

WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SHADOW AUTHORITY

SHADOW EXECUTIVE MEETING

25th August 2020

Report Title	Programme Director's Update
Report Author	Paul Helsby – Programme Director

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to appraise the members of the progress being made to create West Northamptonshire Council.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the shadow executive:

- a) Notes the high level programme delivery status
- b) Notes the update on change readiness and change champion recruitment.
- c) Notes the communication and engagement update
- d) Notes the contents of the independent programme health check and the recommendations included in the report to be adopted.
- e) Notes and approves the finance monitoring report.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 The approach to setting up West Northamptonshire Council is at a point where the blueprint for the council is emerging and will require formal approval at a future Shadow Executive meeting.
- 3.1.2 There is a detailed report covering an independent health check undertaken on behalf of the LGA in July 2020. This report is intended to support the implementation phase and identify areas of strength, opportunities to strengthen the approach and highlight key areas to maintain high focus.

- 3.1.3 The finance monitoring report for August is submitted for approval and the attached report sets out the details for consideration by the Executive.
- 3.1.4 There is also an update on communications and engagement and change management and the current position in relation to Change Champions and the next steps to engage more widely for the Executives information.
- 3.1.5 There is also a schematic that depicts the next stage of reporting in the implementation phase which will culminate in a monthly programme report on progress to go live on a West Northamptonshire basis.

3.2 Issues and Choices

- 3.2.1 The creation of a draft blueprint for West Northamptonshire Council will be presented to the Executive for approval setting out the approach and choices available.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

- 4.1.1 The delivery costs and benefits are set out in detail in the Finance Monitoring Report attached. There is no requirement to provide additional funds and this situation will be carefully monitored on a monthly basis.

4.2 Resources and Risk

- 4.2.1 The full extent of the impact of the pandemic is still emerging and we cannot be sure that a further outbreak is likely or not. The programme has been reorganised to mitigate this as much as possible but it will be necessary to monitor the situation carefully to ensure the resources needed from the sovereign councils are available for the implementation phase of the programme.

4.3 Legal

- 4.3.1 No implications in this report

4.4 Equality and Health

- 4.4.1 No implications in this report