

PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 9 MAY 2019

UPDATE FROM THE OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY AND CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCILS PARTNERSHIP WORKING GROUP

Report by Assistant Chief Executive (Interim)

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the report and progress made through the Partnership.

Introduction

2. Annex 1 is a detailed report from the Oxfordshire and Cherwell Partnership Working Group and sets out the progress made through the partnership.

Report Details

3. The report at annex 1 sets out the progress of the partnership since its inception in October 2018 and highlights where positive progress has been made alongside further opportunities for development. Both Councils have accepted the recommendations contained within the annex and a joint project team will be established to develop the next phase of partnership working.
4. The report highlights that the partnership has taken opportunities as they have emerged and commissioned more detailed business cases for joint working in several back-office services.
5. The Partnership Working Group has a clear ambition to look at how county and district services can be aligned to better meet the needs of local communities. The Working Group has endorsed early work to explore joint working in relation to housing and commissioning, family safeguarding, emergency planning, public protection and regulatory services.

Financial and Staff Implications

6. The Cabinet have agreed to develop a joint project team to expediate the delivery of further joint working savings. The project team will be jointly funded and is expected to deliver savings greater than their cost, in effect 'paying for themselves'. The initial establishment will be funded from within existing resources.