

Individual Executive Member Decision

Report title

Committee considering report:	Individual Executive Member Decision
Date ID to be signed:	20 th August 2020
Portfolio Member:	Cllr. Joanne Stewart
Date Portfolio Member agreed report:	
Forward Plan Ref:	ID3945

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report introduces the new Digital Strategy for formal approval by the Portfolio members Cllr. Joanne Stewart.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the new West Berkshire Council Digital Strategy 2020-2023 be approved.

3. Implications

3.1 Financial:	All of the tasks in the delivery plan will require financing and resourcing. These will be funded from a variety of sources including revenue, capital, transformation funding and external grants.
3.2 Policy:	None
3.3 Personnel:	None
3.4 Legal:	None
3.5 Risk Management:	None
3.6 Property:	None
3.7 Other:	None

4. Consultation Responses

- 4.1 A Customer First Programme Board Digital Strategy Workshop was held in September 2019 to help formulate what should be included in the new WBC Digital Strategy.
- 4.2 The strategy was co-authored by Kevin Griffin and Phil Rumens. In formulating content for the strategy a number of one to one consultations were held with Officers from across the Council, mostly conducted by Phil Rumens.
- 4.3 The strategy has had 7 iterations during its development as it has been consulted upon and scrutinised by various different bodies, as detailed below:
- 1) **Customer First Programme Board:** This is the group responsible for overseeing the development of the strategy and it has been reviewed formally by this group on three separate occasions. It was approved by the June Board to go on for formal approval.
 - 2) **Corporate Board:** The strategy has been reviewed three times by Corporate Board, in February, March and June 2020. The strategy was endorsed at the June meeting.
 - 3) **Operations Board:** The strategy was reviewed and approved by Operations Board on 2nd July 2020.
 - 4) **OSMC - Digital Task Group:** and requested some amendments regarding the need to resource the strategy adequately, to complete the “Measures of Success” section and to define the Councils policy regarding commercial off the shelf software vs bespoke development. All of these amendments have been incorporated into the version for ID approval.

5. Other options considered

- 5.1 The option of combining a detailed delivery plan within the strategy was considered, but the various governance groups agreed that these are best kept as separate documents.

6. Introduction/Background

- 6.1 The WBC Digital Strategy 2020 -2023 supersedes the previous ICT & Digital Services Strategy 2017-2020.
- 6.2 The strategy outlines how the Council will embrace digital techniques to change how the organisation works and to improve its communications and service delivery.
- 6.3 Modern digital initiatives have a key role in ensuring these services are delivered as efficiently and effectively as possible and in improving engagement and interaction with all of its stakeholders.

7. Supporting Information

- 7.1 Copy of Version 6.1-1 of the WBC Digital Strategy 2020-2023 provided with this report.

8. Options for Consideration

8.1 Formal approval of strategy by Portfolio Member Individual Decision.

9. Proposals

9.1 That the new WBC Digital Strategy 2020-2023 be approved by Individual Decision

10. Conclusion

10.1 The new digital strategy has been developed with significant consultation and scrutiny and the final result has been received well by all governance boards. It will be used to set the direction of the Council's digital developments over the next four years

Background Papers:

None

Subject to Call-In:

Yes: No:

Wards affected:

All

Strategic Priorities Supported:

The proposals contained in this report will help to achieve the following Council Strategy priorities:

- PC1: Ensure our vulnerable children and adults achieve better outcomes**
- PC2: Support everyone to reach their full potential**
- OFB1: Support businesses to start, develop and thrive in West Berkshire**
- GP1: Develop local infrastructure to support and grow the local economy**
- GP2: Maintain a green district**
- SIT1: Ensure sustainable services through innovation and partnerships**

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11. Appendices

Appendix A – West Berkshire Council Digital Strategy 2020 – 2023