

## **SERVICE HIGHLIGHT REPORT – COVID-19 AND KEY SERVICE UPDATES**

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| <b>SERVICE AREAS:</b>    | BID Directorate (Business Intelligence, Transformation, Commercial, Impact and Recovery) |
| <b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>    | Amanda Askham, Director Business Improvement and Development                             |
| <b>REPORTING PERIOD:</b> | January/February 2021  |
| <b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>  | Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council                              |

### **Part 1 - COVID-19**

#### **NEW GUIDANCE AND IMPACT**

In January and February national lockdown has continued, and support for Outbreak Management Plan from BID has continued. The CCG has been focused on the vaccination programme and we have supported by identifying vulnerable groups and individuals.

#### **NEW CHALLENGES AND ACTIVITY**

Nothing new to report.

#### **RECOVERY ACTIVITIES**

We have been working with district partners (Hunts DC and Cambridge City Council in particular) exploring data sharing projects to support identification and help for people who are newly vulnerable.

#### **DECISIONS MADE SINCE LAST REPORTING PERIOD**

In CCC, Q3 performance information was circulated for info only to most service committees. We have paused this report for Q3 whilst lockdown is in place as a result of capacity challenges in Business Intelligence (BI); anticipating lockdown easing and schools returning, this will allow space for a review in the early part of Q4 and normal reporting to return in June with end of year reports and the results of the review. Performance and management information will continue to be provided to support directorate and operational management with no interruption.

#### **NEW COVID-19 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS SINCE LAST REPORTING PERIOD**

Nothing new to report.

#### **WORKFORCE CHALLENGES**

All staff continue to be supported to balance individual work and home life demands during this period, including those with caring and home-schooling responsibilities and health requirements. Staff with primary age children are finding the combination of these particularly challenging. Many of our staff are taking leave in half term week in February to support this (week commencing 15 February).

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Staff are encouraged to attend the 'COVID Conversations' which are run for all staff, one for PCC and CCC. These information meetings are led by Gillian Beasley or a member of JMT and allow staff to ask questions. Up to 350 staff can join a 'live' session and the meetings are recorded for those unable to attend to view at a later date.

## Part 2 – BUSINESS AS USUAL ACTIVITY

### KEY SERVICE UPDATES – INTERNAL / EXTERNAL

**EU Exit:** The EU Exit response in both councils continues to proceed smoothly, with no disruption to business to date. Potential impacts continue to be identified and managed across services within the CCC-PCC EU Exit action group, which maintains links to the Local Resilience Forum. Key issues being monitored include recruitment and commissioning in the care sector, supply chain resilience, data protection, and the EU Settlement Scheme, among others.

**Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:** An EDI Pulse Survey has gone out to all staff in both councils to understand what it feels like to work in the organisation. An action plan is in progress and due to be published week commencing 15 February.

An equalities-related topic was recently submitted to a new project at Anglia Ruskin University called Students at the Heart of Knowledge Exchange (SHoKE), where we have the opportunity to gain academic insight from ARU students on this topic with a quick turnaround time. Students will focus on how to increase the representation of under-represented groups in local government at both the officer and/or councillor level.

**Power BI Premium:** The new Power BI Premium platform has been launched for children's social care and early help in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Information about COVID 19 infections is also being delivered to district partners via the new platform.

**Health and social care white paper:** The White Paper published on 11 February contains proposals relevant to BID about social care, particularly around data sharing, local governance of ICS and inspection of local authorities. We are assessing the proposals and the impact will become clear as the proposals move through Parliament.

**CCC Cambs 2020 Programme:** The move programme from Shire Hall to spoke sites continues, the anticipated costs have increased due to the need for 'fully serviced moves' (as staff are unable to pack and unpack their own storage) which have a higher value. This requirement has been logged as a cost impacted by Covid already but is expected to continue until such a time that staff are able to return to buildings. Two of the key spoke sites received planning permission; CPDC (which will be the main building for social care teams who provide services to Cambridge City) and Roger Ascham (which will be the new home of the Registrations Service). The Alconbury Weald Civic Hub staff consultation began in January, and engagement is being successfully carried out virtually with staff.

### FINANCIAL ISSUES

BID teams are working closely with Finance in both councils to forecast and monitor the continued impact on the budget from increased demand and shortfalls in income caused by the pandemic.

### PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES AND CHALLENGES

Nothing new to report.

### UPCOMING ISSUES & HORIZON SCANNING AREAS

Statutory data returns: BI is starting to work on statutory data returns in Adult Social Care, Education and Children's Social Care. Returns will be impacted this year by the effects of the pandemic. Returns are due over the period March-July

### POSITIVE NEWS STORIES

Nothing new to report.