

REPORT TO	DATE OF MEETING
Shared Services Joint Committee	8 March 2017

Report template revised June 2008



SUBJECT	PORTFOLIO	AUTHOR	ITEM
Business Improvement Plan & Budget 2017/18 (to June 2017)	N/A	S Guinness & G Barclay	5

SUMMARY AND LINK TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES

This report summarises and explains the content of the attached Business Improvement Plan (BIP) and Budget for the Finance and Assurance Shared Services Partnership which will cover the **ninth** complete financial year of its operation.

The Shared Financial Services (SFS) have experienced an exceptional year in 2016/17 with regard to staffing arrangements that have varied extensively since the 2016/17 BIP was approved. For that reason many of the projects have not been completed, therefore, this BIP has rolled forward SFS projects and KPIs where appropriate purely on a temporary basis whilst various reviews are completed and roles and responsibilities within the service are finalised. As soon as possible thereafter, an updated BIP for 2017/18 will be presented to Joint Committee for approval.

The Committee will receive regular update reports during the course of the year highlighting the actions taken to deliver service improvements and performance targets specified in the BIP, including budget updates, culminating in a detailed Annual Report at the year-end.

The Shared Services Partnership is a high corporate priority for both Councils.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Joint Committee recommends to the Executives of each host authority the adoption of the required resources to deliver the Shared Services Partnership in 2017/18, noting this task will need to be re-visited during 2017/18 when an updated BIP for 2017/18 in respect of SFS projects can be finalised.
2. That the Joint Committee agrees to delegate the ability to incorporate any residual information or amendments to the BIP and Budget to the Chief Executives of both host authorities in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee.

DETAILS AND REASONING

Performance Management

The Committee has previously received and approved the formal Partnership Agreement incorporating a Service Level Agreement which sets out the key outputs required of the Partnership and the individual performance measures against which it will be judged.

The main aim of the attached BIP is to translate these outputs and measures into specific projects and targets which need to be achieved during 2017/18. These are shown in the tables at **Appendices Two and Three** of the BIP.

Other Purposes

As well as underpinning performance management the BIP fulfils the following purposes:-

- Highlighting the **main achievements** in 2016/17 within the Partnership;
- A **Risk Register** for identifying and acting upon the key risks and opportunities facing the Partnership in 2017/18;
- A **Financial Plan (Budget)** to facilitate the effective financial management of the Partnership;
- A **Contracts Register** to acknowledge that many of the Partnership's main services are delivered through or in association with other organisations;
- An outline of the main areas of **proposed procurement activity** during 2017/18;
- A summary of the **financial efficiencies** which have already been secured by the Partnership in the **first eight full financial years** of its operation;
- An outline of the **business opportunities** which it is intended to exploit in 2017/18.

WIDER IMPLICATIONS

In the preparation of this report, consideration has been given to the impact of the following:

FINANCIAL	The budget proposed for the Partnership in 2017/18 is set out in this report and has also been included in the budget setting processes at each Council for approval.		
LEGAL	The Shared Services Joint Committee, established under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, provides the overall governance for this with its terms being set out in an Administrative Collaborative Agreement which has been signed by both Councils. Sound business planning and performance management arrangements are required to enable the Shared Services Joint Committee to effectively fulfil its obligations.		
RISK	A dedicated Risk Register has been produced in order to identify and mitigate the risks associated with the ongoing development of the Partnership and the latest version is incorporated within the Business Improvement Plan appended to this report.		
OTHER (see below)			
<i>Asset Management</i>	<i>Corporate Plans and Policies</i>	<i>Crime and Disorder</i>	<i>Efficiency Savings/Value for Money</i>
<i>Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion</i>	<i>Freedom of Information/ Data Protection</i>	<i>Health and Safety</i>	<i>Health Inequalities</i>
<i>Human Rights Act 1998</i>	<i>Implementing Electronic Government</i>	<i>Staffing, Training and Development</i>	<i>Sustainability</i>

**FINANCIAL & ASSURANCE
SHARED
SERVICES PARTNERSHIP**

**BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT PLAN
2017/18**

MARCH 2017

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KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2016/17

A summary of the main service level successes achieved so far in 2016/17 are as follows:-

Internal Audit

Retained the ISO 9001 quality standard for Internal Audit

Undertook a peer review of the Internal Audit function of a neighbouring authority in accordance with the latest Internal Auditing Standards

Acquired new software to enable risk and control self-assessment by services from 2017/18

Risk Management

Enhanced the Corporate Risk Register template and content at SRBC

Supported Zurich Municipal to deliver a Cemeteries Risk Review at CBC and Health & Safety / Stress Management Risk Reviews at SRBC

Emergency & Business Continuity Planning

Updated the CBC Emergency Plan to provide more streamlined, user friendly guidance for officers.

Provided EP training for officers in 2016 including Resilience Direct, the national on line portal for the emergency planning community

Worked in partnership with other agencies to prepare to test and validate the "Off Site COMAH Emergency Response Plan" for the Redcliffe international munitions storage site at Heapey

Introduced improvements to flooding response procedures at SRBC following the winter storms

Assisted with the administration of property level flood resilience grants following the winter storms

Acquired new software to enable BCP self-serve by services from 2017/18

Insurance

Co-ordinated an extensive procurement exercise for both CBC and SRBC insurances under the new Insurance Services II Framework RM3731 generating significant reductions in premiums

Introduced procedures to ensure compliance with the new information disclosure requirements contained in the Insurance Act 2015

Shared Financial Services

Staff Development - Successful progress towards professional chartered accountancy qualification.

Liaison with the External Auditors to secure unqualified Value for Money (VfM) Conclusion at Chorley.

Contribution to the Revised Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and Final Sign off Statement of Accounts at South Ribble reflection the finding of a Scrutiny Committee Report.

Participation in the Lancashire Business Rates Pooling Agreement.

Interpretation and assessment of the longer term impact of the Spending Review 2015 and Local Government Finance Settlement.

Delivery of both Councils' 2017/18 Budget Reports and Medium Term Financial Strategies including the re-design and expansion of the MTFs and Capital Programme at South Ribble.

Management and Financial Accountancy Services

Providing the financial support for key corporate projects such as Extra Care and Market Walk extension and the ongoing financial monitoring of key and high profile budgets in Chorley.

Intervention and assistance provided on an emergency basis to a number of key projects at South Ribble

Providing the financial support for the City Deal arrangements between South Ribble, Lancashire County Council and Preston City Council.

Closure of Accounts and production of both Councils' statutory Statement of Accounts (SOAs) to the tight required statutory deadline with no errors. This brings the total of years completed to 8 and 16 SOAs produced incorporating all national, statutory changes required. Only one error has been made during this period which did not affect the bottom line of the Council affected.

Expert advice and support provided in respect of Capital Resource reviews at both councils.

Procurement

Assistance providing to both Councils to achieve efficiency savings through procurement.

Professional procurement advice provided at both Councils including significant and detailed level of support provided to Major Contract renewals at both Councils.

Successful implementation and embedding of Version 3 of the Chest, review and update of the main Staff Guide to Procurement.

Provision of professional procurement support to the SRBC/ CBC joint procurement exercise for Insurance providing significant premium savings.

Provision of professional procurement support to both Councils' major projects to deliver the challenging budget efficiency targets in the MTFs

Complete full year spend analysis and report to CBC SMT identifying key procurement issues and messages to be communicated to staff. A similar exercise is underway for SRBC to be presented at 28.3.17 SMT

Systems Development and Creditor Payments

Providing essential immediate helpdesk facilities to over 310 financial system users.

Driving the initiative to support small and medium sized businesses by paying our invoices quickly. During 2016/17 to date, over 98% have been paid within 30 days with 12 services achieving 100%.

Also as above we continue to pay over 83% of our invoices within 10 days.

Systems Development Plan – Maintaining Payment Card Industry – Data Security Standard (PCI-DSS) compliance reducing the risk of fraud for our customers and preventing financial penalties for the Council.

Upgrade of: Civica ICON (Cash Receipting) to version 14.2; CIVICA Financials upgrade to version 17.5; Upgrade of Kofax (automated invoice payments).

Extensive user training and compliance education

Fundamental development of the Debtor Modules.

NEW RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2017/18

At the outset of the shared services partnership, the risks associated with its successful implementation were recorded in a risk register together with the proposed actions to mitigate them. Although the majority of the original risk issues have now been mitigated, the updated risk register at **Appendix One** contains a list of the original risks where action is ongoing and progress is now part of the day to day management processes within the services to address them. In addition new and emerging risks and opportunities as the Partnership enters its ninth full year of operation are identified as part of Business Improvement Planning and acted upon. The key risks and opportunities facing the Partnership at this stage of its development are considered to be:

- Continuing to deliver sustainable services in the light of public sector funding cuts and the longer term impact of the Spending review 2015, including seeking out viable opportunities to grow;
- Further developing managers and staff and also planning for succession taking into account that all functions have posts that are restricted to staff who have attained a professional qualification, be that Accountancy, Procurement and also Internal Audit;
- Further developing the management accounting function and other customer contact finance functions within the service at both host authorities to increase added value, including developing the Financial Management Information System (FMIS) in order to maximise the potential benefits.
- Implementation of new statutory requirements with regard to the forthcoming Timetable for Closure of Accounts Process for implementation to close the 2017/18 financial year before 31st May 2018.
- Implementation of new key service improvement plans and strategies e.g. the Corporate Improvement Plan, Budget Setting Strategy and Delivery of the MTFS within SRBC.

PARTNERSHIP BUDGET 2017/18 (Summary)

Budget	2016/17 £000	2017/18 £000	Variation £000	Notes
Employees				
Salaries Costs	1.368	1.393	0.025	Increase in pension contributions at both councils. Increase to NI contributions on car leasing.
Car leasing	0.032	0.035	0.003	
Employee Related Insurance	0.013	0.015	0.002	Creation of career graded post in Shared Assurance Services.
Lancashire County Council Internal Audit Budget	0.010	0.012	0.002	Additional audit days
Transport	0.011	0.011	-	
Financial Management Information System	0.062	0.062	-	
Supplies and Services	0.050	0.064	0.014	Inflationary Increases and Subscription to electronic publications from CIPFA
TOTAL BUDGET	1.546	1.592	0.046	

Budget Commentary - The budget for the Partnership has been updated to take account of the following:-

- Triennial pension fund re-valuation resulted in the Pension Deficit Contributions proportionately decreasing for the service.
- Corresponding increase in the employer pension rate following triennial review.
- Changes to staff scale points within the posts pay grade.
- Pay-award.
- The budget set out above links directly into the budgets proposals within each Councils' individual draft Medium Term Financial Strategies (MTFSs) for 2017/18 onwards.

Employee Budget Variations	£000
Changes to Employer pension contribution	30
Pay-award	13
Inflationary Increases	10
SAS – delete Apprentice post and Establish Assistant post	9
Increments to Employees	5
Increases in National Insurance on car leases	3
Increase in planned audit days from LCC	2
Various other minor adjustments	1
Pension Deficit Recovery	(17)
Base Budget Review	(10)
Total Budget Movement 2016/17 to 2017/18	46

In support of the following key strategies the Partnership will continue to seek ways of improving productivity and efficiency by making the best use of the technological solutions available and also through income generation:

- the objectives within the MTFs of each Council, that both forecast budget shortfalls in future years, and
- the Chorley and South Ribble Joint Procurement Strategy (JPS) which contains a target to achieve £100,000 expenditure savings per authority over the 3 year term of the JPS.

KEY SERVICE DEVELOPMENTS & TARGETS 2017/18

Service Level Agreement

The Shared Services Joint Committee has approved a Service Level Agreement (SLA) which sets out the key performance outputs and measures for the Partnership. These outputs and measures have been translated into specific service developments and targets which need to be achieved during 2017/18.

Service Developments 2017/18

A table showing the annual objectives and key projects for 2017/18 is shown at **Appendix Two**. Several of these are aimed at addressing the strategic risks and opportunities impacting on the Partnership as identified in the revised Risk Register. It is relevant to note that with regard to service developments that budget efficiencies secured to date mean that greater focus is now on the delivery of core functions and activities. This strategy is reflected in the project programme proposed for 2017/18. **The shared services arrangements will be reviewed in early 2017/18 as there is a need to reassess capacity given the extensive corporate project plans for 2017/18 and also to 2019/20 for both Councils. The critical projects closely related to, and fundamental in achieving the Medium Term Financial Strategies approved for 2017/18. The service also has an age profile that means that succession planning must be a priority and accommodated within the structure and also personal development plans in the coming years. As a result of the temporary staffing arrangements agreed in respect of s151 duties at South Ribble and backfilling, this BIP has been rolled forward from 2016/17 with regard to Service Developments. Once the final position has been agreed in respect of reviewing capacity, an updated 2017/18 BIP will be brought back to the Joint Committee for approval.**

Performance Information

In order to secure continuous improvement in the way that the Partnership delivers its core services it is essential that appropriate performance measures are identified against which challenging targets can be set and regularly monitored. The table at **Appendix Three** includes a performance indicator set that is based on the work of the National Audit Office (Value for Money in Public Sector Corporate Services – A Joint Project by the UK Public Sector Audit Agencies (2007)). The indicator set was also put together following service user and staff consultation and draws upon previous measures used at South Ribble and Chorley.

Performance Reporting

Using standard templates, regular reports on progress against the required outputs, service developments and performance targets will be presented to the Chief Executives, Joint Committee and other relevant committees at each council at the appropriate intervals.

Data Quality

It is also important to stress that the data quality and collection standards appertaining to each Council will be rigorously applied.

CONTRACTS & PARTNERSHIPS

A list of the contractual and partnering arrangements involving Shared Financial and Assurance Services as at January 2017 is contained in the table at **Appendix Four**.

DELIVERING EFFICIENCIES

Both Councils have significant within their approved 2017/18 MTFs for the expansion of Shared services as a result of the success of the current arrangements in securing robust, deliverable and recurring budgetary efficiencies.

Budget Efficiencies 2017/18

The partnership is continuing to work towards assisting both Councils make significant cashable savings in order to close budgetary funding gaps resulting from the current reduction, and heightened uncertainty in core funding. No specified budget efficiency target is included in the 2017/18 BIP, however, the service will continue to seek out new ways of working, including maximising the benefits of new developments within the Financial Management Information System (FMIS) that will improve the efficiency of the service and contribute to both Councils' Medium Term Financial Strategies to achieve a balanced budget over the longer term. These will be reported within the services Performance Report during the forthcoming year.

Cashable Savings 2008/09 – 2017/18

Since the partnership was launched at the beginning of January 2009 significant budget efficiencies have been secured by working in partnership, making the best of new technology and proactively reviewing the ways in which we work. To date, over **£0.611m** worth of budget efficiencies have been achieved on a recurring basis from the original budget position which was less than £2.0m. This Business Improvement Plan also sets out projects that aim to ensure that the partnership continues to be effective and also achieves efficiencies whenever appropriate to do so. The table below shows the budget savings achieved to date.

Year	Budget Adjustments		Annual Budget £000
		£000	
2008/09 (Jan to Mar)	Budget Efficiencies Partnership Launch Jan 2009	(0.102)	part year
2009/10	Full Year 2008/09 Budget		1.786
	Budget Efficiency Target - One off	(0.050)	1.736
2010/11	Net budget efficiency target/volumetric/ committed growth	(0.002)	1.734
2011/12	One off budget savings re-instated	0.050	1.784
	Net budget volumetric/ committed growth	0.020	1.804
	Budget Efficiencies - recurring	(0.291)	1.513
	Transfer FMIS to SFS	0.095	1.608
2012/13	Net budget volumetric/ committed growth	0.010	1.618
	Budget Efficiencies - recurring	(0.100)	1.518
2013/14	Net budget volumetric/ committed growth	0.030	1.548
	Budget Efficiencies - recurring	(0.060)	1.488
2014/15	Net budget volumetric/ committed growth and efficiencies	-	1.488
2015/16	Net budget volumetric/ committed growth and efficiencies	0.036	1.524
2016/17	Budget Efficiencies - recurring	(0.038)	1.486
	Net budget volumetric/ committed growth	0.060	1.546
2017/18	Budget Efficiencies - recurring	(0.020)	1.536
	Net budget volumetric/ committed growth	0.066	1.590
	TOTAL RECURRING BUDGET EFFICIENCIES TO DATE	(0.611)	
	As % of the pre-partnership budget provisions	32%	

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

It has been the intension of the service to seek to expand the new and innovative way of delivering financial management systems within our one Financial Management Information System (FMIS) to a third, external organisation. It is important, however, that expansion is planned for only when a fully appropriate delivery platform can be offered. The service is involved in investigating new FMIS feeder systems such as payroll and is constantly monitoring developments within other FMIS delivery modules in order to maximise budgetary efficiencies. The aim in 2017/18 is to consolidate the management of various feeder systems, such as cash receipting, to enable the Councils to continue to benefit from the shared services approach e.g. Subscription based regime for the collection of Garden Waste. This involves a feasibility studies into returning outsourced services in house or finding other more efficient options including partnership arrangements for single financial functions. Should the outcome of these reviews result in new internally managed systems then once they have been fully embedded this may be the point where opportunities for business expansion should it be viable and beneficial to do so.

It should be noted that both Councils contain efficiency targets within each 2017/18 MTFs to 2019/20 to reflect an intension to share more services. For clarity, as new services are identified for potential sharing, the best delivery model will be determined according to the service requirements which may be the same as the operating model for Finance and Assurance Services or other arrangements could be applied should this be necessary to maintain particular service legal frameworks, statutory duties, needs and demands where applicable.

APPENDIX ONE - RISK REGISTER 2017/18

RISK / OPPORTUNITY	MITIGATION 2016/17	FURTHER ACTION 2017/18	BY WHOM	BY WHEN
Failure to deliver sustainable services in the light of public sector funding cuts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going and continual review into working practices, systems and procedures to improve productivity and efficiency. • Efficiency reviews in 2017/18 as part of BIP projects, process reviews & reduction of low added value activities. • Systems Development Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking growth opportunities for SFS & SAS. • On-going and continual review into working practices, systems and procedures to improve productivity and efficiency. • Systems Development Plan to make the best use of new and emerging technology. 	HOS	Continual during the year
Further development of managers & staff and plan for succession	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in both host authorities' leadership development programmes. • Continuing Professional Development (CPD). • Support for semi-professional and professional qualifications provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity for staff to assess understanding of roles and identify any additional training required to undertake job responsibilities. • Continued participation in staff and leadership development training at both Councils. • Project to review SFS following Scrutiny Committee Licensing Review recommendations @ SRBC. 	HOS	Continual during the year
Development of the Management Accounting function and other customer contact finance functions at both host authorities to increase added value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service accountants attending Departmental Management Team (DMT) meetings & budget holder 1-2-1 sessions. • Improved reporting facilities post FMIS implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of less experienced leaders within the function. • Further developing the Financial Management Information System (FMIS) in order to maximise the potential benefits. 	HOS	Continual during the year

RISK / OPPORTUNITY	MITIGATION 2016/17	FURTHER ACTION 2017/18	BY WHOM	BY WHEN
Corporate Improvement Plan (CIP) and Budget Setting Delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional support provided to South Ribble. • Improvements to the format and content of the 2017/18 Budget Report and MTFS implemented. • Additional support and training provided to new Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Finance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New policies being developed and implemented for 2017/18 for MYFS delivery and also 2018/19 Budget Setting Process. • Continued additional support provided with regard to statutory financial duties. • New formal review meeting framework implemented including regular update meetings with Members. • Participation and contribution to delivery of the CIP including review of SFS in 2017/18. 	HOS	30 th September 2017
Implementation of New Timetable for Closure of Accounts Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trial runs continue to be implemented and monitored, analysed and lessons learned implemented. • Communication of changes and training to be provided to establishment clarity of roles and responsibilities of other departments • Attendance at CIPFA and Grant Thornton seminars and workshops. • Purchase of CIPFA Code of Practice, Guidance Notes for Practitioners, and Disclosure Checklist. • Liaison with valuer to agree effect on Code changes on valuation process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase profile of accounts closure process. • Set timetable to achieve earlier closure in advance of statutory deadline. (Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015 require publication of audited 2017/18 statement of accounts, annual governance statement, and narrative statement by 31 July 2018.) • Improve clarity of accounts closure instructions to non-financial staff. • Amend working papers to meet external audit requirements to speed up audit process. • Review at project close to analyse success and areas for further development. 	HOS	March 2017 and ongoing review to 30 th June 2017

APPENDIX TWO - SERVICE DEVELOPMENTS 2017/18

Project / Task	Lead Officer	Start Date	Finish Date	SMART Actions & Milestones	Outcomes & Success Measures
Internal Audit					
Arrange induction training for any new Governance Committee members from 2017/18 (CBC/SRBC)	GB/DH	April 2017	June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of new members training needs 	Positive feedback in the post training questionnaires
Develop and implement a risk-based approach to auditing at both Councils	GB/DH	April 2017	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafting of new procedure • Consultation with CEO's / SMT's • Acquisition of software • Approval by Governance Committees 	Greater integration and therefore efficiency between the Internal Audit and Risk Management processes
Assist the Monitoring Officers of both Councils to revise their Local Codes of Governance to conform with the latest CIPFA SOLACE standards	GB/DH	April 2017	June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision of documentation • Reporting to Governance Committees • Check compliance as a part of the annual governance reviews 	Compliance with national guidelines
In conjunction with Fylde BC, undertake a peer review of Preston CC Internal Audit in accordance with the latest Internal Auditing Standards	GB/DH	April 2018	July 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of policies and procedures • Arrange stakeholder interviews • Receive and agree report making recommendations 	Implementation of learning opportunities leading to service improvements
Arrange a peer review of Internal Audit by the Audit Managers of neighbouring authorities in accordance with the latest Internal Auditing Standards	GB/DH	January 2018	March 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of policies and procedures • Arrange stakeholder interviews • Receive and agree report making recommendations 	Implementation of learning opportunities leading to service improvements

Project / Task	Lead Officer	Start Date	Finish Date	SMART Actions & Milestones	Outcomes & Success Measures
Risk Management					
Review and update the Risk Management Frameworks at both Councils	GB/KM	April 2017	June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review integration with the corporate/service planning processes Consider software options 	Greater ownership of risk throughout the officer structure
Work with insurance providers to develop and implement risk management reviews (CBC/SRBC)	GB/KM	April 2017	December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange & facilitate new programmes for 2017 Focus on key risks and the need for sound risk management 	Greater staff awareness, skills and knowledge of the management of operational risk and improved insurance claims history / impact on premiums
Emergency Planning & Business Continuity Planning					
Produce 6 Monthly Progress Report following Scrutiny Review of Flooding (SRBC)	GB/KM	April 2017	June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake review Produce report for members 	Implementation of agreed actions following the Scrutiny review
Revise and re-issue BCPs (CBC)	GB/KM	April 2017	June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review & update system Arrange awareness training 	Production of a more streamlined & user friendly process that is responsive to ongoing organisational changes
Undertake BCP Testing (CBC)	GB/KM	September 2017	December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan & arrange exercise Test arrangements Produce de-briefing report 	Validation of the Council's business continuity arrangements
Revise and re-issue the Emergency Plan after proposed restructure (SRBC)	GB/KM	September 2017	December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review & update system Arrange awareness training 	Production of a more streamlined & user friendly process that is responsive to ongoing organisational changes

Project / Task	Lead Officer	Start Date	Finish Date	SMART Actions & Milestones	Outcomes & Success Measures
Revise and re-issue BCPs after proposed restructure (SRBC)	GB/KM	September 2017	December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review & update system Arrange awareness training 	Production of a more streamlined & user friendly process that is responsive to ongoing organisational changes
Undertake BCP Testing (SRBC)	GB/KM	January 2018	March 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan & arrange exercise Test arrangements Produce de-briefing report 	Validation of the Council's business continuity arrangements
Undertake a Rest Centre simulation exercise (SRBC & CBC)	GB/KM	January 2018	March 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan & arrange exercise Test whole arrangements (SAS, Leisure, Housing, PR) 	Validation of the Council's emergency response arrangements
Insurance					
Roll out procedures to ensure compliance with the new information disclosure requirements contained in the Insurance Act 2015 (CBC/SRBC)	GB/KM	April 2017	June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SMT briefings / agree quarterly information collection procedure / brief staff & implement 	Statutory compliance & reduced risk exposure
E-enablement of insurance claims administration	GB/KM	April 2017	December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appraisal of bespoke software solutions / procurement of preferred option / staff training & rollout 	Elimination of paper processing & storage / significant time saving / improved data interrogation & reporting facilities / risk management information / improved data security via the cloud

Financial Services As A Whole					
<p>From 2016/17 BIP to be continued:</p> <p>Annual development of the current level/programme of financial training packages for Members and Budget Holders. Members – Local Government Finance and implications of SR 2015. Budget Holders - to facilitate improved and speedier closure of accounts process including use of systems, process improvement, compliance and financial responsibilities and management techniques.</p>	<p>Head of Service</p>	<p>April 2017</p>	<p>March 2018</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify priority issues for customers and Shared Services • Consult customers • Produce packages • Deliver training • Develop self-service continual training via intranets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delegate feedback • Reduction of errors within processes e.g. coding errors corrected • Improved timeliness of service delivery including corporate reporting
<p>New for 2017/18 BIP:</p> <p>Support and Monitoring of new 2017/18 MTFS at SRBC. Write and Implement a Budget Setting Strategy and MTFS delivery programme at SRBC.</p>	<p>Head of Shared Financial Services as Acting CFO at SRBC</p>	<p>April 2017</p>	<p>August 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with CEO and Cabinet Member for Finance. • Draft Strategies. • Report to SMT. • Report to Cabinet. • Embed within Corporate Policy Framework. • Organise and Chair project meeting structure. • Report progress and performance as part of Budget Monitoring and Management governance arrangements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of 2017/18 MTFS Delivery Plan • 2017/18 MTFS progressed and overall target met. • 2018/19 Budget Setting process completed by 30th December 2017.

Management and Financial Accountancy Services

<p>From 2016/17 BIP to be continued:</p> <p>Review of Management Accountancy processes post FMIS implementation (including specifically the Internal Recharges and commitment accounting regimes for both Councils) with a view to establishing a common basis for methodology, calculation, and Budget Holder & corporate reporting.</p> <p>Project to include review of management of the establishment and Payroll systems – this is directly linked to the development of FMIS project and the implementation of the e-budgeting module.</p>	<p>Principal Management Accountants</p>	<p>April 2017</p>	<p>March 2018</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with CFOs and Deputy S151 Officers. • Re-evaluate current process with statutory requirements. • Construct proposed process and new systems. • Co-ordinate with FMIS development plan project. • Consult with stakeholders: Members (portfolio holder), senior management teams and budget holders. • Produce procedures notes, protocols and agreed timetable. • Determine and deliver communications/briefings/training as appropriate. • Review output and outcomes with regard to reporting including frequency, content and formats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce new a management Accountancy process for both Councils. • Introduce revised process and systems for allocating Internal Recharges within both Councils. • Revised procedures to be on a common basis/platform. • Wider understanding of role & purpose of Management Accountancy function and greater transparency within Corporate and Budget Holder reporting. • Produce new reporting standards and comprehensive work planning timetables for Budget Setting and Monthly Budget Reporting.
<p>Updated for 2017/18 BIP:</p> <p>Closure of Accounts : Review to reduce timetable and facilitate tested and successful completion by 30th May 2018.</p>	<p>Principal Financial Accountant</p>	<p>April 2017</p>	<p>May 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review timetable and reduce timescales by reviewing and changing procedures where appropriate. • Consider future changes and expected developments to 2017/18. • Consider the impact on all key stakeholders and analyse actions required to achieve the new deadline. • Set out action plan. • Communications Strategy. • Training Strategy. • Weekly project meetings during closure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful completion and production of Statement of Accounts (SOAs) as at 31/05/16. • SAOs to contain no material errors.

<p>From 2016/17 BIP to be continued:</p> <p>Business Rates Retention – Pooling Agreement and new Developing Regime as part of SR 2015</p>	<p>Principal Financial Accountant</p>	<p>April 2017</p>	<p>November 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation of implication of new arrangements and national NNDR regime. • Corporate review of processes and systems involved in setting the budget for the BRR regime including completion of NNDR1 and NNDR3 • Corporate review of processes and systems involved in monitoring BRR regime • Report and recommendations for new end to end process to HOS SFS and CFOs (s151s) • Publication of end to end procedures notes including timetable e.g. monthly monitoring of Appeals • Staff training including internal monthly monitoring and subject resilience improvement within the service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of new end to end documented process for the setting of, and monitoring of, Business Rates Retention taking into account impact of SR 2015 when published
<p>New for 2017/18 BIP:</p> <p>Support and Monitoring of new 2017/18 MTFS at SRBC. Write and Implement a Budget Setting Strategy and MTFS delivery programme at SRBC.</p>	<p>Head of Shared Financial Services as Acting CFO at SRBC</p>	<p>April 2017</p>	<p>August 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with CEO and Cabinet Member for Finance. • Draft Strategies. • Report to SMT. • Report to Cabinet. • Embed within Corporate Policy Framework. • Organise and Chair project meeting structure. • Report progress and performance as part of Budget Monitoring and Management governance arrangements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of 2017/18 MTFS Delivery Plan • 2017/18 MTFS progressed and overall target met. • 2018/19 Budget Setting process completed by 30th December 2017.

Procurement Services					
<p>New for 2017/18 BIP:</p> <p>Full and complete review of Procurement compliance incl. repeat spend analysis exercises for both Councils (subject to workloads and new procurements for 2017/18 MTFS major projects requiring scheduling and not notified of yet).</p>	<p>Principal Procurement Officer</p>	<p>April 2017</p>	<p>March 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review current documentation. • Consult with specialist colleagues e.g. legal, insurance etc. • Update Guide. • Communicate changes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates Staff Guide to Procurement produces and communicated.
Systems Development and Exchequer Services					
<p>Successful implementation of the FMIS Development Plan. With particular focus on the review and development of the following processes and systems and to achieve effective and efficient self-serve functionality and outcome projects from 2016/17 projects into review of the all current products available to ensure that the system best supports the whole ICT infrastructure and strategies at both Councils.</p> <p>Payroll services; Cash Receipting; Civica Financials network access review at SRBC; Budget Preparation Module; Asset Management Module; Payroll File Integration at SRBC; CIPD Code Update; Chart of Accounts Update for Statutory Returns; Disaster Recovery Procedures – update post FMIS developments; Review of authorisation restriction rules; Procure to Pay (P2P) Compliance Automation; Purchasing Developments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Complimentary system integration (2) Review of Contracts Module (3) Review of Purchase Card Module 	<p>Principal Financial Accountant (SRBC) and System Development Manager</p>	<p>April 2017</p>	<p>March 2018</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the timescales, resources and priorities within the plan • Approval of the plan by the Councils' CEOs/CFOs • Link and co-ordinate projects with Management Accountancy processes project • Consult with users and Council's ICT sections • Use the Council's project management methodology • Successfully implement the developments within the financial systems development plan • Establish productivity gain measures where possible for each system improvement strand • Ensure all financial data complies with the Councils' Data Quality policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of accounting processes by maximising the functionality of FMIS • Evidence by measurable productivity gain where possible • Increase customer satisfaction • Produce a proposal with regard to the longer term view on the future development of FMIS in the light of developments in that arena since FMIS was implemented.

APPENDIX THREE - PERFORMANCE INFORMATION 2017/18

The table below includes a performance indicator set that has been put together:

- following service user and staff consultation;
- drawing upon existing measures at South Ribble and Chorley; and,
- based on the work of the National Audit Office (Value For Money in Public Sector Corporate Services – A Joint Project by the UK Public Sector Audit Agencies (2007)).

The NAO model develops an amended scorecard approach that, in addition to an efficiency dimension, defines three separate facets of effectiveness that can be measured:

- **Impact**, in terms of how the output from each of the services contributes to or influences corporate performance as a whole;
- **Satisfaction** of users and senior managers;
- **Modernisation**, in terms of the extent to which management practices have been adopted that are innovative and forward thinking.

The following table identifies each type of measure being used by the following references:

- E = Efficiency
- EI = Effectiveness Impact
- ES = Effectiveness Satisfaction
- EM = Effectiveness Modernisation

Note also that the data quality and collection standards appertaining to each Council will be rigorously applied.

Key Measures	Type	Timescale	Member Reporting	Target 2016/17	Target 2017/18
Internal Audit Services					
% of Planned Time Used	EI	Quarterly Audit Plan Update Reports & Annual Audit Report	Joint Committee & Governance Committees	90%	90%
% Audit Plan Completed	EI	Quarterly Audit Plan Update Reports & Annual Audit Report	Joint Committee & Governance Committees	100%	100%
% of Management Actions Agreed	EI	Quarterly Audit Plan Update Report & Annual Audit Report	Joint Committee & Governance Committees	98%	98%
Total Cost of Internal Audit Function as a % of Organisational Running Costs / Expenditure) (VFM Primary 1)	E	Annual Audit Report	Joint Committee & Governance Committees	8.28%	8.28%
% Professionally Qualified Internal Audit Staff as a % of Total Internal Audit Staff (FTEs) (VFM Secondary 1)	EI	Annual Audit Report	Joint Committee & Governance Committees	30%	30%
Risk Management Services					
Total Cost of the Risk Management Function as a % of Organisational Running Costs / Expenditure) (VFM Primary 1)	E	Annual	Joint Committee & Governance Committees	4.12%	4.12%
Average customer satisfaction score per insurance claim (max 5.0)	ES	Quarterly	Joint Committee & Governance Committees	4.7	4.7

Key Measures	Type	Timescale	Member Reporting	Target 2016/17	Target 2017/18
Financial Services – Overall					
% of professionally qualified finance staff (FTEs) as a % of total finance staff (FTEs) (vfm Secondary 1)	EI	Annual	Joint Committee	18%	18%
Management and Financial Accountancy Services (incorporating FMIS Development function)					
% variation between the forecast out-turn at month 6 and the actual out-turn at month 12 (Vfm Primary 3)	EI	Annual	Executive Cabinets & Joint Committee	<(+/-) 5.0%	<(+/-) 5.0%
15 working days from period-end closure to the distribution of financial reports (vfm Primary 2)	EI	Monthly	Joint Committee	100%	100%
Year-end statutory accounts to contain no material errors and have an unqualified audit opinion	EI	Annual	Joint Committee Accounts Committees	0	0
Compliance with the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities	E	Half Yearly and at Year End	Joint Committee Executive Cabinets	100% compliance the Prudential Code	100% compliance the Prudential Code
Statutory Grant Claims and Returns to be submitted on time	ES	Half Yearly and at Year End	Joint Committee	100%	100%
Achievement of Industry Investment Benchmarks	EI	Half Yearly and at Year End	Joint Committee Executive Cabinets	Out perform London Inter Bank Bid Rate (LIBID) by 15%	Out perform London Inter Bank Bid Rate (LIBID) by 15%
Supplier Payment within 30 days (local indicator)(linked to vfm Secondary 10)	EI	Monthly	Joint Committee	99%	99%

Key Measures	Type	Timescale	Member Reporting	Target 2016/17	Target 2017/18
Supplier Payment within 10 days (local indicator)	EI	Monthly	Joint Committee	83%	83%
% of supplier payments by electronic means (vfm Secondary 7)	EM	Monthly	Joint Committee	97%	97%
% of remittances to suppliers by electronic means	EM	Monthly	Joint Committee	95%	95%
% of Financial Systems availability	E	Monthly	Joint Committee	99.5%	99.5%
Procurement Services					
Professionally qualified procurement employees (FTEs) as a % of total procurement employees (vfm Secondary 1)	EI	Annual	Joint Committee	50%	50%
LIB/P12 Satisfaction with the corporate procurement function	ES	Annual	Joint Committee	90%	90%

APPENDIX FOUR – CONTRACTS REGISTER

Company / Provider	Services Provided	End Date
INSURANCE		
AON Risk Solutions (Joint SRBC & CBC)	Insurance Broker and tender services	31/12/2018 *1
Aspen Insurance Ltd (CBC & SRBC)	Insurance Policies (Property, Contract works, Computer)	31/12/2019 *2
Zurich Municipal (SRBC)	Insurance Policies (Combined Liability, Motor Fleet, Personal Accident)	31/12/2019 *2
Travelers Insurance (CBC) (SRBC)	Insurance Policies (Combined Liability, Crime) Insurance Policies (Crime, Fidelity Guarantee)	31/12/2019 *2
Protector Insurance (CBC)	Motor	31/12/2019 *2
AIG c/o Risk Management Partners (CBC)	Personal Accident	31/12/2019 *2
A.R.S for AXIS Underwriters at Lloyds (CBC & SRBC)	Terrorism	31/12/2019 *2
Ecclesiastical c/o Risk Management Partners (CBC)	Fine Arts	31/12/2019 *2
Zurich Municipal (CBC)	Insurance Policies (Engineering Inspections and Insurance)	31/12/2017 *3
*1 Contract awarded on a <u>two</u> year basis with the option to extend for a further 2 years *2 Contract awarded on a <u>three</u> year basis with the option to extend for a further 2 years *3 Contract awarded on an annual basis		
AUDIT		
Lancashire County Council	Internal Audit Services	31/03/2018 Annual Review

Company / Provider	Services Provided	End Date
PAYROLL		
Blackpool Borough Council (CBC)	Payroll Service	Rolling SLA
BT Lancashire (SRBC) (client role transferred to HR SRBC)	Payroll Service	n/a
SYSTEMS		
Civica (Partnership)	Financials Debtors & Creditors GL Purchasing Intelligent Imaging/Scanning e-Modules (Cr, Dr, Pr) Budget Preparation Asset Management	Annual rolling Licencing Maintenance Agreement 31/03/2018
Civica (CBC) Civica (SRBC) ICON responsibility within Business Transformation Directorate	CBC - ICON Cash Receipting CBC - ICON Bank Reconciliation	CBC - due to expire 31/03/19.and continues to be under review
Allpay (CBC and SRBC)	Electronic Card Payment Services	07/10/2017 with option to extend for another two years thereafter
TREASURY		
Capita Treasury Solutions Limited	Treasury Management Consultancy Service	Annual Review
Chrystal Consulting Limited (SRBC)	Leasing advice/renewals	31/03/2017 Annual Review
Chrystal Consulting Limited (CBC)	Leasing advice/renewals	31/03/2017 Annual Review
Barclays Bank (SRBC & CBC)	Banking Services	31/03/2018