

South Lakeland District Council
Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Friday, 8 July 2022
Local Government Reform
Recommendations from Task and Finish Group

Report from: Task and Finish Group
Report Author: Dan Hudson – Strategy Lead Specialist
Wards: (All Wards);
Forward Plan: Not Applicable

Links to Council Plan Priorities:

Working across boundaries

Delivering a balanced community

A fairer South Lakeland

Addressing the climate emergency

1.0 Expected Outcome and Measures of Success

1.1 Strong community relations and a way of working which engages with and empowers local communities will be a key legacy of South Lakeland District Council. The Task and Finish Group report identifies the good practise, positive culture and productive relationships in South Lakeland and recommends that these are recognised and taken forward by Westmorland and Furness Council.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

(1) considers the findings of the Task and Finish Group in Appendix 1; and
(2) recommends that Cabinet endorses the recommendations as set out in the report, along with any further recommendations that the Committee wishes to make.

3.0 Background and Proposals

3.1 In early 2022, South Lakeland's Overview and Scrutiny Committee established a task group to look at South Lakeland's legacy and how it might inform the Local Government Reform process and the emergence of Westmorland and Furness Council. This report summarises the findings of the group and suggests some recommendations to be put forward to the shadow authority.

3.2 The task group was chaired by Councillor Wilson. The other task group members were Councillor Bell, Councillor Hodgson, Councillor Holmes, Councillor Jenkinson and Councillor Rathbone. The group met on 17th June to consider evidence assembled by officers and to make recommendations.

3.3 The aims of the group were;

- To ensure that good practise, positive culture and productive relationships in South Lakeland are identified and evidenced.
- To ensure that the shadow authority has the opportunity to benefit from them.
- To inform the shadow authority corporate planning process;
- To inform the development of locality working by Westmorland and Furness Council

3.4 The report concludes that South Lakeland has a strong track record of working with parishes, working with partners and being focussed on the needs of its people. The Task and Finish Group consider it is essential that this continues in the new council for Westmorland and Furness.

4.0 Appendices Attached to this Report

Appendix No.	Name of Appendix
1	Task and Finish Group Report

5.0 Consultation

5.1 There has been no formal consultation but there has been input from a number of sources during the production of the report.

6.0 Alternative Options

6.1 The Committee may chose not to endorse the recommendations made by the Task and Finish Group.

7.0 Implications

Financial, Resources and Procurement

7.1 There are no direct or immediate financial or resource implications arising from this report.

Legal

7.2 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

Health and Sustainability Impact Assessment

7.3 Have you completed a Health and Sustainability Impact Assessment? No

7.4 If you have not completed an Impact Assessment, please explain your reasons: N/A

7.5 Summary of Health and Sustainability Impacts

		Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Environment and Health	Greenhouse gases emissions		X		
	Air Quality		X		
	Biodiversity		X		
	Impacts of Climate Change		X		
	Reduced or zero requirement for energy,		X		

	building space, materials or travel				
	Active Travel		X		
Economy and Culture	Inclusive and sustainable development		X		
	Jobs and levels of pay		X		
	Healthier high streets		X		
	Culture, creativity and heritage		X		
Housing and Communities	Standard of housing		X		
	Access to housing		X		
	Crime		X		
	Social connectedness		X		

Equality and Diversity

7.6 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis? No

7.7 If you have not completed an Impact Analysis, please explain your reasons: N/A

7.9 Summary of Equality and Diversity impacts

Please indicate: P = Positive impact; 0 = Neutral; N = Negative; Enter "X"					
Age	P		0	X	N
Disability	P		0	X	N
Gender reassignment (transgender)	P		0	X	N
Marriage & civil partnership	P		0	X	N
Pregnancy & maternity	P		0	X	N
Race/ethnicity	P		0	X	N
Religion or belief	P		0	X	N
Sex/gender	P		0	X	N
Sexual orientation	P		0	X	N
Armed forces families	P		0	X	N
Rurality	P		0	X	N
Socio-economic disadvantage	P		0	X	N

Risk Management	Consequence	Controls required
South Lakeland's experience of working closely with communities in making plans, implementing projects and delivering services is not recognised or taken forward into the new council	The value of much of the work that South Lakeland has done to develop strong and effective community relations would be lost.	The interests of the people and communities of South Lakeland are championed by all engaged in the design of a new council.

Contact Officers

Dan Hudson, Strategy Lead Specialist 01539 793378 email:
d.hudson@southlakeland.gov.uk

Simon McVey, Director Strategy Innovation and Resources 01539 793109
s.mcvey@southlakeland.gov.uk

Background Documents Available

Tracking Information

Signed off by	Date sent	Date Signed off
Section 151 Officer	24/06/2022	28/06/2022
/Monitoring Officer	24/06/2022	28/06/2022
CMT	24/06/2022	28/06/2022

Circulated to	Date sent
Lead Specialist	N/A
Human Resources Lead Specialist	N/A
Communications Team	N/A
Leader	N/A
Committee Chairman	N/A
Portfolio Holder	N/A
Ward Councillor(s)	N/A
Committee	N/A
Executive (Cabinet)	N/A
Council	N/A