

**EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL AND
SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
ORBIS JOINT COMMITTEE**



DATE: 21 OCTOBER 2016

LEAD OFFICER: KEVIN FOSTER (CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER) AND JOHN STEBBINGS (CHIEF PROPERTY OFFICER)

SUBJECT: ORBIS AND EY CONSULTANCY PARTNERSHIP

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To provide an update to the Orbis Joint Committee on the development of the partnership between Orbis and EY

INTRODUCTION

To provide an update to the Joint Committee on the development of the partnership between Orbis and Ernst & Young (EY) based on the work to date in mobilising the relationship. The aim of this update is to demonstrate that, through this initial work, shared value and mutual benefit is being created.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Orbis Joint Committee notes the progress being made by EY and Orbis on key elements of the work plan is demonstrating the value of Public and Private Sector Partnership

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To ensure the Joint Committee is fully briefed on progress with the EY and Orbis Partnership against three key areas of the joint work plan.

DETAILS:

1. As of October 2015, Cabinets in East Sussex and Surrey agreed the Orbis three year business plan which demonstrated the early achievements of the aims and projected benefits. The aim was to provide both Cabinets with the confidence that the investment required is essential to deliver the three year integration plan in a financially beneficial and sustainable way. This investment proposal included the use of targeted, external support in specialist areas where capability does not currently exist within the partnership.
2. In April 2016 Orbis engaged the external market to fill this external support role and EY were successful in their response. This decision was based on EY's ambition to work with Orbis in a way which pioneers how the Public and Private Sectors can partner together to deliver joint value and shared opportunities.
3. EY have now been working with Orbis over the past three months to mobilise this partnership and are successful in creating the opportunity for shared value and innovative ways of working. There are three key areas of focus for this:

- a. **Providing strategic steer and positive challenge** to support Orbis through the three year business plan. This includes specialist advice on areas where Orbis benefits from an external viewpoint. Specifically included is the facilitation and set up of an external advisory panel to provide Orbis with a well-rounded external network whilst playing an active role in the Orbis governance arrangement to help inform and provide challenge in to the Orbis Strategy.
 - b. **Establishing joint opportunities** to develop staff and the market to place Orbis and its people in the centre of a wider network. Specifically included is the building and maintaining of an Orbis and EY secondment scheme which will effectively share resources in a two-way relationship.
 - c. **Creating a repeatable process to engage targeted resource** for time limited consultancy to deliver and where possible, accelerate progress of the three year business plan.
4. The work to date on the Orbis and EY partnership for the past three months has mobilised this and specifically set up:
- a. A review of the Orbis Governance structure whilst providing a forum to best utilise external viewpoints through an Advisory Panel and junior level inputs through creation of an Orbis Leadership Team “Shadow Board”.
 - b. The mobilisation of an EY and Orbis Secondment Programme
 - c. The scoping of five targeted pieces of work to compliment the delivery of the business plan, specifically scoping of work has included:
 - i. Business Solutions Platform (BSP) – identifying the next steps to reach a mutually beneficial BSP for all partners and enable the integration.
 - ii. Due Diligence – creation of a repeatable and scalable process for on-boarding new partners, with a specific focus on the key elements to be resolved to help the Orbis Joint Committee reach a decision in on-boarding Brighton & Hove City Council. The strategy is currently being developed and will consist of a number of key principles, these will be tested as part of on boarding BHCC.
 - iii. Benefits Ambition – providing further challenge into the Orbis Business Plan financials to understand what considerations there are to stretch these benefits and / or deliver them sustainably.
 - iv. Customer at the Heart – creation of a philosophy for Orbis to deliver services which place the customer at the heart of what it does.
 - v. Public Sector Provider of Choice – generation of criteria to expand on what being the provider of choice could mean for Orbis and understanding the ambitions and aims of the Partnership beyond the three year business plan.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

5. A review of the Orbis and EY Partnership on a periodic basis to appraise and evolve the relationship.
-

Contact Officers:

Kevin Foster – Chief Operating Officer
Adrian Stockbridge, Orbis Programme Manager

Consulted:

John Stebbings – Chief Property Officer
Leatham Green – Programme Director for People and Change

Annexes:

Annex 1 – Orbis and EY Partnership Mobilisation Phase

Sources/background papers:

This page is intentionally left blank