



Report to

Council

Meeting Date: 13th September 2022

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Local Government Reorganisation Transition Portfolio Holder's
Report – Councillor Keith Meller**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION TRANSITION

The LGR programme has now moved from the Design to Implementation phase, the structure of responsible Officer Boards has been revised to better enable delivery. There are four Boards that meet on Tuesdays to ensure a single reporting cycle. The LGR Programme Board meets fortnightly, while the Day One Readiness Board, Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness Boards meet weekly.

The recruitment process is now complete, and Members have agreed the appointment of Andrew Seekings as Chief Executive of Cumberland Council and Sam Plum as Chief Executive for Westmorland & Furness Council.

Shadow Authority Leaders have developed the draft senior leadership structures for each of the new Councils. The aim is for senior leadership to be in place before 1st April 2023 in order to support the next steps of the transition to the two new Councils. The structures have been circulated for consultation and includes Trades Unions.

Engagement is underway on the draft Cumberland Council Plan. The plan outlines what the Council wants to focus on in its first four years. It also describes how they want the Council to work and what residents can expect. There are plans for engaging with staff, Members, Town and Parish Councils, residents and other key stakeholders as part of the Council Plan conversation for both Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness. A range of events, including briefings with Question and Answer sessions are being organised to take place later this month.

A “legacy” project, led by the City Council’s Organisation Development Manager, has been launched to look at ways to mark the transition of Carlisle City Council to the new Cumberland Council. Suggested events include an exhibition at the Old Town Hall which will include an audio story and display cabinets containing civic memorabilia as well as

historic reference materials. A smaller exhibition will be hosted in the City Council's Customer Contact Centre. An internal project group meets regularly in order to ensure momentum is maintained and opportunities explored. A final Celebration of Learning event is also being planned as a chance for staff to come together and celebrate achievements as well as their contributions to Carlisle City Council. I welcome any suggestions fellow Members of the Council may have on how we can celebrate the achievements of the City Council.