

APPENDIX B

**MEMBER WORKING GROUP ON COUNTY COUNCIL COVID
19 RECOVERY PLANNING
DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. To provide a cross-party forum to enable the Administration and Chief Officers to engage with the leadership of the major opposition groups in developing and implementing a short and medium term approach to recovery planning required as a result of the Coronavirus epidemic.
2. To provide a high-level direction and political perspective to the County Council's Recovery Plans. The Group will undertake this role by considering and commenting on:-
 - i. The current themes identified for recovery, details of which are set out in the Appendix to this document. As such the focus will be on both internal recovery and external economic and community recovery and will require consultation with partners.
 - ii. The analysis undertaken by Recovery Planning Forums (see Appendix for details of Forums currently established) and the results of information gathering exercises conducted with Service Heads.
 - iii. The key priorities and services recommended for immediate action by the County Council;
 - iv. The sequencing of elements of the proposed recovery programme having regard to the work of partners, both statutory and non-statutory sectors and the LRF.
 - v. The learning gained during the coronavirus epidemic and comment on proposals coming forward to seek to embed new ways of working and service delivery
 - vi. The progress being made on the recovery programme and make adjustments to the programme in the light of experience of implementation and new information
 - vii. The evolving impact of the coronavirus epidemic on the County Council's future service delivery model.
 - viii. An agreed exit strategy for the recovery work
3. To consider the implications and management of any further lockdown.

(Note – Rapid Recovery issues will be dealt with by Chief Officers in consultation with the relevant Lead Members. Group Leaders will be advised. Those decisions and impacts will be reported to the Working Group when it is convened)

Membership

To be determined following consultation with Group Leaders. – Suggest that the membership is 10 members (6 Conservatives; 2 Liberal Democratic; 2 Labour).

Meetings Programme

It is anticipated that the first meeting of the Group will be held the week commencing 8th or 15th June when it is expected the information from the survey of service managers and deliberations of the Recovery Forums will be available.

Operating Protocol

- a) The Group operates as in an advisory capacity. Any decisions required to deliver the changes will be taken by the Cabinet and will be subject to scrutiny in the usual way.
- b) Meetings of the Group will be informal in order to facilitate open discussions at all times, with draft notes of meetings circulated to all parties immediately after each meeting.
- c) Discussions within the Group and papers presented will be treated as confidential, but at each meeting the Group will agree the basis of communication of matters discussed to the political groups and any conditions attaching thereto.

Recovery Themes

Infrastructure. Recovery of the infrastructure of LCC could take place relatively quickly but should be managed carefully to avoid a complete return to the 'business of before' – some of which may now be undesirable or unnecessary. The recovery process will provide an opportunity to redefine our ways of working as organisational capacity has been increased or reshaped (e.g. financial systems, partnership working, intel and information sharing, home working, IT capabilities, organisational culture shifts etc).

Human Aspects. This is likely to take place over a longer period, linked to supporting the rebuilding of community capacity and resilience. Some communities will require deep and concerted support to recover (much of it interlinked with the economy, including skills and retraining, but also volunteering capacity). Will also depend on which parts of the VCS have survived the crisis and whether they can come back to full business delivery (same or different to before)

Economic recovery - essentially this will take place over a much longer period of time and will impact on LA capacity and priorities significantly. To return to the previous levels of growth and business confidence, it could take many, many months – if not years. There will be a lot of work to do very quickly (which won't all be in our control in terms of pace and scale) – then some sustained activity. Activity will be spread across: business survival, business recovery, business growth.

Existing County Council Forums to aid Recovery Planning

- Environment Strategy Board
- Digital Board
- Communities Board
- People Strategy
- Workplace & Wellbeing Board

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