CABINET
COUNCIL

<div align="right">**25TH NOVEMBER 2004**
6TH DECEMEBER 2004</div>

IMPLEMENTING ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT STATEMENT 2004
(Report by the Head of Information Management)

1.   INTRODUCTION

1.1   The purpose of this report is to highlight a number of issues arising from this year's submission of the Council's Implementing Electronic Government (IEG) Statement and to seek approval to submit the IEG statement by the OPDM deadline of 20th December 2004.

2.   SUPPORTING/BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1   The Council is required to submit a statement of progress against electronic government targets to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) on an annual basis. Statements were submitted in 2001, 2002 and 2003. In return the Council received capital grants of, respectively, £200k, £200k and £350k. In return for a "satisfactory" submission in 2004 the Council will receive a capital grant of £150k.

2.2   The 2004 statement is again based on self-assessment and is designed around the National Strategy for e-Government (see background information below).

2.3   This year's submission is informed by the ODPM's "Defining e-government outcomes for 2005 to support the delivery of priority services & national strategy transformation agenda for local authorities in England". This document sets out "Priority Outcomes" which each local authority, as part of its e-Government investment programme, is expected to deliver by December 2005.

2.4   The final guidance notes "Priority Outcomes: Explanatory Notes for Practitioners" from the ODPM have only been made available recently (September 2004). In order to meet the December deadline and also to put the IEG through the Council's consultation and approval process, the document is undergoing final modification during the approval process. Even so, there has been inadequate time to fully analyse and debate the implications arising from the commitments being sought. As a consequence, we have declined to commit ourselves to a number of elements within the required timescales. Whether this will affect the IEG grant given to us next year is unclear - in general we anticipate that we will meet the majority of priority outcomes within the required timescales.

2.5   The document was compiled by the Customer First Team and input has been sought from a number of services within the Council.

2.6   As for previous Implementing Electronic Government (IEG) statements, successful implementation will depend on timely and sufficient input from all parts of the Council.

3.   RECOMMENDATION

3.1   It is recommended that Council approves the submission of the attached Implementing Electronic Government (IEG) statement.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The National Strategy for eGovernment
(http://www.localegov.gov.uk/Nimoi/sites/ODMP/resources/20021127%20Final%20NS%20with%20cover.pdf)

Priority Outcomes: Explanatory Notes for Practitioners
(http://www.localegov.gov.uk/Nimoi/sites/ODMP/resources/PO%20Latest.pdf)

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