

Decision Record – Warwickshire Employment Support Team Service

Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking the decision	Cllr Jose Compton Adult Social Care <i>Jose Compton</i>
Date of Decision (not before: 27 July 2016)	27/7/2016

X

Decision Taken

I have agreed to the commencement of a public consultation on the future of the Warwickshire Employment Support Team Service (WEST) whilst continuing to explore alternative sources of funding.

Reasons for Decisions

The reasons for the decision to consult on the future of WEST is set out in the report considered by the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and that resulted in her original proposed decision on 3 June. The issue was further discussed by the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its call-in of this item on 21 June. The proposed decision and views of the Committee were referred to a full Council debate on 3 July.

The Council on 3 July recommended that I check that the proposed decision accords with the One Organisational Plan to prioritise the most vulnerable and that I allow a full consultation that includes not just closure but also other options available.

I have considered the report and recommendations from Council (item 1 on the agenda for this decision making session) and agreed a revised proposal for consultation as set out in item 2.

Background Information

The report (item 2) sets out the background to this proposal. The One Organisational Plan requires savings of £280,000 from WEST and the proposal is based on exploring alternative delivery, funding or decommissioning the service. These explorations have largely been unsuccessful to date, with the exception of a Big Lottery bid and the potential of European Social Funding as described in the report.

In the event of the European Funding application not progressing, and no other sources of funding being secured the WEST service as it stands would have no budget at its disposal other than the Big Lottery grant (of £40,000 for 3 years). Instead, opportunities will need to be sought to secure some of the specialist skills held by WEST staff within other services.

It is anticipated that the consultation will run from 1 August – 30 September with a report back to Cabinet in December.

Financial Implications

These are set out in the report.

Report Author	Elaine Coates/Peter Hatcher
Head of Service	Beate Wagner
Strategic Director	John Dixon
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Jose Compton

Checklist

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or Exempt? (State the category of exempt information)	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of Reports considered
Items 1 and 2 published on the website alongside this decision notice.

List of Background Papers - please include a contact for access to background papers
None

Members and officers consulted or informed – please include any comments
<p>Portfolio Holder – Councillor Jose Compton Legal – Jane Pollard Finance – Virginia Rennie Equality – Belinda Blake Democratic Services – Janet Purcell</p> <p>The original report and proposal for consultation has been considered by the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 21 June 2016 and Council on 1 July 2016.</p>