

**HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Report To:** Cabinet  
11 September 2012

**Subject: SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS WITH RICHMONDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**All Wards  
Scrutiny Committees  
Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services: Councillor B Phillips  
Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Health: Councillor P Wilkinson**

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**1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:**

1.1 This report provides an update on progress in completing Service Level Agreements with Richmondshire District Council as part of the ongoing review of Shared Services.

**2.0 CURRENT PROGRESS:**

2.1 Cabinet has previously approved the entering into of Service Level Agreements in respect of:-

- Legal Services
- Human Resources
- Communications
- Design and Maintenance
- Grounds Maintenance

2.2 Progress on each of these is now considered in turn.

**Legal Services:**

2.2.1 This is a service to be provided by Hambleton District Council to Richmondshire District Council. A draft Service Level Agreement providing for a three year arrangement from 1 October 2012 was submitted to Richmondshire on 27 July 2012. At the date of writing this report no further progress has been made. In completing this Agreement.

**Human Resources:**

2.2.2 This is a service to be provided by Richmondshire to Hambleton. At the date of writing this report no draft Agreement has been received.

### Design and Maintenance:

2.2.3 It was intended that this service would be provided by Hambleton to Richmondshire. Three options for Service Level Agreements were provided to Richmondshire on 27 July 2012. Richmondshire have now indicated that they do not wish a Service Level Agreement in respect of services from Hambleton, although there will be some limited co-operation in respect of street lighting. Arrangements are therefore being made to cease to provide support for Richmondshire with effect from 30 September 2012.

### Communications:

2.2.4 This is a service to be provided by Hambleton to Richmondshire. A draft Service Level Agreement was provided to Richmondshire at the beginning of September.

### Grounds Maintenance:

2.2.5 This is a service to be provided by Richmondshire to Hambleton. At the time of writing this report no draft Agreement has been received.

2.3 In the absence of completed Agreements the services continue to be provided on a similar basis to that existing under the Shared Services arrangements, albeit with no involvement from Senior Officers.

## **3.0 CONCLUSION:**

3.1 Hambleton has now done as much as is possible to progress Service Level Agreements in the relevant areas. In the meantime, whilst services are being provided adequately, uncertainty remains over the future direction of certain Hambleton services and decisions on developments in those services (e.g., staffing) are being delayed pending the outcome of Service Level Agreements.

## **4.0 RECOMMENDATION:**

4.1 It is recommended that Cabinet endorse the approach.

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**Background papers:** None

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