

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET MEMBER FOR BUSINESS SERVICES AND
RESIDENT EXPERIENCE****DATE:** 11 JULY 2016**LEAD OFFICER:** JOHN STEBBINGS (CHIEF PROPERTY OFFICER)**SUBJECT:** ORBIS TRANSFORMATION PARTNER**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

The report seeks approval from the Cabinet Member for Business Services and Resident Experience to enter into a contract with a third party provider to assist with the delivery of the Orbis Business Plan and seeks to gain approval to use the financial provision made in the Orbis Business Plan.

It is recognised that in order to deliver the Orbis Business Plan additional capacity and capability will be required over and above existing resources.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Business Services and Resident Experience grants approval to enter into a contract with the transformation partner to support the delivery of the Orbis Business Plan, deliver the three year savings targets (£8.3M) and develop further opportunities for growth in the Orbis partnership.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

Orbis has committed to a level of savings in the Business Plan (£8.3m) and it is imperative these savings are delivered. The scale and pace required to deliver service transformation in order to improve outcomes for customers and service users will ultimately improve efficiency and reduce costs.

DETAILS:**Background:**

1. Orbis is a partnership between East Sussex and Surrey County Councils which will deliver significant benefits across back office services. The partnership was launched in April 2015 and includes the following services: Finance, Human Resources, IT, Transactional Business Operations, Property and Procurement.
2. A three year business plan was approved by Cabinet in October 2015, the Business plan set out the approach for delivery of integrated services and savings of £8.3m by 2019.
3. Orbis is looking for an external partner to help deliver the Orbis programme of works which will cover a range of business advice and support needs.
4. Where it is possible to draw on skills that already exist within the business Orbis will do this and backfill staff roles as appropriate, this will be less expensive than

paying standard consultancy rates. An example of this could be for process reengineering or project management where skills of this type already exist within the business.

5. The opportunity to work alongside Orbis provides a unique opportunity for potential partners as it provides a window into the public sector utilising the trusted Orbis brand.
6. The benefits of such an approach are many, including:
 - a. increased capability and capacity to grow the Orbis partnership;
 - b. opportunities to share skills, knowledge and resources; and
 - c. increased capacity to deliver the business plan.
7. This procurement exercise is being undertaken through an organisation called Nepro. Nepro provide neutral vendor solutions for specialist professional services and is fully Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) compliant.
8. Further information on the procurement process is contained in item 5 in Part 2 of the agenda.

CONSULTATION:

9. A report detailing the approach and reasons for seeking a transformation partner was shared with the Orbis Joint Committee on 22 April 2016 and is attached as Annex 1 to this paper.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

Information on risk management and implications is available in item 5 in Part 2 of the agenda.

Financial and Value for Money Implications

10. Financial provision was made in the Orbis Business plan for a transformation partner.
11. No commitment as to the level of spend will be given to the provider as the ambition is to develop an arrangement that will be beneficial to both parties. Working in partnership with Orbis will be hugely beneficial to any potential provider as it will provide opportunities to work in the public sector that may not otherwise exist.
12. Both Surrey and East Sussex Councils try to minimise the use of external consultancy services and we have been very clear in this instance that the intention is not to enter into a traditional consultancy arrangement with a standard rate card approach. Therefore, agreeing an innovative approach to this arrangement is key, with both parties needing to have clearly defined commitments and benefits agreed.

Section 151 Officer Commentary

13. The section 151 officer confirms that there is provision in the Orbis business plan (and therefore the MTFP 2016-21) to fund this investment as an enabler to deliver the overall Orbis savings. As indicated, every effort will be taken to minimise the spend on external support".

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

14. The procurement process outlined in the report complies with legal requirements.

Equalities and Diversity

15. There are no equalities or diversity implications to consider.

Contact Officer:

Adrian Stockbridge Orbis Programme Manager 07837 170418

Consulted:

Kevin Foster – Chief Operating Officer ESCC
Keith Coleman – Category Manager Procurement
Matt Scott – Orbis Chief Information Officer
Laura Langstaff – Orbis Head of Procurement
Chris Penny - Nepro

Annexes:

Transformation partner report that was considered by the Orbis Joint Committee on 22 April 2016.

Sources/background papers:

None

This page is intentionally left blank