Chief Executives' Group – North Yorkshire and York

8 February 2018

Strategic data working group update

1.0.	**Purpose of report**
1.1	To provide an update on the meeting of the strategic working group for data sharing.

2.0   Background

2.1   At the meeting on 7 September 2017, it was agreed that a strategic working group would be created to discuss the feasibility of developing a common approach to data sharing across North Yorkshire and York. This could then be used to help understand the communities, identify vulnerable citizens and aid strategic planning.

3.0   Information

3.1   A meeting was held on 11 December 2017 with representatives from Harrogate Borough Council, North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service (NYFRS), North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC), North Yorkshire Police (NYP), the Office of the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and City of York Council.

3.2   Initial discussions focussed on the feasibility of combining each of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNA) and the single Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA). These documents are statutory requirements, and the JSNA is moving towards a 'light touch' approach to identify themes for further exploration. The JSIA is produced in line with national guidance. It was thought that the two JSNAs (North Yorkshire & York) and the JSIA (which covers both North Yorkshire and York) should not be brought together; however there was agreement that these assessments continue to be written using a common understanding of the citizens and communities needs within North Yorkshire and York.

3.3   The opportunity to work more collaboratively was recognised by all, along with the ambition to develop data and analysis that directly contributes to delivering improved value for money and outcomes. However, to do this on a larger scale i.e. across North Yorkshire and York, is challenging and costly and as such should be set as a longer term ambition. Currently, it is not technically or financially feasible to bring together all the data from all the agencies in the area due to the complexity and scale of the task. This is evidenced by single agencies not yet achieving significant data sharing opportunities within their own organisation. It was also noted that there have been several attempts to do this over the years within North Yorkshire and York.

3.4   Notwithstanding immediate technical and financial issues, the working group members believe that there should be a longer term ambition to continue to improve data relationships around meeting statutory needs as well as improving services across the area. This ambition would also include the ability to identify vulnerable citizens. However, there is no single definition of vulnerability across the organisations, in part because this definition is sometimes determined by statutory frameworks. Therefore, it may be more useful to initially consider a focus on demand for services.

3.5 In order to share data effectively and to avoid potential data sharing issues, any data would need to be suitably anonymised. It would require sufficient and dedicated resources to be made available over the medium term by each contributing organisation.

3.6 Using a focussed approach in a number of small areas, the concept and processes for sharing data could be designed, tested and proven in the first instance, with a view to expanding this work at a later date. To that end, a number of proposals were put forward for consideration by the Chief Executives' group.

4.0 Proposals

4.1 The proposals from the working group are:

1) Three pilot data sharing initiatives to be developed, focussing on:

   a) Child neglect – this would involve looking at and expanding on a recent joint project and report by NYCC and NYP
   b) Service demand in a geographical area – this would focus on the Woodfield area in Harrogate with each agency looking at their respective demands for service to identify commonality.
   c) Repeat callers – this would look at identifying patterns of repeat callers with a view to identifying potential activities to reduce this demand.

2) To agree in principle to allocate appropriate resources for the work at 1 above, subject to a scoping report to be brought to a future meeting.

3) That the pilot work, once evaluated, be used to seek funding to deliver the long-term vision.

4) For the working group to continue to work towards a longer-term vision for data sharing across all relevant agencies in the area.

5.0 Recommendation

5.1 To agree the proposals as set out in section 4.0

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31 January 2018