

STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 22ND SEPTEMBER 2020

Contribution towards funding for local government reorganisation

Report of:	Paul Smith – Transformation Lead psmith@tandridge.gov.uk
Executive Team Lead Head:	Paul Smith – Transformation Lead
Publication status:	Unrestricted
Recommendations:	That the Committee approves a further a contribution of £20,000 for consultancy and PR support work on a joint District and Borough Council outline proposal for the development of alternatives to a single unitary structure for Local Government in Surrey.
Appendices:	None
Background papers defined by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985	None

1. Background

- 1.1 Members will be aware that at the meeting of this Committee on 17th August 2020, it was agreed that the sum of £10,000 be made towards engaging with consultants to carry out work on behalf of the 11 District and Borough Councils to prepare a case for a model for unitary Local Government in Surrey.
- 1.2 Further work has now been undertaken by the District and Borough Councils on both the scope of the work required and the likely costs. As a result of this, each District or Borough Council has been asked to contribute a further £20k to fund the consultancy work and also to engage a PR company to ensure that the Districts and Borough's case is effectively communicated and articulated to key stakeholders including of course, residents.

2. Financial / risk implications

- 2.1 Being involved in this joint working with all the District and Borough Council proposal on alternative options to a single unitary council for Surrey is of importance however, there is currently no budget to accommodate the £20,000 contribution and will result in a further overspend. The total overspend would be £30,000

3. Legal implications

- 3.1 The outline proposals and recommendations under consideration in this report are a matter for this committee.

4. Equality impacts

- 4.1 A key part of the commissioned work will involve carrying out equality impact assessments of the different models of Local Government in Surrey.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 This report requests approval for a further contribution of £20,000 towards the work set out in this report

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