

# Shadow Dorset Council

Date of Meeting	11 February 2019
Lead Member	Rebecca Knox, Leader, Shadow Dorset Council
Officer	Keith Cheesman, Programme Director
<b>Subject of Report</b>	<b>Programme Highlight Report</b>
Executive Summary	This report provides an update on progress since the last Shadow Executive Committee meeting on 14 January.
Impact Assessment:	Equalities Impact Assessment: None in relation to this report.
	Use of Evidence: This report has been written in consultation with Project Managers, Subject Matter Experts and other members of the Programme Team.
	Budget: The revised Programme budget was agreed at the 17 December 2018 Shadow Executive meeting.
	Risk Assessment: Having considered the risks associated with this decision using the LGR approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as Amber.
	Other Implications: None identified.
Recommendation	That the Shadow Executive notes the progress made since the last Shadow Executive Committee meeting.

Reason for Recommendation	No decisions are required at this time in connection with this report.
Appendices	1. Programme Highlight Report
Background Papers	Programme Highlight Report, 15 October 2018, appendix 3, SWAP Programme Governance Follow Up Report (1 October 2018)
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## 1. Summary and Progress

1.1 The full highlight report is attached at Appendix 1. At the time of writing, overall progress remains at Amber.

1.2 Key achievements in the last period include:

- The final piece of legislation has been laid before Parliament (the Local Government (Structural and Boundary Changes) Supplementary and Miscellaneous Amendments Order 2019)
- The Dorset Council Constitution has been agreed by Shadow Council, subject to minor amendments
- Consultation on Tranche 1 of the Transitional Structures workstream has started
- The Dorset Council campaign has been launched
- The test system for cash receipting across Dorset Council is complete
- Vendor lists have been compiled to produce a single list of over 11,000 vendors
- The VAT approach has been agreed by HMRC and is being disseminated to staff
- Terms and conditions for employees from Day 1 have been finalised
- Global address lists have been synchronised and WAN Phase 2 data exchange testing is complete
- Data disaggregation reviews are underway
- An information governance workshop has been held
- The Dorset Council policy library has been designed

1.3 The last report highlighted the challenges around the data disaggregation for Social Care case data and associated files. Significant progress has been made, with officers from both programme teams working closely to agree a number of interim solutions for the safe transfer of Adults and Children’s social care data for Christchurch service users by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.

## 2. Risks and Issues

2.1 The key programme risk is currently around the data disaggregation plan for social care data described above.

- 2.2 The key programme issue remains the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). Members were updated on this at the budget briefing on 29 January, and further correspondence has been had with the Department for Education. As noted in the last highlight report, the DSG did not increase to allow for the additional responsibilities for children when the 16-25 age group were added. Numbers of Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP, previously SEN) pupils have been steadily rising, with no sign of levelling out, and funding has seen a minimal increase. Recharges from the DCC to DSG of about £1m have already been included as a potential issue in the 2019/20 budget calculations and contribute towards the overall budget gap, which will be addressed at the Shadow Council meeting on 20 February.

### **3. Gateway 2 Review**

- 3.1 Members will be aware that Programme Board has commissioned two independent assessments as part of a Gateway 2 review. The South West Audit Partnership (SWAP) has been appointed to assess how well-placed the programme is in relation to overall operational readiness (following their previous review in September 2018), and Ameo has been engaged to undertake a delivery assurance review, to test and provide a level of confidence around “Day One” service preparations from a customer perspective.
- 3.2 While some of the initial findings from both SWAP and AMEO have been positive, there were some discrepancies in the reviews that need further investigation before conclusions can be confirmed. Work is being undertaken to test and verify the results, after which the findings will be shared with members and incorporated into implementation plans.