

Cumberland Shadow Authority Scrutiny

Date **1 February 2023**

Title **LGR Programme Update Report**

Report from: Kathryn Griffiths, Senior Manager – LGR Programme

Report Author: Kathryn Griffiths, Senior Manager – LGR Programme

Wards: All

Key Decision: No

1.0 Purpose/Summary of report

1.1. This report provides Members with an update on the Programme in place to support Local Government Reorganisation in Cumbria.

1.2. The report consists of the latest Programme Dashboard presented to the Programme Board (13 December 2022), and a summary of the Day One Board report presented to the Day One Programme Board (13 December 2022).

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Shadow Authority Scrutiny Committee:-

(1) Notes the report details and key points included in section 3 of this report.

3.0 Background and Proposals

3.1 Members have previously agreed that the format of this report and associated appendices for providing a monthly update on the progress of the LGR Programme. It shares key progress summaries considered regularly by the Programme Board and the Day One Board.

Programme Dashboard Report 13/12/2022(Appendix 1)

- 3.2 The LGR Programme Board meets fortnightly and receives a programme dashboard report at every other meeting. The Programme Board is chaired by the Programmes Senior Responsible officer and includes Chief Executives from all of the Councils and Programme Theme Leads. The dashboard provides:
- an executive summary of progress, alongside
 - highlighted key programme milestones,
 - a position statement (updated monthly) on the LGR Implementation Reserve
 - any items for escalation to the Programme Board
 - key risks from across the programme; and
 - includes a summary of all critical changes to the programme as the change control process is embedded.

Day One Board Report Summary 13/12/2022 (Appendix 2)

- 3.3 The Day One Board meets weekly and is chaired by the Programme's Senior Responsible Officer and includes all technical leads across the programme and programme managers. The board is focused on delivery against the programme's critical day one requirements, needed to ensure that the new councils and the operation of their services are safe and legal on day one. Sixty-one delivery plans are in place and aligned to those requirements, incorporating key milestones, progress on delivery and flags where progress is at risk.
- 3.4 The Day One Board receives a report on progress at every meeting. This is a detailed report and reviews progress against all delivery plans (including actions, milestones and day one requirements). It assists the Board in focusing on the most critical areas. Included in this report (at Appendix 2) is the summary page of the report that includes some key performance measures for the programme:
- progress in delivering against day one requirements
 - the number of day one requirements and milestones that have been flagged (e.g. due to a decision pending or a delay due to an interdependency) or have reached their due date but are still reporting as incomplete
 - a count of the number of day one requirements across each theme and the associated milestone (Level 1, 2, 3)
 - a summary of the status updates for each of the requirements by theme
 - a snapshot of the completeness of data held across the three thousand plus action lines within all deliver plans

3.5 Key Points to Highlight from the Programme Dashboard and Day One Report Summary (13/12/2022):

- 36.1% of the programmes 1,317 milestones have now been completed, with 19 of the 227 Day 1 Requirements fulfilled and a further 18 nearing completion. A strong focus on accountability for delivery is being maintained by the Day 1 Board with the ongoing provision of support and challenge across all themes.
- Chief Officer roles and structures have been finalised and recruitment has commenced, with Assistant Director structures to be confirmed by the end of December 2022 and next steps in the change management process confirmed. This is a delay on the intended timeline. Appointment to the Westmorland & Furness Monitoring Officer role has also recently been confirmed.
- The staff allocation process is progressing well with 88% of allocations completed, and an aim to resolve the remaining complex cases by the end of January 2023.
- The ICT Theme continues to be a focus for both Day 1 Board and Programme Boards. The categorisation of business applications has supported both boards in providing oversight on the more complex system implementation, enabling resources to be targeted where they are most needed. A gateway review of ICT systems before Christmas will provide further assurance around the deliverability and the opportunity to verify priorities, resourcing requirements and contingency planning where required
- The finalisation of contractual arrangements with suppliers of some category one (highest priority) ICT systems (Adult Social Care Case Management and Finance/Charging, Asset Management, Highways) is progressing although discussions are taking longer than anticipated in many cases because of the stance taken by suppliers. The intention is to have these contracts finalised, along with the Microsoft licensing agreement, before Christmas 2022.
- Work continues on 2023/24 budget setting; on the development of constitutions; and on Inter-authority agreements and service schedules for hosted services.
- Planning for Services activity is underway and will be a key focus for the next 3 months for the Cumberland and Westmorland & Furness Programme Unitary Boards alongside the activities mentioned above.

- Both Cumberland and Westmorland & Furness Boards have been working on clarifying their priorities through focussed workshops, and the associated resources and activities required to deliver them, during the final 100 days approaching vesting day. Each are developing 100-day plans.
- Following the previously reported detailed review of the LGR Implementation Reserve the Senior Responsible Officers (Chief Executive Designates and Cumbria County Council Chief Executive) are continuing to challenge and prioritise the additional resource asks and it is expected that either through further challenge of the use of the reserve or additional financial support from sovereign authorities that the required resources to deliver day 1 safe and legal will be available.
- The programmes strategic risks remain stable.

Contact Officers

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Appendices Attached to this Report

Appendix No.	Name of Appendix
1	LGR Programme Dashboard
2	Day One Board Report

Background Documents Available

None