

Local Government North Yorkshire and York

12 July 2012

Future Collaboration

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To update LGNY Y on progress relating to a number of collaborative initiatives.

2.0 Background

2.1 A report was brought to LGNY Y on the 20 January 2012 updating on four discrete areas of joint working. This report builds on those and gives an overview on the collaborative initiatives which were initiated through Regional Improvement & Efficiency partnership (RIEP) funding.

3.0 Collaborative Initiatives

3.1 Asset Management

- Work continues on the potential for rationalising public sector occupancy in Malton.
- No further public sector property “hot spots” have been identified subsequently. There is therefore no further planned activity at this stage.
- The data collected remains in place and available should there be appetite for further exploration.

3.2 Access to Services

- Development of a business case for closer integration on web site technology continues.
- Work continues on exploring shared contact centre technology. This includes joint procurement for automating telephone calls.
- The District Councils are all looking at a potential joint procurement of idoc – a portal for planning applications.

3.3 Fleet Management

- There continues to be active engagement across the councils of fleet management specialists.
- The recent fears of a potential fuel crisis resulted in sharing of information about fuel stocks and draft agreements to share fuel in order to maintain essential services.
- City of York Council led a joint procurement of refuse vehicles.
- Opportunities have been explored between NYCC and Scarborough and NYCC and Ryedale about joint facilities.

- The approach of the group remains largely “opportunistic” and there appears to be a general willingness to continue to explore further opportunities.

3.4 ICT

- Whilst this was not an area of opportunity highlighted for short term attention at the previous LGNYY meeting, discussions have taken place with partners across the County.
- A review is being initiated (funded by RIEP legacy) to better understand what opportunities there are for more joined up ICT between the County and the District Councils. Other partners have also been invited but the initial focus has been on the Councils.
- The review is expected to identify the potential benefits but, perhaps more importantly, address some real practical issues that need to be considered. Many of these issues are likely to be technical.
- The outcome of the review will be used to test the appetite for taking the approach further and each organisation will be invited to express an interest or otherwise.

3.5 Revenues and Benefits

- This issue is addressed in further detail by the report included elsewhere on the agenda.

3.6 Progress has been slower in some areas than was envisaged in the report to LGNYY in January. This is primarily due to a lack of capacity to progress initiatives within organisations sometimes resulting in non participation.

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 Members are requested to note progress and comment on the contents of this report.

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