

COVID-19 EMERGENCY PLANNING HIGHLIGHT REPORT

SERVICE AREA:	Commercial
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KEY ACTIVITY HEADLINES

Delivery of critical commercial response and impact priorities for w/e 3rd May:

- A comprehensive update on the current and anticipated 2020/21 performance of investment portfolio will be delivered to Investment Group next week. This includes the recommendation to continue with the Multi Class Credit investment fund.
- Commercial Team are continuing to work with internal service partners to collate a hub of information focused on commercial measures, including the local response to Government financial measures through to delivery of adjusted procurement advice and practice. Joint work with Trading Standards is underway to develop key guidance to individuals – particularly those that are financially vulnerable.
- The Team are continuing to provide support to the Economic Recovery Sub-Group (ERSG). Key activity this week has focused on the initial economic intelligence detailing impact on key sectors and industries in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and the very real potential for impact on individuals vulnerable to unsafe financial loans/practices. The ERSG through Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and Greater Cambridge Partnership has secured a consultant this week to deliver key intelligence across economic factors during May 2020 to help inform and drive the design of recovery and stimulus packages/intervention to be delivered in the summer.
- The support to Energy Investment Unit has been reviewed to bring together the previously two distinct workstreams of Maximising Income from Solar Energy Generation and Carbon Credit Scheme into one overarching Energy Investment Commercial Strategy. A cohesive plan across all energy schemes should enable maximum benefit – both social environmental and financial.

RISKS / CHALLENGES (AND MITIGATION)

As described in detail in previous Highlight Reports, the main risks to the commercial work are financial, relating to reductions in returns from investments and income generation activities. Also, the guidance produced for the suite of financial support available to our supply chains/supplier market, carries risk of avoidable reductions in service if contract managers are not clear about the areas of contractual obligations that should be retained at this time.

All identified mitigating actions are underway.

WORKFORCE UPDATE

- Two managers are working on critical commercial activity (1.9 FTE) and 1 FTE is currently redeployed to Covid-19 Community Hub (requested return to critical commercial work w/c 4th May)
- Capacity remains a risk as the requests for commercial advice and input to mitigate negative impacts of Covid-19 and to contribute to recovery activity increase daily.
- No reports of illnesses or high risk isolation required to date.

FINANCIAL IMPACT (increase in costs / reduction in income)

The main commercial risks remain:

- Potential reduction in income from investments.
- Delay in deployment of multi class credit investment funds.
- Income from sales of e-learning to other councils
- Impact on expected savings contract and procurement efficiencies

RECOVERY ACTIVITY (plans being considered / future steps)

The Commercial Team are working across multiple Services, agencies and the business community, to identify and plan recovery work streams. These areas of work have been highlighted in previous reports and cover:

- Income generation
- The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough focused Economic Recovery Sub-Group.
- Supply chain impact

COMMUNICATIONS

- Regular updates provided to Director, BID DMT and daily Transformation Team management meetings.
- Further communications to be provided directly into groups and work streams via SROs (eg, Steve Cox, Chris Malyon, Jon Lewis)