

CABINET – 19 OCTOBER 2010

CORPORATE ICT STRATEGY

Report by Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy)

Introduction

1. The Corporate ICT Strategy reflects the current corporate priorities and challenges facing the organisation and our partners, and the central role ICT plays in supporting our business strategy and overarching strategic objectives. It sets both a strategic approach to provision of ICT moving forward, and actions by which this will be achieved in the short to medium term.

Key Issues

2. The Corporate ICT strategy sets our commitment to maximise the strategic and operational value of ICT in delivering our strategic objectives, driving business efficiency and supporting service delivery.
3. The proposed objectives of the strategy are:
 1. We will ensure our ICT resources are deployed to support our priorities
 2. We will optimise the potential of the Council ICT infrastructure
 3. We will endeavour to reduce existing ICT infrastructure costs
4. A detailed action plan is also included, setting out the implementation of these objectives.

Financial Implications

5. Although there are no financial implications of the strategy itself, the content is intended to guide efficiency savings through better prioritisation of resources against service need and corporate priorities.
6. The objectives in the strategy set the context for how we will allocate resources to ICT. Given the need to prioritise resources against corporate and service requirements whilst identifying significant savings and supporting improved ways of working, resource allocation decisions will fall into three categories:
 - (a) Minimising running costs
 - (b) Projects that deliver major service benefits (eg financial, service improvement)
 - (c) Projects that deliver major corporate benefits (eg financial, customer service, new ways of working)

7. This will be used to inform and influence investment decisions by identifying appropriate technical solutions, with an emphasis on value for money, utilisation of existing resources, benefits realisation for new projects and ensuring an efficient and joined-up approach across the Council.

RECOMMENDATION

8. **The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to agree the draft Corporate ICT Strategy, and to receive quarterly updates on its implementation in line with the action plan.**

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Background papers:

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