

REPORT OF DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE (COMMUNITY DIRECTION)
IMPACT OF LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SAVINGS
TARGETS AND COMMISSIONING CHANGES



Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

A Borough to be proud of

ALL WARDS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Council on the impact of Leicestershire County Council's (LCC's) savings targets and commissioning changes on locality based services within Hinckley and Bosworth.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That Members note the proposed implications arising from LCC savings and commissioning changes on locality based service within Hinckley and Bosworth as identified in this report.
- 2.2 That LCC be advised that this Council wishes to work closely with LCC officers and Partners to ensure the implications of the cuts are minimised on the residents of Hinckley and Bosworth.
- 2.3 That LCC be requested to positively engage the Borough Council in future Commissioning arrangements for the locality, utilising the experience and excellent track record of the Council and local partners in Commissioning local services.
- 2.4 That LCC be requested to provide early clarification of further planned cuts and changes in service arrangements impacting on the borough.
- 2.5 Members note that all confirmed changes to funding streams that will impact upon the Borough Council will be built into the 2015/2016 budget

3. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

- 3.1 LCC is currently facing unprecedented financial and service pressures. The Medium Term Financial Strategy for LCC has set targets for all services. LCC are also looking differently at some commissioning strands, with a shift from local to central commissioning.
- 3.2 There will be implications for Borough Council services of these savings targets and commissioning changes. The table in appendix 1 sets out details of areas where savings/commissioning changes and impacts are known and areas where the changes and impacts are still to be confirmed, but are a potential risk to the Borough Council.
- 3.3 In terms of the known savings and impacts, they are in the following areas:
- Domestic abuse commissioning
 - Children's centres
 - Recycling credits
 - Housing related support.
- 3.3 Officers are working with the County Council where ever possible to try and minimise the impact on residents and communities. Where commissioning is being moved

centrally, as with the Children's centres and Domestic abuse services, the importance of ensuring that locality priorities and needs are reflected in commissioning plans is being stressed along with emphasising that there is a wealth of local knowledge and intelligence which has been built up over years of locality commissioning which should not be lost.

3.4 Work will continue at a senior level to ensure that at the earliest opportunity engagement takes place in those areas where information is still currently unavailable and impacts unknown.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (KP)

4.1 All confirmed changes to funding streams that will impact upon the Borough Council will be built into the 2015/2016 budget. Currently these are as follows:

- Reduction in income and expenditure budgets relating to delivery of children's centres. At this point it is expected this change will have a net nil impact on the Council budget
- Reduction in income budgets for Domestic Abuse Commissioning by £11,250
- Reduction in recycling income budgets of £345,792 (Being the net of removal of recycling credits and savings in gate fees). It is proposed that this gap be funded in 2015/2016 from savings identified in the current years budget, pending Council approval.

4.2 The financial impact of all other changes will be considered when clarification is received from the County Council.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (EH)

5.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from the body or recommendation of this report.

5.2 As individual service changes and cuts develop and progress however officers in affected service areas need to be considering the legal requirements in terms of each change, for example where agreements require terminating they should be done in accordance with the Contract.

CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are implications for all priorities in the Corporate Plan

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 None to date.

8. RISK IMPLICATIONS

Management of significant (Net Red) Risks		
Risk Description	Mitigating actions	Owner
Increase demand for services and pressure on budgets as a result of county council decisions.	Ensure early and robust dialogue with relevant County Council officers/members to ensure impacts and locality priorities are understood and impacts minimised.	All relevant managers.

9. KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 County Council changes detailed in this report will impact across the whole of the Borough and could potentially impact on all residents.

10. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety implications
- Environmental implications
- ICT implications
- Asset Management implications
- Human Resources implications
- Planning Implications
- Voluntary Sector

Background papers:

Contact Officer: Bill Cullen

Executive Member: Stuart Bray

Appendix 1.

Saving Target/commissioning changes – service affected	Implementation Date	HBBC Budgetary Impact	Service Impact	
Domestic Abuse Commissioning.	April or September 2015	Loss of £11,250 funding to support DA service	Children’s worker post will cease. Additional outreach capacity to meet increased demand will cease.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No redundancy issues as post is on a fixed term contract. • Increased demand will not be met by establishment post. A waiting list will have to be held, with associated risks.
Children’s centre	April 2015	<p>Loss of £7500 annual management fee.</p> <p>Reduction in commissioning budget from £375,745 to £281,197. This budget will no longer be held by HBBC for local commissioning, with all services being commissioned centrally by the county council.</p>	<p>All seven Sure Start centres will remain open.</p> <p>At this stage it is difficult to assess the potential impact the reduction in commissioning budget and the central management of that budget will have on local families and young people. Open and positive communication is taking place with the county council to ensure local commissioning priorities are understood and reflected in the proposed Early Help commissioning framework</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No redundancy issues. • All current contracts will end March 2015.

Recycling credits	April 2015	Reduction in budget of £350,000 with potential further reduction in income up to circa £500,000 for dry recycling credits in subsequent years (not confirmed).	Potential change to service to compensate for reductions which will be subject to consultation at a future date.	
Housing related support – older people	Sept 2015	£411,630 supporting people funding for sheltered schemes and control centre	Service model proposed to enable services to continue through service charging. Proposed implantation date April 2015.	

SAVINGS - CONFIRMED IMPACT UNKNOWN AT THIS STAGE.

Saving Target/commissioning changes – service affected	Implementation Date	Saving proposal/commissioning change	Service Impact/risks	
Housing related support – homelessness services.	April 2015	Reduction in budget allocated to county homelessness services including floating support, hostels for young people and domestic abuse refuges.	HBBC services are not funded directly, but a reduction in services available to homeless people could result in an increase in demand for statutory homelessness services with consequential increases in temporary accommodation costs.	
Reduction in cost of support for homeless 16/17 year olds.	£100k from 2014/15	Detail not given	Possible increase in temporary accommodation costs if LCC do not	

			manage/accommodate 16/17 year olds.	
Review and consolidate Voluntary Sector Support/reduction in grants.	2015/16 £800k	Detail not known	Possible loss of voluntary sector provision, increase in demand for HBBC services and request for support to voluntary groups/organisations.	
Cease contribution towards Police Community Support Officers	2015/16 - £430K	Detail not known	Potential impact on Community Safety services and the management of crime/ASB if partnership services reduced.	
Review of IMPACT programme and Youth Offending Service.	2015/16 - £350K	Detail not known		
Trading standards reduced enforcement, inspection and testing activity.	2015/16 - £180K	Detail not known		
S73 funding for business and housing		Clarity needed on detail.	Funding previously received for regeneration schemes, for example shop front improvements etc and also funding for housing schemes, for example new homes bonus to fund rural exceptions sites. Information about the savings is limited so impacts unknown.	
Reduction in staffing for partnership and community support activities.	2014/15 ongoing.	Clarity needed on what this activities re covered but could impact on partnerships		

		across all services, in particular planning/economic regeneration.		
Review planning, historic and natural environmental services.	2014/15 ongoing		Possible loss in records centre and impacts on planning.	
LCC operational property review			Risk that this review could result in services returning to county hall with impacts on Hub/Atkins. Equally could be opportunities for more co location	
Impacts on support services			Any significant changes will impact on support services such as legal, finance services.	

