

Performance and Finance Select Committee
5 December 2019
Whole Council Design
Director of Finance and Support Services

Summary

This paper provides an update on the Whole Council Design Programme, which is currently under review to ensure that resources are focused on the right projects, which reflect West Sussex County Council's priorities.

The focus for scrutiny

The committee is asked to note the current position of the Whole Council Design Programme and the review which is underway. The committee is also asked to note that a full report on the refreshed programme, following the review, is expected to be presented at a future committee meeting and on-going monitoring will be undertaken through the quarterly Total Performance Monitor reports.

1. Proposal

- 1.1. Whole Council Design is a collection of initiatives which seek to redesign services to improve the experience of residents while also delivering savings for West Sussex County Council.
- 1.2. Following recent senior management changes, a review of Whole Council Design is being undertaken. This in-depth review will review the current programme for the current workstreams to establish revised timelines, costs and benefits. The Executive Leadership Team has had a positive initial discussion about the refreshed programme and priorities.
- 1.3. £1.5m in savings has been budgeted to be delivered from Whole Council Design in 2019-20, which was expected to be achieved through three projects:
 - Our Work Anywhere,
 - Right Service Right Place, and
 - Efficiencies from implementing a new staff app
- 1.4. The Our Work Anywhere project is based upon finding efficiencies and benefits in working with improved IT equipment and software – mainly within Children and Family Services. With the ongoing need to invest in Children and Family Services following the recent OFSTED inspection, it is not expected that any of these savings will be achieved.

- 1.5 Given the developing position on Whole Council Design savings in 2019-20, the RAG status regarding their savings achievement remains at 'significant risk' and red rated and is projected as an overspend within the latest budget monitoring position.
- 1.6 As part of the review, consideration will be given to what savings can reasonably be included in the 2020/2021 budget.

2. Resources

- 2.1 The Director of Finance and Support Services is now supervising this work and has appointed the Head of Policy, to oversee the review and manage the Transformation Portfolio Office in the short-term. Specialist external resources from Ignite Consulting have also been commissioned to support the review and to provide an external perspective in the short-term.

3. Issues for consideration by the Select Committee

- 3.1 This is an update, as requested by the Select Committee.

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