

		AGENDA ITEM 5
		PAF/06/14
Committee:	People and Families Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	4 February 2014	
<u>Increasing Independence for Working Age Adults</u>		
Enquiries to:	Robert Fox Scrutiny Officer Corporate Law & Assurance 01245 430526 robert.fox@essex.gov.uk	

Purpose of the Paper:

To provide the report on the CMA relating to the Increasing Independence for Working Age Adults Transformation project, Ref. FP/488/01/14, dated 24 January 2014.

Report of Councillor David Finch	Forward Plan reference number <i>n/a</i>
Date of final signoff: 24 January 2014	County Divisions affected by the decision: All Divisions
Title of report: Increasing Independence Working Age Adults	
Report by Peter Tempest, Executive Director for Adult Operations	
Enquiries to Lynne.Chandler@essex.gov.uk	

1) Purpose of report

- a) To seek approval, to the release of £569, 000 of project costs to fund development of work-streams leading to decisions in relation to the Increasing Independence for Working Age Adults Transformation project.

2) Recommendations

- a) Agree drawdown of £166,000 from Transformation Reserve to pay for new costs and agree the application of £403,000 of opportunity costs to support the production of a final business case for the Increasing Independence for Working age Adults Project
 - i) Staff costs in relation to general project management and subject matter experts
 - ii) Professional fees
 - iii) Communications including consultations

3) Background and proposal

- a) The Increasing Independence Working Age Adults Transformation project includes a wide range of ECC social care services as follows:
 - i) Adult Operations in relation to Learning Disability and Physical and Sensory Impairment for Working Age Adults
- b) Adult Social Care in relation to the commissioning of housing and accommodation, day care services, carers, physical and sensory impairment services and respite care. Problems have been identified with the way these services are currently provided. The current pattern of expenditure is not

delivering the best outcomes for service users, ECC or their partners. In addition, ECC as a whole faces the challenge of sustaining and improving services with less money. Essex County Council has already saved £365m over the past three years (closing a funding gap equivalent to 37% of our budget), but in the years to 2016-17 we will need to save at least a further £215m per year (around 25% of our budget)

- c) For this reason, ECC is in the process of reviewing the way we manage and commission these services with the overall aim of reducing demand through progression of individuals towards a more independent way of living and working
- d) We are now considering an 'enablement and progression' approach. This means that, in relation to all of the services identified above the focus will shift from simply providing a service for an individual to helping that individual progress as far as that individual can and is appropriate at the time, to carry out the activity for themselves. A range of proposals are being considered
- e) All of the decisions will be the subject of separate decisions and consultation where required or desired. No final decisions have been made yet in relation to any of them.
- f) The funding requested above is required for staff resources involved with:
 - i) Staff costs associated with developing the feasibility of the proposals
 - ii) Carry out any required or desired consultations
 - iii) Professional fees for legal, finance

4) Policy Context

- a) Vision for Essex 2013 -17 builds on and replaces the previous EssexWorks Commitment 2012-17; it sets out the Cabinet's vision and priorities for the next four years and this will inform the development of a revised corporate strategy designed to:
 - i) Increase educational achievement and enhance skills;
 - ii) Develop and maintain the infrastructure that enables our residents to travel and our businesses to grow;
 - iii) Support employment and entrepreneurship across our economy;
 - iv) Improve public health and well-being across Essex;
 - v) Keep our communities safe and build community resilience; and
 - vi) Respect Essex's environment.
- b) The Vision for Essex is based on the following principles

- i) We will spend taxpayers' money wisely;
 - ii) Our focus will be on what works best, not on who does it;
 - iii) We will put residents at the heart of the decisions we make;
 - iv) We will empower communities to help themselves;
 - v) We will reduce dependency;
 - vi) We will work in partnership; and
 - vii) We will continue to be open and transparent.
- c) The proposal in this report is consistent with those principles because it builds community resilience and aims to spend taxpayer's money wisely

5) Financial Implications

- a) The following benefits are projected as possible shown in Table 1 below

	£'000
<i>2014/15</i>	<i>3,583</i>
<i>2015/16</i>	<i>9,869</i>
<i>2016/17</i>	<i>10,321</i>
Total	23,773

- b) As at October 2013 the projected cost of the project were as set out in Table 2.

Table 2: Estimated Project costs – as at October 2013

		2013-14 £'000	2014-15 £'000	2015-16 £'000	2016-17 £'000	Total £'000
Estimated Costs to Complete FBC	Opportunity Costs	403				403
	New Costs	166				166
	Total	569				569
Forecasted Implementation Costs	Opportunity Costs	95	1,346	1,078	1,078	3,597
	New Costs	30	1,505	1,505	1,505	4,545
	Total	125	2,851	2,583	2,583	8,142
Total Investment	Opportunity Costs	498	1,346	1,078	1,078	4,000
	New Costs	196	1,505	1,505	1,505	4,711
	Total	694	2,851	2,583	2,583	8,711

6) Legal Implications

- a) There are no legal implications arising directly from the drawdown of the money.

- b) There are potential legal implications from all of the future decision but these will be addressed on an individual basis as issues come forward for decision

7) Staffing and other resource implications

- a) There are no potential staff implications arising from this decision

8) Equality and Diversity implications

- a) In making this decision ECC must have regard to the public sector equality duty (PSED) under s.149 of the Equalities Act 2010, ie have due regard to the need to: **A** Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act. **B** Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. **C** Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
- b) The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- c) It is not considered that the recommendation to draw down funding will have a disproportionately adverse impact on persons who share any relevant protected characteristic. Therefore a full Equality Impact Assessment is not considered necessary. The individual decisions will be assessed for equalities impacts as they come forward

Name and Role	Date of approval/signoff
Assistant Director – Corporate Law (Monitoring Officer) Sue Chadwick (joint deputy monitoring officer) for Terry Osborne	19 th December 2013
Executive Director for Finance (Section 151 Officer) Margaret Lee	
Cabinet Member for Finance Cllr David Finch	

