



**BUSINESS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 12TH July 2016**

REPORT TITLE:	IT DISASTER RECOVERY
REPORT OF:	MEMBERS OF THE IT DISASTER RECOVERY SCRUTINY REVIEW PANEL

REPORT SUMMARY

This report (included as Appendix 1) provides the findings and recommendations emanating from the IT Disaster Recovery Scrutiny Review.

Members of the Business Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to consider the contents of this report and support the recommendations arising from this review.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1. Members of the Committee are requested to support the contents and recommendations of the Scrutiny Report, 'IT Disaster Recovery';
2. The report be referred to the next appropriate Cabinet meeting;

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

The Scrutiny Review report is subject to review by Members of the Committee and is required to be referred to Cabinet for consideration.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not Applicable

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 A Report to the Transformation & Resources Policy & Performance Committee on 21 September 2015 revealed that Wirral Council's IT infrastructure had suffered from underinvestment for a number of years. It emerged that there was some uncertainty regarding the existence of a comprehensive and up to date IT disaster recovery plan for Wirral Council. Disaster Recovery had also been identified as a significant risk in the Council's risk register.
- 3.2 Committee Members agreed to carry out a task & finish review of the Council's IT disaster recovery arrangements. Five Members of the Committee volunteered to undertake this work; Cllr Chris Carubia, Cllr Steve Foulkes, Cllr Leah Fraser, Cllr John Salter and Cllr Adam Sykes.
- 3.3 At the first meeting of the Review Panel, it was agreed Cllr Adam Sykes would be the Chair of the Panel. The review was conducted over a small number of meetings held with appropriate officers and information was provided as requested by the Review Panel to allow detailed question and answer sessions to be carried out.
- 3.4 The Panel's objectives in doing this work were to receive assurances that the Council establishes effective IT disaster recovery arrangements and takes steps to mitigate risks relating to IT disaster recovery highlighted in the Council's risk register. It was also an aim of the Panel to raise the profile of IT disaster recovery across the Council.
- 3.5 The Review Panel commended the Council on a number of projects undertaken to increase IT resilience and reduce risks of IT failure via the data centre project and other associated work. The Review Panel believes that it is important to ensure progress continues with these projects in order to enhance and update the Council's IT infrastructure following a period of underinvestment.
- 3.6 This report provides a number of recommendations which the Review Panel believes will assist the Council in providing a suitable IT platform to support delivery of the Wirral Plan pledges.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

Not Applicable.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

Not Applicable

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

This report is for information to Members and there are no direct equality implications.

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APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: IT Disaster Recovery Scrutiny Review Report

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date