

CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

REPORT OF	Councillor Adrian Jones
CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR	Central and Support Services
CO-ORDINATING CHIEF OFFICER	Joe Blott, Strategic Director- Transformation and Resources

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is an update from the Cabinet Portfolio Holder to Members of the Council on matters relevant to his portfolio.

1. HUMAN RESOURCES AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Remodelling

Currently 40 service areas have opened consultation. A remodelling saving in Children's Services will be realised later than planned but still within the agreed timeframe as it is linked to proposals around early years/children's centres which is subject to wider consultation.

Around 2,700 employees have been consulted as part of the process. New structures are being implemented as consultation closes in each service.

Volunteers

As the Remodelling continues we are progressing applications for Voluntary Severance/Early Voluntary Retirement to achieve savings and mitigate potential redundancies. As of 27 February 2015, 213 employees have agreed to leave the Council with around 142 staff having already left.

Organisational Development

The Organisational Development Team restructure is being implemented and work is continuing to move to a commissioning model from April 2015.

Dignity at Work, Grievance and Whistleblowing Policies

New policies were agreed in October 2014 and an e-learning module has been produced for all managers to complete. Senior HR Officers will be delivering training sessions to line managers from April 2015. Dignity at Work Advisers have been recruited from the workforce. The initial phase of training was an e-learning module for all employees to complete by March and this will be followed by a further training programme for managers from April 2015.

2. ASSET MANAGEMENT

Key projects are underway to improve Council Assets. Schemes include:

- Guinea Gap- The 3G pitch is complete and the new fitness suite is substantially completed.

- West Kirby Concourse- £1m scheme has commenced
- Foxfield School- Handover date 20 February 2015, pupils will start at the school on 2 March.
- Somerville Primary School- End of February completion of the £2m phased building project to replace 6 mobile classrooms and reconfiguration.

3. ICT

New Equipment Roll Out to Elected Members

The roll out of ICT equipment to Elected Members is on schedule, and the new equipment has been largely well received. Issues raised by Elected Members are being addressed for example a briefing note reminding Elected Members on how to access the email archive has been re-circulated.