

WIRRAL COUNCIL

Transformation and Resources Policy & Performance Committee

23 September 2013

SUBJECT:	ICT STRATEGY
REPORT OF:	Interim Head of ICT

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report sets out the Council's ICT Strategy and Strategic Implementation Plan. The report provides Members of the Transformation and Resources Committee with an opportunity to undertake some pre-decision scrutiny in advance of the Strategy being submitted to Cabinet for approval. Members are requested to consider the details of this report and the accompanying presentation and make any appropriate recommendations.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 The Council's ICT Strategy was last reported to Cabinet on 13 October 2011 as part of its on-going review within a three year rolling cycle.

2.2 The Council's Improvement Plan (approved by Cabinet 6 September 2012) identified the need for the Council to undertake a more fundamental review of its business systems and enabling strategies. The Strategy and Implementation Plan provided are the product of the review work undertaken.

3.0 ICT STRATEGY

3.1 The ICT Strategy is included at Appendix 1. The strategy includes standard sections including an overview, the vision of the IT Service and Key Drivers. However, the main elements of the strategy are developed around providing overall ICT leadership across four key themes:

- Transforming the Council
- Core Business Systems
- Infrastructure
- ICT Governance

3.2 An ICT Strategic Implementation Plan has been developed and is included at Appendix 2. This highlights the key projects that deliver the ICT Strategy and prioritises these as well as highlighting the outcome being sought, the cost of the work, the associated savings and the key milestones of the work involved.

4.0 RELEVANT RISKS

4.1 At the time of writing the strategy the issues to do with business and IT resources to deliver the plan compromised the biggest risk to the strategy. It was unknown as to their extent but the mitigating factor was the availability of revenue budget in the coming financial year to buy in expert resources to replace any areas of loss. In addition a major risk was the extent of the issues

to do with obsolete equipment. As well as having an adverse effect on business processes it was unknown the effect this would have on Security issues. The mitigating action was to take advice from specialist security consultants which is in hand.

5.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 N/A

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 This is on-going with the presentation of this report to the Transformation and Resources Policy and Performance Committee being an opportunity to formally consult with Members.

7.0 OUTSTANDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIONS

7.1 N/A

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

8.1 N/A

9.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

9.1 All aspects of the IT strategy are financially covered. The £675K pa refresh budget for all new equipment and software is available to IT and special capital budgets for the Swift replacement project have been made available. The refresh budget can be released when necessary to deliver more replacement hardware and software. There are no further implications on IT , IT staffing and Assets.

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 N/A

11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

No because of another reason which is

The report is for information to Members and there are no direct equalities implications at this stage.

12.0 CARBON REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

12.1 N/A

13.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

13.1 N/A

14.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 Members are requested to consider the details of this report and make any appropriate recommendations.

15.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

15.1 To provide Members of the Committee with the opportunity to scrutinise the ICT Strategy in advance of being approved by Cabinet.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Information and Communication Technologies Strategy 2013
Appendix 2 – ICT Strategic Implementation Plan

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Cabinet	13 October 2011