

Opportunities for improved productivity

Improving productivity in the main business areas, accounting for 95 per cent of council business, is central to helping councils meet the challenges of less funding. This library of 'productivity opportunities' offers a wealth of ideas. Many of them are not new in themselves. What is new is packaging them alongside each other to challenge how far councils are going in their pursuit and demonstration of productivity in their localities.

Adults and health

Review commissioning arrangements	Share public sector services
Use a funding calculator to understand the cost of adult social care packages	Let users decide on the services they require
Support social enterprise	Commission aids to daily living from retailers
Make use of telecare	Unleash the entrepreneurs
Manage demand through segmentation	Develop virtual carers centres
Support and make best use of the contribution of older people	Support independent living
Use a Total Place approach to get young people in to employment or training	Intervene early for families with parents with mental health problems
Establish a risk management group	Build a programme of respite breaks for foster carers

Children's services

Strategically commission housing for vulnerable young people	Target services to 'at risk' families
Work collaboratively to commission foster care services	Review commissioning arrangements
Standardise quality assurance measures	Integrate youth services
Drive better outcomes for looked after children	Redesign child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS)
Jointly commission high cost low volume children's services	Use a parent participation model to design short breaks services
Reduce harm and risk by sharing assets	Use eAuctions for appropriate services
Use targeted safeguarding for high risk children	Commission transport services strategically
Reduce the number of looked after children	Use technology to lower transaction costs
Use a Total Place approach to get young people in to employment or training	Set up a childminding network for vulnerable children
Intervene early for families with parents with mental health problems	Plan services around the care pathway

Improve the commissioning for looked-after children	Use sector learning and resources to support families in crisis
Establish a risk management group	Use partnerships to improve failing schools
Build a programme of respite breaks for foster carers	Develop a programme for young disabled children with complex language needs
Establish a commissioning partnership	Collaborate to recruit foster parents
Total Place based approach to early years	

Corporate

A total place approach to the Kent Gateway Initiative	A total place approach to housing and regeneration
Reduce sickness absence	Get the best out of your people through better engagement
Strategically commission housing for vulnerable young people	Restructure your back office
Standardise quality assurance measures	Consider using the TRiM Toolkit to transform services
Coach your staff to improve productivity	Jointly commission for children's homes and education services
Make use of common collaborative procurement	Use technology to support procurement processes
Share back office services	Build using a framework agreement
Join a highways alliance	Join a procurement hub
Better energy procurement	Share specialists and expertise
Adopt area-based asset management	Join a waste partnership
Make use of common collaborative procurement	Standardise goods and processes
Reducing harm and risk through shared assets	Use procurement cards
Use eAuctions for appropriate services	Optimise your voltage (electricity consumption)
Share out of hours call handling	Ensure your transformation programme is customer-led
A system for categorising spending	Sharing public sector services
Food premises hygiene rating scheme	Make sure your vehicles travel by the shortest journey on regular routes
Use a funding calculator to understand the cost of adult social care packages	Share chief executives and senior management
Use targeted safeguarding for high risk children	Use a recruitment portal
Patient transport services	Consider remote working
Buy your library stock jointly with others	Use category management to cut costs
Recover duplicate payments made to the same supplier	Share front office services

Create a multi-skilled workforce	Improve workplace health
Use a Total Place approach to improve access to benefits	Use a Total Place approach to get young people in to employment or training
Use business improvement techniques	Use technology to lower transaction costs
Match your resources to demand	Plan services around the care pathway
Improve the commissioning for looked-after children	Establish a risk management group
Use business improvement techniques to transform services	Establish a commissioning partnership
Reduce layers of management	You can foster - collaboration on foster care
Get the right people with the right skills into the right job	Work with different sectors to improve service delivery
Transform customer management	Delivering excellent corporate and transactional services (DECATS)
Total Place based approach to early years	

Environment and culture

A total place approach to housing and regeneration	Build using a framework agreement
Join a highways alliance	Join a procurement hub
Adopt area-based asset management	Join a waste partnership
Make use of common collaborative procurement	Use eAuctions for appropriate services
Optimise your voltage (electricity consumption)	Sharing public sector services
Food premises: hygiene rating scheme	Make sure your vehicles travel by the shortest journey on regular routes
Buy your library stock jointly with others	

Housing and economy

A total place approach to the Kent Gateway Initiative	A total place approach to housing and regeneration
Integrate youth services	Build using a framework agreement
Join a highways alliance	Join a procurement hub
Adopt area-based asset management	Optimise your voltage (electricity consumption)
Sharing public sector services	Support social enterprise
Use a recruitment portal	Buy your library stock jointly with others
Create a multi-skilled workforce	Match your resources to demand
Use a Total Place approach to get young people in to employment or training	Strategically commission housing for vulnerable young people