

## BOROUGH OF POOLE

## BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

19 FEBRUARY 2018

## REPRESENTATION TO BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE JOINT COMMITTEE

21 FEBRUARY 2018

The Business Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee recommend to the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Joint Committee that:

- (i) **A workstream to name the New Authority be established and the work be undertaken by a separate task and finish group in conjunction with the programme management team to work towards creating a brand new identity for the area.**

Comments:

The BIOS Sub-Committee discussed this particular item at some length, primarily to understand whether or not this was a piece of work that was being dealt with by the Programme Management Team at this stage of the process. It was confirmed that whilst this issue was on the Programme Team's radar, work had not commenced on naming the new authority due to a number of reasons including the requirement to agree the Structural Change Order and the increasing complexity of the Disaggregation Process. It was also confirmed that Officers were awaiting a steer from Members as to how to proceed and that this could be a sensitive subject area for both Members and residents because ultimately, it will be a new identity. One thing that is clear, is that Members are satisfied with the name used on the Structural Change Order on the basis that it is a temporary name only and a permanent name should be deliberated and consulted on as a matter of urgency so that it is ready for the new Authority to adopt.

- (ii) **The arrangements for appointing a Chief Executive, or equivalent, should be established in time for when the Shadow Authority supersedes this Joint Committee. Furthermore, the BIOS Sub-Committee recommends that the process should favour appointing a permanent candidate to the role rather than making use of interim arrangements as this will promote continuity as the councils transition between Shadow Arrangements to the new Authority.**

Comments:

The BIOS Sub-Committee recognises that appointing to what will be considered a high profile role will be a difficult task and therefore one that should be well managed to ensure a high quality of candidate is eventually

appointed. Several options were given to the Sub-Committee as to how a Chief Executive could be selected, although the most favoured option was that the Shadow Authority appointed a candidate that would remain in post throughout the course of existence of the Shadow Authority and onwards into the New Authority.

**(iii) The Disaggregation programme is closely monitored to ensure that:**

- **There is adequate resource in terms of finance and staffing to deal with this complex project**
- **Existing services do not suffer from any ill-effects of the disaggregation process in their present form or from “vesting day”**
- **Risk is managed efficiently and any concerns be escalated and brought to the attention of the Joint Committee in the event that intervention is required.**

Comments:

Officers advised that the Disaggregation Process had proven to be more complex than originally anticipated, which had led to some delays and although these were now being reduced, Members of the Sub-Committee felt it prudent to raise this as an issue and formally request that the Joint Committee closely monitor the situation and that additional resource is provided where available.

**Additional Statement:**

The BIOS Sub-Committee gratefully accepted an invitation from the Chairman of Bournemouth’s Local Government Review and Shared Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel to attend and contribute to its Meeting on 15 February 2018. The Sub-Committee found this to be a valuable experience and would like to relay its gratitude for the hospitality that it was shown. It is hoped that both Scrutiny Panels/Committees can continue working together as proposals move forward and assist the Joint Committee in establishing and recommending a scrutiny function that could be utilised by the Shadow Authority should they choose to adopt it.