



ARTICLE NO: 2C

**CORPORATE AND
ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW &
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**MEMBERS UPDATE 2014/5
ISSUE:1**

Article of: Transformation Manager

Relevant Managing Director: Managing Director (Transformation)

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor Westley, Councillor Houlgrave

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SUBJECT: ICT STRATEGIC PLAN

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF ARTICLE

1.1 To provide Members with an update on the ICT Strategy / Implementation Plan.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 West Lancashire Borough Council entered into a shared services agreement with Lancashire County Council (LCC) and their joint venture company, One Connect Limited, in July 2011. Delivery of which commenced in October 2011. One Connect Limited delivered a Revenue and Benefits service as well as an ICT service on behalf of the Council. The arrangement has enabled the Council to make significant savings whilst broadly maintaining service levels.

2.2 As at the beginning of May 2014, Lancashire County Council had finalised the new partnership arrangement that sees BT Lancashire Services (BTLS) replacing One Connect Limited.

2.3 West Lancashire Borough Council's ICT & Revenue and Benefits services, for which LCC / BTLS are responsible, will continue to be delivered to a high standard and there has not been any operational changes to service delivery as a result of this.

2.4 The purpose of the ICT Strategy and associated Implementation Plan is to set out the high level strategic direction and plan for ICT development for the Council in 2014 and beyond. It identifies the agreed strategic ICT priorities and specific actions that will deliver ICT aligned business benefits for the Council (see Appendix A).

2.5 The strategy will be updated regularly and reviewed against the Council's Business Plan, together with its corporate priorities.

3.0 CURRENT POSITION

3.1 Following agreement of the strategy, BTLs are delivering the priorities as outlined in Appendix A which will ensure that, for example the Council maintains its Government Code of Connection status / Public Sector Network accreditation. It will put the Authority in a stronger position moving into 2014/15 as a result of software and hardware upgrades to reach Government compliance. The Council will also migrate onto Lancashire County Council's Microsoft Exchange platform which, for example, will enable future improvements to be made with mobile working. A solution will also be agreed to manage data to ensure it complies with the requirements under information handling regimes.

4.0 ISSUES

4.1 It is essential that the ICT strategy is delivered, maintained and continually reviewed effectively to ensure the current and future objectives of the Council can be met efficiently.

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS/COMMUNITY STRATEGY

5.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this article and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder. The article has no significant links with the Sustainable Community Strategy.

6.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are some financial/resource implications arising from this article in respect of the implementation of the ICT strategy. All costs have been met through existing budgets / resources.

7.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

7.1 This item is for information only and does not contain any recommendations. It therefore does not require a formal risk assessment. However, the actions referred to in the report are covered in the relevant operational risk registers.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Article.

Equality Impact Assessment

This article is for information only and does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and/ or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

Appendix A: Strategy Priorities for Implementation

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Strategy Priorities for Implementation	Description of Priorities	Progress
West Lancashire Code of Connection (CoCo) accreditation and approval.	Delivered to maintain Government Code of Connection requirements and ensure compliance.	Completion due by end of May
Take out Microsoft Enterprise services Agreement (ESA).	This means WLBC are licensed to reuse and share BTLS platforms for future upgrades resulting in savings for WLBC.	Completion due by end of summer
Upgrade all PC's that are capable to run windows 7 and consider a virtual (thin client / VDI) desktop on existing PC hardware for the remainder.	Enables programme upgrades for all computers and enables WLBC to benefit from BTLS platforms. Minimises the impact of Windows XP becoming end of life.	Completion due by end of June
Migrate onto the county Council's Microsoft Exchange 2010 platform.	Enables WLBC to utilise the Microsoft exchange platform delivered for the County Council. Having the ability to use the platform will result in reduced spending from WLBC because licensing costs will be covered by the Microsoft Enterprise Services Agreement.	Completion due by end of July
Upgrade of Oracle and SQL server platform from SQL 2005 for core applications.	This is a must do Microsoft action. Needs to be in place for project requirements and application upgrades. Individual Elector Registration (IER) is a driver for this.	Completion due by end of summer

<p>Deliver a solution for managing data generated from applications in West Lancashire Borough Council to ensure the council complies with the Data Protection Act and its own data retention policy. (1st phase of implementation to then form the corporate solution.)</p>	<p>This ensures WLBC complies with the Data Protection Act and Data Retention Policy.</p>	<p>Completion due by end of July</p>
<p>Improve the remote working solution and replace the ageing citrix solution.</p>	<p>Enables WLBC to have remote working solutions deployed for staff. Needs to be complete for PSN reaccreditation.</p>	<p>Completion due by end of June</p>
<p>Understand and define key requirements and drivers for a corporate Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) solution and explore the requirements of Electronic filing and record management across the council.</p>	<p>Assists WLBC to understand the issues related to document management and highlight where improvements can be made.</p>	<p>Options to be provided by end of summer</p>
<p>Software Asset management and licence audit control.</p>	<p>Ensures WLBC is fully licensed and avoids any fines for illegal licensing if audited.</p>	<p>Completion due end of summer</p>