee following consideration by the Joint Officer Board.

The report set out the amended dates of disaggregation or move to long term hosted services for the following services:

Records Management

Children's Emergency Duty Room Out of Hours social care emergency services

Family Group Conferencing Service

Financial Systems Team

Following agreement by the Joint Executive Committee on 14 May 2024, the disaggregation of the Family Information Service within the ICT Systems and disaggregation of the Apprenticeship Team was progressing and a preferred option had been identified and agreed for the disaggregation of the Adults Urgent Care Team.

The Joint Executive Committee noted that recommendation 4 to approve the proposal to change dates of disaggregation for Financial Systems be removed as this had not yet been processed through Cumberland Council governance.

The Director of Resources (sct151) (Westmorland and Furness Council) stated that Westmorland and Furness Council had approved the proposal and that it had also been agreed through the Joint financial system disaggregation group that includes the Cumberland Chief Finance Officer (sct 151) and shared ICT systems team and programme manager.

The Joint Executive also noted that changes to the Records Management contributions by Westmorland and Furness would be fully captured in the service schedule.

The Deputy Leader (Cumberland Council) moved the amended recommendations and the Leader (Westmorland and Furness) seconded them.

**Alternative Options:** Maintain disaggregation date for Records management; disaggregate the Children's Emergency Team; maintain the Family Group Conferencing Services as long term hosted; maintain the disaggregation date for Financial Systems; amend disaggregation dates for Family Information System, Apprenticeships and Adults urgent Care Team.

## **DECISION:**

The Joint Executive Committee:

- i) Approved long-term hosting for Records Management by Cumberland Council for five years (commencing from date of decision made) with an annual review of the arrangement.
- ii) Approves long-term hosting for the Children's Emergency Duty Team by Westmorland and Furness Council, with an annual review of the arrangement.
- iii) Approved the disaggregation of the Family Group Conferencing Service on 31 October 2024.
- iv) Noted the update from the Joint Officer Board on the progress of disaggregation for the Family Information Service (disaggregation 31 July 2024), Apprenticeships (disaggregation 30 September 2024) and; Adults Urgent Care Team (disaggregation 30 September 2024).

## **Reason for Decision:**

To monitor and progress delivery of the disaggregation programme in line with aims and objectives of each authority.

## **21 Inter Authority Agreement: Update Report**

(Non Key Decision)

**Portfolio:** Governance and Transformation (Cumberland Council)

**Relevant Scrutiny:** Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Hosted Services

## **Subject:**

The Deputy Leader (Cumberland Council) submitted an update on progress with the Deed of variation to the Inter Authority Agreement (IAA).

The Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer (Cumberland Council) set out the background to the IAA which was established as a framework for the operation and oversight of those services which would be hosted by one authority on behalf of the other following reorganisation.

Since March 2024 fourteen services had been disaggregated and removed from the IAA. Officers in the Programme Management Office had prepared revised Service Schedules for the remaining hosted services. Of the 21 hosted services, four had been signed off by the Senior Responsible Officer and included in the Deed of Variation. Nine had been provisionally agreed but were yet to be signed off and

the remaining Eight had not yet been agreed. The position with each Service Schedule had been included in the appendices.

The Director of Resources (S151) (Westmorland and Furness Council) informed the Joint Executive Committee that an update on the 2024/25 financial position would be submitted to the September meeting. Following a discussion the Director of Resources (S151) agreed to review the financial timelines set out in the IAA to ensure that the aligned with both Council's procedures and provide an update in September.

The Deputy Leader (Cumberland Council) moved the recommendation and the Leader (Westmorland and Furness Council) seconded it.

**Alternative Options:** None

**DECISION:**

That the Joint Executive noted the Inter Authority Agreement: Update Report.

**Reasons for Decision:**

The changes to the IAA supported the Authorities in working together to provide excellent services and in turn contributed to the visions and ambitions set out in the two Council Plans.

## **22 23/24 Budget Monitoring - IAA**

(Non Key Decision)

**Portfolio:** Financial Planning & Assets (Cumberland Council), Finance and Governance (Westmorland and Furness Council)

**Relevant Scrutiny:** Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Hosted Services

**Subject:**

The Financial Planning & Assets Portfolio Holder (Cumberland Council), Finance and Governance Portfolio Holder (Westmorland and Furness Council) submitted an interim forecast outturn for services delivered through:

- a. Collaborative Agreement in relation to Coroners Service;
- b. Inter Authority Agreement in relation to Continuing Shared Services and Hosted Contracts; and
- c. Inter Authority Agreement in relation to the management of waste disposal services and ancillary contracts.

The report provided a high level summary of the draft reconciliation position for 2023/24. The amounts payable were as per the agreed financial schedule for the 2023/24 IAA and in accordance with the agreed % split of the overall costs. This was the basis on which the monthly payments had been made and therefore a reconciliation of costs to be reports against budget and also a cash payment adjustment.

The Director of Resources (S151) (Westmorland and Furness Council) set out the position for both Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council and reported that for 2024/25 it was expected that a quarter budget monitoring report would be scheduled for the Joint Executive Committee after the sovereign corporate budget monitoring position had been reported and approved to bring the hosted service reporting in line with the quarterly budget monitoring for each authority.

The Deputy Leader (Cumberland Council) moved the recommendations and the Leader (Westmorland and Furness Council) seconded them.

**DECISION:**

That the Joint Executive Committee;

- i) Noted the draft outturn position for:
  - a. Collaborative Agreement in relation to Coroners Service, and
  - b. Inter Authority Agreement in relation to Continuing Shared Services and Hosted Contracts (IAA)
- ii) Noted the position in relation to the Inter Authority Agreement in relation to the management of waste disposal services and ancillary contracts (WIAA) which was subject to on-going work pending receipt of all necessary information to provide a draft outturn position.
- iii) Noted that the final outturn position and 'balancing schedule of payments' (as agreed by both Section 151 officers) be reported to the next JEC meeting

## **23 Update on Contract Award Decisions for Hosted Services**

(Non Key Decision)

**Portfolio:** Leader (Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council)

**Relevant Scrutiny:** Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Hosted Services

### **Subject:**

The Leader (Cumberland Council) and the Leader (Westmorland and Furness Council) submitted a report setting out the decisions taken under the delegated authority provided to officers by the Joint Executive Committee on 19 September 2023 in respect of contracts associated with hosted services.

Appendix one to the report set out two decisions taken on 25 June 2024 regarding:

- Decision to procure and award a new contract for the provision of replacement ICT datacentre infrastructure equipment Cumbria House Data Centre;
- Decision to award a contract for new ICT data centre equipment for the Penrith Fire service HQ Data Centre

The Deputy Leader (Cumberland Council) moved the recommendations and the Leader (Westmorland and Furness Council) seconded them.

**Alternative Options:** Not applicable

### **DECISION:**

That the Joint Executive Committee noted the decisions taken by officers under the delegated authority provided to officers by the Joint Executive Committee on 19 September 2023 in respect of contracts associated with hosted services.

### **Reasons for Decision:**

To monitor the decision taken under the delegated authority provided to officers by the Joint Executive Committee on 19 September 2023 in respect of contracts associated with hosted services.

The meeting finished at 2.51 pm