

SHARED SERVICES – COSTS AND SAVINGS

Finance and Resources Advisory Committee - 11 November 2014

Report of Chief Finance Officer

Status: For Information

Key Decision: No

This report supports the Key Aim of effective management of Council resources.

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Ramsay

Contact Officer(s) Helen Martin Ext. 7483

Recommendation to Finance and Resources Advisory Committee: That the report be noted

Introduction

- 1 On 24 January 2013 Members of the Finance Advisory Group were presented with a report on the implementation costs and savings for partnership working. Members asked for this report to be added to the forward programme.

Current Partnerships in Place

- 2 Appendix A lists all of the shared services arrangements currently in place and also those that have ended.

Changes in the last year

- 3 Since April 2013 we have entered into a new agreement with Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council to operate a Building Control Partnership.
- 4 The arrangement for providing services to Sevenoaks Town Council for maintenance at the theatre ended in June 2014.

Future Partnerships

- 5 Officers continue to have discussions with other local authorities regarding future partnership opportunities.

Key Implications

Financial

This report is for information only and there are, therefore, no financial implications arising from this report. The listed partnership arrangements have been entered into by

the Council in order to achieve financial savings, deliver increased efficiencies and to improve resilience of service delivery.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

There are no legal implications.

There are no new risks associated with this report. Each partnership proposal would include a risk assessment.

Community Impact and Outcomes

The partnership working arrangements in Appendix A have delivered financial savings usually through reducing the cost of management or back office services, thus delivering a financial benefit to local residents whilst maintaining customer facing services.

Equality Impacts

Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty:		
Question	Answer	Explanation / Evidence
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to disadvantage or discriminate against different groups in the community?	No	
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have the potential to promote equality of opportunity?	No	
c. What steps can be taken to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		

.Appendices

Appendix A – Register of Shared Working Arrangements

Background Papers:

Report to Finance Advisory Group Council 24 January 2013 Partnership Working – Costs and Savings

<http://cds.sevenoaks.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=126&MId=1485&Ver=4>

**Adrian Rowbotham
Chief Finance Officer**