

Scotland Excel

To: Joint Committee

On: 08 December 2017

**Report
by
Director of Scotland Excel.**

Fife Proposal - Update

1. Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to update members on the status of a transformation project proposal that Scotland Excel has been asked to submit to Fife Council.

2. Background

Scotland Excel was approached in August 2017 by Fife council with regard to potential involvement in their ambitious organisation wide transformation programme. Fife council were seeking a new approach to transformation support by working more extensively with a public sector partner rather than a private sector partner.

3. Update

Fife council asked Scotland Excel to construct a draft proposal for its views on what a commercial transformation programme would look like for Fife council. Due to time constraints within Fife council, this proposal was required by early September 2017. Scotland Excel undertook a limited number of meetings with officers at the council and produced a first draft proposal.

The transformation programme proposed was composed of a number of projects.

1. Effective Stakeholder Management.
2. Developing the procurement team.
3. Category A and Category C contracts optimisation
4. Scotland Excel Care contracts optimisation.
5. Scotland Excel Construction contracts optimisation.
6. Scotland Excel Corporate contracts optimisation.
7. Data management review
8. Re-enforcing procurement foundations.
9. Contract and Supplier Management
10. Setting the strategic direction.
11. Implementing Demand Management.

- 12. Benefits Tracking
- 13. Delegated Procurement Authority

Each of the projects was detailed including: project description; objectives; deliverables and proposed savings and benefits that may be achieved.

In order to undertake this proposal and to ensure that core member services were not impacted, a dedicated transformation team was proposed. The resourcing structure and costs for this were provided within the proposal.

In addition to recovery of project costs, Scotland Excel is also discussing methods whereby it can achieve an additional return on investment from the programme. Any amounts achieved through this would be re-invested back into Scotland Excel.

The programme is anticipated to run for between two and three years and the proposed cost for Fife council was £420k per year.

4. Benefits and Challenges

Scotland Excel believes that this approach by Fife council should be recognised as sector leading whereby an existing public sector shared service is involved in a significant transformation programme. Scotland Excel believes this will ensure talent, knowledge and experience is retained within the public sector with an option to expanding to other members. The organisation believes this is a way of delivering further value, offering a more cost effective solution and supporting organisational sustainability.

This proposal supports the strategic aims of Scotland Excel to work in partnership with members and other bodies to deliver innovative services and solutions. It also seeks to support the work of addressing the financial challenges within Fife council and allow these lessons to be shared across the wider local government sector.

Challenges may arise from resourcing the team although initial indications are that the geography may be favourable for this project. Scotland Excel will work with other public sector partners including the Improvement Service where opportunities arise.

5. Next steps

Fife council are in the process of reviewing the Scotland Excel proposal. Should Scotland Excel's proposal be accepted by members, it is anticipated that it will commence in April 2018. It is also anticipated that initial preparatory work will commence prior to this point.

6. **Recommendation**

Scotland Excel has provided similar services to members but not to this scale and therefore it was felt prudent to update members. Members are asked to support the programme should Scotland Excel be successful with its proposal.