

A meeting of the **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND CUSTOMERS)** will be held in **CIVIC SUITE 0.1A, PATHFINDER HOUSE, ST MARY'S STREET, HUNTINGDON, PE29 3TN** on **MONDAY, 6TH MARCH 2017** at **6:00 PM** and you are requested to attend for the transaction of the following business:-

**Contact
(01480)**

APOLOGIES

1. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

To receive from Members declarations as to disclosable pecuniary and other interests in relation to any Agenda item.

2. NOTICE OF KEY EXECUTIVE DECISIONS (Pages 5 - 8)

A copy of the current Notice of Key Executive Decisions is attached. Members are invited to note the Plan and to comment as appropriate on any items contained therein.

**A Roberts
388015**

3. PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT FOR TRANSFER OF LOAN (Pages 9 - 18)

The Panel is to receive a report on the provisional agreement for the transfer of a loan.

**C Mason
388157**

4. WORK PLAN STUDIES (Pages 19 - 22)

To consider the work programmes of the Communities and Environment and Economy and Growth Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

**A Green
388008**

5. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROGRESS (Pages 23 - 24)

To consider a report on the Panel's activities.

**A Green
388008**

Dated this 23rd day of February 2017



Head of Paid Service

Notes

1. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- (1) *Members are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests and unless you have obtained dispensation, cannot discuss or vote on the matter at the meeting and must also leave the room whilst the matter is being debated or voted on.*

(2) A Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest if it -

- (a) relates to you, or
- (b) is an interest of -

- (i) your spouse or civil partner; or
- (ii) a person with whom you are living as husband and wife; or
- (iii) a person with whom you are living as if you were civil partners

and you are aware that the other person has the interest.

(3) Disclosable pecuniary interests includes -

- (a) any employment or profession carried out for profit or gain;
- (b) any financial benefit received by the Member in respect of expenses incurred carrying out his or her duties as a Member (except from the Council);
- (c) any current contracts with the Council;
- (d) any beneficial interest in land/property within the Council's area;
- (e) any licence for a month or longer to occupy land in the Council's area;
- (f) any tenancy where the Council is landlord and the Member (or person in (2)(b) above) has a beneficial interest; or
- (g) a beneficial interest (above the specified level) in the shares of any body which has a place of business or land in the Council's area.

Non-Statutory Disclosable Interests

(4) If a Member has a non-statutory disclosable interest then you are required to declare that interest, but may remain to discuss and vote providing you do not breach the overall Nolan principles.

(5) A Member has a non-statutory disclosable interest where -

- (a) a decision in relation to the business being considered might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing of you or a member of your family or a person with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the council tax payers, rate payers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the authority's administrative area, or
- (b) it relates to or is likely to affect a disclosable pecuniary interest, but in respect of a member of your family (other than specified in (2)(b) above) or a person with whom you have a close association, or
- (c) it relates to or is likely to affect any body –
 - (i) exercising functions of a public nature; or
 - (ii) directed to charitable purposes; or
 - (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a Member or in a position of control or management.

and that interest is not a disclosable pecuniary interest.

2. Filming, Photography and Recording at Council Meetings

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be filmed. The Chairman of the meeting will facilitate this preference by ensuring that any such request not to be recorded is respected.

Please contact Mr Adam Green, Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny), Tel No. 01480 388008/e-mail Adam.Green@huntingdonshire.gov.uk if you have a general query on any Agenda Item, wish to tender your apologies for absence from the meeting, or would like information on any decision taken by the Committee/Panel.

Specific enquiries with regard to items on the Agenda should be directed towards the Contact Officer.

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting as observers except during consideration of confidential or exempt items of business.

Agenda and enclosures can be viewed on the District Council's website – www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk (*under Councils and Democracy*).

If you would like a translation of Agenda/Minutes/Reports or would like a large text version or an audio version please contact the Elections & Democratic Services Manager and we will try to accommodate your needs.

Emergency Procedure

In the event of the fire alarm being sounded and on the instruction of the Meeting Administrator, all attendees are requested to vacate the building via the closest emergency exit.

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NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE KEY DECISIONS INCLUDING THOSE TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE

Prepared by Councillor R B Howe, Executive Leader of the Council
Date of Publication: 15 February 2017
For Period: 1 March 2017 to 30 June 2017

Membership of the Cabinet is as follows:-

Councillor R B Howe	Executive Leader of the Council	The Old Barn High Street Upwood Huntingdon PE26 2QE Tel: 01487 814393 E-mail: Robin.Howe@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor D Brown	Executive Councillor for Commercialisation and Shared Services	Haycroft Porch Farm Barns Warboys Road Old Hurst PE28 3AA Tel: 07970 462048 E-mail: Daryl.Brown@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor G J Bull	Deputy Executive Leader	2 Lancaster Close Old Hurst Huntingdon PE28 3BB Tel: 07780 511928 E-mail:- Graham.Bull@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor S Cawley	Executive Councillor for Transformation and Customers	6 Levers Water Huntingdon PE29 6TH Tel: 01480 435188 E-mail: Stephen.Cawley@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor Mrs A Dickinson	Executive Councillor for Community Resilience	Priory Holme Priory Road St Ives Cambs PE28 3DJ Tel: 01480 495445 E-mail: Angie.Dickinson@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Councillor R Fuller	Executive Councillor for Housing and Regulatory Services	19 Pettis Road St Ives Huntingdon Cambridgeshire PE27 6SR Tel: 01480 388311 E-mail: Ryan.Fuller@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor J A Gray	Executive Councillor for Strategic Resources	Vine Cottage 2 Station Road Catworth PE28 OPE Tel: 01832 710799 E-mail: Jonathan.Gray@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor R Harrison	Executive Councillor for Growth	55 Bushmead Road Eaton Socon St Neots PE19 8GC Tel: 01480 406664 E-mail: Roger.Harrison@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor J M Palmer	Executive Councillor for Health and Well-Being	149 Great Whyte Ramsey Huntingdon Cambridgeshire PE26 1HP Tel: 01487 814063 E-mail: John.Palmer@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor J White	Executive Councillor for Operations	49 High Street Spaldwick Huntingdon PE28 OTD Tel: 01480 890451 E-mail: Jim.White@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Notice is hereby given of:

- Key decisions that will be taken by the Cabinet (or other decision maker)
- Confidential or exempt executive decisions that will be taken in a meeting from which the public will be excluded (for whole or part).

A notice/agenda together with reports and supporting documents for each meeting will be published at least five working days before the date of the meeting. In order to enquire about the availability of documents and subject to any restrictions on their disclosure, copies may be requested by contacting the Democratic Services Team on 01480 388169 or E-mail Democratic.Services@huntingdonshire.gov.uk.

Agendas may be accessed electronically at www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk.

Formal notice is hereby given under The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 that, where indicated part of the meetings listed in this notice will be held in private because the agenda and reports for the meeting will contain confidential or exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it. See the relevant paragraphs below.

Any person who wishes to make representations to the decision maker about a decision which is to be made or wishes to object to an item being considered in private may do so by emailing Democratic.Services@huntingdonshire.gov.uk or by contacting the Democratic Services Team. If representations are received at least eight working days before the date of the meeting, they will be published with the agenda together with a statement of the District Council's response. Any representations received after this time will be verbally reported and considered at the meeting.

Paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) (Reason for the report to be considered in private)

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the Financial and Business Affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information)
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations or contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with any labour relations that are arising between the Authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of or office holders under the Authority
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings
6. Information which reveals that the Authority proposes:-
 - (a) To give under any announcement a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) To make an Order or Direction under any enactment
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

Huntingdonshire District Council
 Pathfinder House
 St Mary's Street
 Huntingdon PE29 3TN.

- Notes:- (i) Additions changes from the previous Forward Plan are annotated ***
 (ii) Part II confidential items which will be considered in private are annotated ## and shown in italic.

Subject/Matter for Decision	Decision/ recommendation to be made by	Date decision to be taken	Documents Available	How relevant Officer can be contacted	Reasons for the report to be considered in private.	Relevant Executive Councillor	Relevant Overview & Scrutiny Panel
New Cambridgeshire Housing Adaptations Agreement and Refreshed Huntingdonshire Housing Renewal Assistance Policy	Cabinet	16 Mar 2017		Caroline Hannon, Housing Strategy Manager Tel No. 01480 388203 or email: caroline.hannon@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		R Fuller	Communities and Environment

Subject/Matter for Decision	Decision/ recommendation to be made by	Date decision to be taken	Documents Available	How relevant Officer can be contacted	Reasons for the report to be considered in private	Relevant Executive Councillor	Relevant Overview & Scrutiny Panel
Corporate Plan - Refresh	Cabinet	16 Mar 2017		Adrian Dobbyne, Corporate Team Manager, Tel No. 01480 388100 or Email: Adrian.Dobbyne@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		R Howe	Performance and Customers
Memoranda of Understanding with the Local Enterprise Partnership ***	Cabinet	16 Mar 2017		Andy Moffat, Head of Development Tel No. 01480 388400 or Email:andy.moffat@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		R Harrison	Economy and Growth
The Huntingdonshire Design Guide ***	Cabinet	16 Mar 2017		Clara Kerr, Planning Services Manager Tel No. 01480 388430 or Email: Clara.Kerr@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		R Harrison	Economy and Growth
Provisional Agreement for Transfer of Loan****##	Cabinet	16 Mar 2017	Due Diligence Report - EXEMPT	Clive Mason, Head of Resources Tel No. 01480 388157 or email:Clive.Mason@huntingdonshire.gov.uk	Paragraph 3	J A Gray	Performance and Customers
Housing Strategy ***	Cabinet	20 Apr 2017		Andy Moffat, Head of Development Tel No. 01480 388400 or email: Andy.Moffatt@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		R Fuller	Economy and Growth
Corporate Enforcement Policy ***	Cabinet	20 Apr 2017		Chris Stopford, Head of Community Services Tel No. 01480 388280 or email: Chris.Stopford@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		R Fuller	Communities and Environment
Agreement for Transfer of Loan****##	Cabinet	22 Jun 2017	Due Diligence Report	Clive Mason, Head of Resources Tel No. 01480 388157 or email Clive.Mason@huntingdonshire.gov.uk	Paragraph 3	J A Gray	Performance and Customers
CCTV (Full Business Case) ***	Cabinet	22 Jun 2017		Anthony Kemp, Interim Corporate Director (Services) Tel No. 01480 388301 or email: Anthony.Kemp@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		D Brown	Performance and Customers

Public
Key Decision - No

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter:	Provisional Agreement for the Transfer of a Loan, previously made to Huntingdonshire Regional College, to Cambridge Regional College as a consequence of the merger of the two colleges.
Meeting/Date:	Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Customers) – 6 th March 2017 Cabinet – 16 th March 2017
Executive Portfolio:	Strategic Resources: Councillor J A Gray
Report by:	Head of Resources
Ward(s) affected:	All Wards

Executive Summary:

In June 2013, Cabinet approved the lending of £1.5m to Huntingdonshire Regional College (HRC) for a period of 10 years. To date HRC has met all of its loan repayments and currently £1.1m remains outstanding.

As a consequence of a Grade 4 “inadequate” Ofsted inspection of HRC and the subsequent departure of the senior management team, Cambridge Regional College (CRC) has been supporting HRC in the continued management of the college. An “Area Review” of both colleges is currently being undertaken and, as noted in the report from CRC (**Appendix 1**) there is an expectation that this review will conclude that the two colleges should merge.

As part of the merger process, the Council has been asked by CRC to provisionally indicate by the end of March whether it is willing for CRC to take on the loan currently given to HRC. CRC has committed to taking on the current loan to HRC on the same terms as originally agreed with HDC.

By HDC giving provisional agreement to the transfer of the loan, this will allow CRC to:

- produce a “merged” business plan by the end of March,
- undertake relevant due diligence in May, and
- for the Council, along with other lenders, to give their final decision on transfer in June.

Both colleges will then be able to make the relevant resolutions in respect of dissolution and acceptance of assets and liabilities by August. A final decision by HDC in respect of agreeing to the loan transfer will be made in June; following satisfactory legal agreement (including right of assignment), due diligence and consultations with the external auditor.

Recommendation(s):

The Overview and Scrutiny Panel is invited to consider the report and provide relevant comment on the proposal to 'provisionally agree' that the loan given to Huntingdonshire Regional College by Huntingdonshire District Council be transferred to Cambridge Regional College following formal merger.

The Cabinet is

RECOMMENDED

To give provisional agreement that the loan given to Huntingdonshire Regional College by Huntingdonshire District Council be transferred to Cambridge Regional College following formal merger.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To seek provisional agreement of members for the transfer of a loan, previously made to Huntingdonshire Regional College (HRC) to Cambridge Regional College (CRC) as a consequence of the merger of both colleges.
- 1.2 CRC has requested that the Council indicates as soon as possible its provisional agreement to the loan transfer to enable it to complete the “merged” business plan for both HRC and CRC in time to commence appropriate due diligence during April and May 2017.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In June 2013, Cabinet approved the lending of £1.5m to HRC for a period of 10 years to finance the development of facilities at the college. To finance the loan, the Council borrowed £1.5m for the same duration from the Public Works Loan Board at a rate of 2.24%; this was lent on to HRC at a rate of 3.34%. The security provided for the loan was made via a legal charge on the HRC site at California Road, Huntingdon.
- 2.2 As at the end of January 2017, £1.1m principal remained outstanding, to date HRC has not defaulted on any repayment.

3. MERGER OF HRC WITH CRC

- 3.1 Appended at **Appendix 1** is a report produced by CRC that details all relevant information in respect of the current situation facing HRC and its collaboration with CRC, including a timetable of key milestones. A summary is shown in paragraphs 3.2 to 3.5.
- 3.2 During 2016, both CRC and HRC were subject to an Ofsted inspection; where CRC received a Grade 2 “good” assessment and HRC received a Grade 4 “inadequate” assessment. Further, both colleges are currently subject to a Greater Cambridgeshire and Greater Peterborough Area Review which is due to be completed in late March 2017; there is an expectation that this review will conclude that the two colleges should merge. The target merger date is 1st August 2017.
- 3.3 Following the Ofsted report, the Principal and Vice-Principals of HRC left the college and now CRC is providing direct support to HRC through the sharing of the same Principal and Interim Chief Financial Officer.

LOAN TRANSFER

- 3.4 Under the terms of the loan agreement, a merger of this nature would be considered a default event and the Council would be in its right to require full repayment. However, CRC have requested that the loan is transferred to them in line with the original loan agreement.
- 3.5 At this time, provisional agreement by members is sought to agree the transfer of the loan to CRC to enable CRC to produce a “merged” business plan for both colleges which can be used to undertake relevant due diligence. The Council will be required to make a final decision in June to enable:
 - HRC to pass and publish a resolution to dissolve, and for
 - CRC to pass and publish a resolution to accept the assets and liabilities of HRC.

4. COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

4.1 The comments of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel will be included in this section prior to its consideration by the Cabinet.

5. RISKS

5.1 As with any merger, there are risks associated where assets and liabilities are brought together. However, it is fair to say that the financial position of both colleges is not ideal but taking into account the fact that:

- the Area Review (3.2) is likely to propose the merger of both colleges,
- Ofsted has given a Grade 2 and Grade 4 assessment for CRC and HRC respectively,
- HRC's financial position is weak and without support can potentially have solvency/liquidity issues in the short term future,

.....it is likely that the merger will take place.

5.2 CRC are currently liaising with Lloyds Bank plc as the only other lender and seeking their provisional approval for the merger; The amount of loans outstanding as at 31st July 2016 was approx. £6.2million (19% of turnover) and has made all due repayments on time since inception. CRC are about to appoint a firm (short listed by Lloyds) for Financial Due Diligence which will provide stakeholders, including banks, the comforts around the financial forecast.

5.3 However, CRC is currently forecasting an operating surplus (before restructuring costs) for 2016/17 and is producing a 5-year business plan for the merged colleges. At this time, the draft financial/business plan shows:

Financial Year	CRC – Without Merger	CRC – With Merger
2016-17	£600k - Surplus	-£300k - deficit
2017-18	£512k	£480k
2018-19	£1.1m	£1.2m
2019-20	£1.2m	£1.3m
2020-21	£1.2m	£1.3m
2021-22	£1.2m	£1.3m

5.4 Members should also note that if the Council gives provisional approval for the transfer of the loan, that security remains on the current HRC building. For the final report where formal approval for the transfer will be requested (June 2016), a valuation of the security will have been carried out to confirm the value of the security exceeds the loan principal outstanding; the cost of this valuation will be expected to be met by CRC along with any incidental legal costs.

6. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 The target proposed merger date for CRC and HRC is the 1st August 2017. A detailed timetable of milestones/deliverables is shown in **Appendix 1** and a summary of the key milestones is shown below:

Milestone/Deliverable	Date (2017)
• HDC provisional agreement to transfer of loan from HRC to CRC	March
• Completion of merged three year business plan	March
• Completion of legal and financial due diligence	May
• Agree ongoing lender position with lenders	June
• HRC & CRC pass and publish respective resolutions in respect of HRC dissolution and CRC acceptance of HRC assets and liabilities	End of June
• HRC legal entity dissolves	1 st August

7. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND / OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

7.1 It is considered that this links to the following elements of the Corporate Plan

- Enabling Communities
 - Support people to improve their health and well-being.
- Delivering Sustainable Growth
 - Develop a flexible and skilled workforce.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The existing Loan Agreement is secured by way of a legal charge against the HRC site and is therefore protected. The existing Loan Agreement does not permit the loan to be transferred and the proposed merger will therefore trigger repayment of the outstanding loan amount.

Following merger

8.2 HDC have been asked by CRC to transfer the outstanding loan amount to the CRC upon merger of the respective colleges. In legal terms this will involve (subject to HDC approval), a new Loan Agreement which would need to be entered into by CRC simultaneously with the release of the existing Loan Agreement with HRC and registration of the new Legal Charge with CRC against the existing HRC site.

8.3 CRC upon merger will need to own the freehold of the HRC site and evidence of the legal title will need to be provided before the release of the HRC existing legal charge and creation of the new legal charge will be entered into. All transactions must take place simultaneously to ensure that the existing legal charge is not released until the new legal charge is in place which is secured against the legal title of the HRC site.

8.4 The new legal charge to be secured against the HRC site must be a first legal charge against the HRC site to ensure adequate security for the repayment of the loan amount throughout the term of the loan. It is also recommended that there is provision in the legal charge that no further charges are to be registered against the HRC site without the prior written consent of HDC which again will be protected by a restriction on the title to the HRC site.

8.5 The loan falls under the wellbeing powers (section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000).

- 8.6 CRC has an existing lender Lloyds Bank on the CRC site and consideration needs to be given to the due diligence carried out by the Due Diligence firms once the reports are available, including the structure proposed for the merger.
- 8.7 Prior to final agreement by HDC (expected June 2017); relevant confirmation will be sort in respect of State Aid, assignment and considerations of the external auditor.

9. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no direct resource implications arising from this report as a consequence of members giving provisional agreement to the transfer of the HDC loan previously given to HRC to CRC.
- 9.2 Security of the loan will be held on the current HRC building and CRC has committed to meeting the same loan terms as HRC.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

- 10.1 By transferring the loan from HRC to CEC, the Council will be supporting the local community in the continued provision of further education in Huntingdon and the surrounding area.

11. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 – CRC/HRC Merger Update for HDC

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

CONTACT OFFICER

Clive Mason; Head of Resources
Tel No: 01480 388157
Email: clive.mason@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Update for Huntingdon District Council on the Proposed Merger of Huntingdonshire Regional College and Cambridge Regional College

Background

Cambridge Regional College (CRC) and Huntingdonshire Regional College (HRC) are two general further education colleges providing a range of skills training to 16-18 year olds and also to adults. Both colleges offer training through classroom based provision and work based provision (mainly through apprenticeships).

Both colleges received an Ofsted inspection in late 2016. CRC was confirmed as a high-performing Grade 2 college whilst HRC received a Grade 4 Ofsted rating. Both colleges are currently part of the Greater Cambridgeshire and Greater Peterborough Area Review process, due to complete on 28 March 2017. It is widely expected that the Area Review will recommend the merger of CRC and HRC.

For the year ending 31 July 2016 CRC achieved an income of £34.5m whilst HRC achieved an income of £12.0m which would give a merged college with a combined income of £46.5m (based on 2015/16 results).

Huntingdon District Council and HRC are counterparties to a Loan Agreement of £1.5m dated 5th August 2013. This Loan Agreement has a duration of ten years and as at 31st July 2016 the outstanding loan balance was £1.17m (HRC 2015/16 Annual Report). The Loan Agreement has a fixed interest rate of 3.34%.

Following the recent Ofsted inspections the Principal, and both Vice Principals of HRC have left the college and CRC are providing direct support to HRC through sharing the same Principal (Mark Robertson) and Interim CFO (Ashok Patel). Also the CRC Deputy Principal for Learning is now dedicated to supporting HRC.

Type and Timeline of Merger

Assuming the proposed merger of CRC and HRC goes ahead it will be a Type 2 merger whereby the HRC legal entity will dissolve and the assets and liabilities of HRC will transfer over the CRC on the merger date.

The target merger date is 1 August 2017. To deliver this the Corporation of HRC needs to pass and publish a resolution to dissolve the legal entity at least a month prior to the merger date – targeted for late June. Also the CRC Corporation needs to pass a resolution to accept the assets and liabilities of HRC upon the dissolution of HRC.

In order to provide each Corporation with the assurance that they can pass these resolutions suitable financial and legal due diligence will be performed on each college and the merged three-year merged college financial forecast. Both Corporations will also require

assurance that the merged college has agreed lending facilities in place and therefore the two current lenders to HRC and CRC (Huntingdon District Council to HRC and Lloyds Bank to CRC) also need to understand the financial due diligence before they can agree to the terms and conditions of the ongoing loan facilities to the merged college.

To achieve this the college will complete its three-year merged financial plan by the end of March so due diligence can be completed through April and early May. The due diligence reports can then be shared with lenders so that the lenders can confirm ongoing arrangements by mid-June - prior to the end of June CRC and HRC Corporation meetings where the final resolutions will be approved.

Appendix 1 contains a detailed timeline for the proposed merger of CRC and HRC.

Benefits of the Merger for Huntingdon

Following the Ofsted grade 4 inspection at HRC and the deteriorating financial position at the college the collaboration with CRC that has already started and the proposed merger will secure the ongoing provision of teaching and learning at Huntingdon going forwards.

The merger plans assume ongoing delivery of teaching and learning at the Huntingdon college which will be known as Cambridge Regional College – Huntingdon Campus following the merger. Without this collaboration and merger with CRC the ongoing viability of a standalone HRC was not certain and so delivery of this merger will significantly reduce the risk of teaching and learning being removed from Huntingdon.

College's Preference for Huntingdon District Council Loan Agreement with HRC

The preference of the College (CRC and HRC) would be to simply continue with the existing loan agreement that is in place between Huntingdon District Council and HRC but to recognize the change in legal counterparty from HRC to CRC.

The College will work with Huntingdon District Council in whatever is required in order to achieve this preferred outcome.

Next Steps

College representatives met with Huntingdon District Council on Feb 2nd and agreed to prepare this update. Upon receipt of this update the council agreed to confirm the timeline and action required from its perspective in order to achieve the timetable set out in Appendix 1.

Appendix 1: Timetable for the Proposed CRC / HRC Merger

The following table contains the key milestones / deliverables in the proposed merger of CRC and HRC to a target date of 1 August 2017:

Milestone / Deliverable	Date in 2017	Responsibility
Appointment of financial and legal due diligence firms	28 th Feb	College
Completion of merged three year business plan	31 st March	College
Start HRC dissolution consultation – publish report and press notices	31 st March	College
TUPE consultation with college unions	April / May	College
Legal and financial due diligence exercise completed	Early May	DD firms
Publish dissolution consultation response report	May	College
Agree ongoing lending position with lenders after sharing financial due diligence report (which will need to be treated as confidential)	May / June	College / Lenders
Proposal details required from lenders for ongoing loan agreements to merged college	Mid-June	Lenders
HRC Corporation pass and publish resolution to dissolve and CRC Corporation pass and publish resolution to accept assets and liabilities of HRC	End of June	College
HRC legal entity dissolves	1 August	

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CURRENT ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY AND GROWTH PANELS

STUDY	OBJECTIVES	PANEL	STATUS
Huntingdonshire CCTV Network	Examine the utilisation of CCTV and identify whether they are value for money.	Communities and Environment	<p>At the request of the Executive Leader, Members agreed to examine the utilisation of CCTV in the market towns by Cambridgeshire Constabulary.</p> <p>The Panel discussed the scoping document at their meeting in January 2017. Councillors T D Alban, Mrs A Donaldson, D A Giles, P Kadewere and Mrs J Tavener have been appointed to the group.</p> <p>The first meeting took take place in February 2017. Huntingdonshire Business Against Crime was in attendance to provide the group with evidence.</p> <p>The second meeting will take place on 16th March 2017. Inspector Angel of Cambridgeshire Constabulary will be in attendance.</p>
Future of Hinchingsbrooke Country Park, Paxton Pits, Godmanchester Nursery and Public Rights of Way	To be confirmed.	Communities and Environment	<p>Members agreed at the Scrutiny Work Programming Session in September 2016 that this topic requires further scrutiny. The Panel, at its meeting in October 2016, decided to include the item on to its work programme.</p> <p>The Panel received an exempt report at its meeting in November 2016 on the contractual arrangements and potential improvement programme of Hinchingsbrooke Country Park.</p> <p>The Cambridgeshire County Council Officer responsible for the Public Rights of Way is due to give a presentation at the Panel meeting in March 2017.</p>
Community Resilience Plan including relationships with Parish and Town Councils and the County Council	To examine how the Community Resilience Plan will affect the Council's relationships with the wider community.	Communities and Environment	Members decided that before establishing a task and finish group, the Executive Councillor responsible for the topic should attend a future Panel meeting and explain what work has been done so far.

STUDY	OBJECTIVES	PANEL	STATUS
Local Plan To 2036	To scrutinise the work of Officers in the delivery of the Council's Local Plan to 2036.	Economy and Growth	<p>The Panel had previously decided that this topic is the number one priority on the work programme. The Panel will continue to receive update reports on the topic. In addition the Chairman has agreed to become the Panel's expert on the topic.</p> <p>The latest update report was presented in December 2016. The next update is in April 2017.</p>
Housing Working Group	The working group want to scrutinise the Housing Strategy.	Economy and Growth	<p>Members decided that a Housing Working Group (formally known as the Affordable Housing Working Group and the Registered Social Providers Working Group) should be resurrected to review housing policy as and when required.</p> <p>Officers are currently working on a scoping document for consultation with the Panel.</p> <p>The Panel are due to receive a report on the Housing Strategy at the Panel meeting in April 2017.</p>
Town Centres/High Street Viability	To scrutinise the effects of the current policies affecting town centres in order to shape future polices and town centre use.	Economy and Growth	<p>Members decided that before establishing a task and finish group, the Executive Councillors responsible for the topic should attend a future Panel meeting and explain what work has been done so far.</p> <p>The Panel received at its meeting in December 2016 the Review of Street Markets (Huntingdon and St Ives).</p> <p>The Executive Councillor for Strategic Resources was in attendance at the Panel meeting in December 2016 to discuss the Council's Commercial Investment Strategy.</p> <p>BID Huntingdon attended the Panel meeting in February 2017 to explain its work and the upcoming BID Stage 2 Ballot.</p> <p>The Panel also have a separate work stream dedicated to working on the Car Parking Strategy.</p>

STUDY	OBJECTIVES	PANEL	STATUS
Strategic Review of Parking	To review the current level of car parking provision and produce a Parking Strategy for Huntingdonshire.	Economy and Growth	<p>Following the presentation of the Review of Fees and Charges – Car Parks, at the Panel meeting in October 2016, the Panel decided to include the topic of Car Park Fees on to its work programme.</p> <p>The Cabinet agreed the establishment of a task and finish group to review the parking strategy of the Council. The Panel appointed Councillors D B Dew, R Fuller, I D Gardener and T D Sanderson to the task and finish group. As of December 2016 Councillor R Fuller is no longer a Member of the group.</p> <p>Officers need to establish how the task and finish group will work with the Executive Leader’s task force on car parks.</p> <p>A scoping document is expected to be presented at the Panel meeting in April.</p>
Devolution	To examine the District’s role in Devolution.	Economy and Growth	<p>Members decided that before appointing a Panel expert, the Executive Councillor responsible for the topic should attend a future Panel meeting and explain what work has been done so far.</p> <p>The Executive Leader updated Members on Devolution at the Panel meeting in November 2016.</p>

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Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date for Future Action
	<p><u>Shared Services Strategy</u></p> <p>Members agreed at the Scrutiny Work Programming session on 20th September 2016 that this area requires scrutinising. Members want to create a Task and Finish Group.</p>	<p>Officers to discuss capacity to assist Members with the scrutiny of the topic.</p>	<p>The relevant Executive Councillor has been invited to attend a future Panel meeting.</p>	<p>To be decided.</p>
05/12/16	<p><u>Cambridgeshire County Council Budget Scrutiny</u></p> <p>Representatives from Cambridgeshire County Council were in attendance to present the County Council's Budget for 2017-22 and answer Members' questions.</p>	<p>Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) to draft a response to the budget proposals based on the points raised by Members at the budget scrutiny.</p>	<p>The response to the budget proposals has been approved by the Chairman was sent to Cambridgeshire County Council in December 2016.</p>	
	<p><u>Use of Council Assets</u></p> <p>Members agreed at the Scrutiny Work Programming session on 20th September 2016 that this area requires scrutinising. Members want to create a Working Group or appoint a Member to become the Panel's expert on the topic.</p>	<p>Officers to discuss capacity to assist Members with the scrutiny of the topic.</p>	<p>The Panel have to agree to accept the item onto the work programme and appoint a Working Group or Member.</p>	
01/02/17	<p><u>Corporate Plan</u></p> <p>The Panel have appointed Councillors M F Shellens, R G Tuplin, D M Tysoe and R J West to the task and finish group.</p>		<p>Officers are to arrange a one-off task and finish group meeting.</p>	27/02/2017

Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date for Future Action
			The findings of the task and finish group will feed into the Corporate Plan Refresh which is to be presented to the Cabinet meeting in March.	16/03/2017
	<p><u>Taxi and Hackney Carriages Policies</u></p> <p>Following the Scrutiny Work Programming session on 20th September it was agreed that this area requires scrutinising. It anticipated that scrutiny will be in the form of update reports.</p>	Officers to discuss capacity to assist Members with the scrutiny of the topic.	If Officers have capacity to assist, the Panel have to agree to accept the item onto the work programme.	
01/02/17	<p><u>Social Value In Procurement</u></p> <p>The Chairman informed the Panel that there will be a task and finish group investigating social value in procurement.</p>		Members are to be asked electronically if they would like to participate.	