IMPLEMENTING ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT STATEMENT 2005 (Report by the Head of Information Management)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to submit the Council's Implementing Electronic Government Statement (IEG 4.5) by the OPDM deadline of 18th July 2005.

2. SUPPORTING / BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Council has been required in previous years to submit a statement of progress against e-government targets to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) annually. Statements were submitted in 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004. In return the Council received capital grants of, respectively, £200k, £350k and £150k.
- 2.2 In this final year the ODPM has instigated an ongoing monitoring exercise, hence the requirement to submit a mid-term report and ongoing updates throughout the remainder of the IEG Programme (to the end of March 2006).
- 2.3 The ODPM has set key dates for Local Authorities to help meet the December 2005 deadline. These include:
 - 18th July mid-term IEG snapshot (IEG 4.5)
 - December 2005 deadline for IEG5
 - April 2006 deadline for IEG6 end of programme return.

From this year through to 31st March 2006, all authorities are required to input and maintain IEG data in real time via the ESD toolkit (www.esd-toolkit.org). This will allow them to sign off and complete the IEG self-assessment "traffic lights" as projects are actually implemented. The 4.5 mid-term statement is again based on self-assessment and is designed around the National Strategy for e-Government.

- 2.3 The submission is also again in a prescribed format. It sets out "Priority Outcomes" which each local authority is expected to deliver by December 2005 as part of its e-Government investment programme.
- In order to meet the July deadline, the document is undergoing final modification during the approval process. The sections which are still subject to change are:

Section 1 - Priority Outcomes

A number of priority outcomes (six of the 73 on which we are required to report) are under review and awaiting an update.

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Section 3 - BVPI 157

The data needed to complete the 04/05 column are being collected from the services at the moment. As a result the figures in this column are incomplete. A verbal update will be provided at cabinet on 30th June, at which point we expect performance to be on track and in line with the forecast 72% reported in IEG 4. We will forecast the 05/06 column based on the results of the 04/05 column. We will no longer be forecasting 100%, though, because some of the "Priority Outcomes" are not actually priorities for HDC and we will not be implementing them in 2005/6.

Section 4 - Access Channels

The information contained within this table is last year's estimates, and the BVPI data from the services will generate the access channel figures as well.

- 2.5 The document was compiled by the Customer First Team and input has been sought from a number of services within the Council (these are noted within the IEG statement).
- 2.6 As for previous IEG statements, successful implementation will depend on timely and sufficient input from all parts of the Council.
- 2.7 The Council has permission from the OPDM to submit a Cabinet-approved IEG 4.5 by 18th July, provided this is followed by the approval of the full Council in September.

3. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- approves the submission of the IEG 4.5 statement to ODPM
- authorises the Director of Commerce & Technology, in consultation with the Executive Councillor for Operations and Information Technology, to make the necessary changes to finalise the statement prior to its submission
- notes the requirement for Council to approve the final document at its meeting on 28th September 2005.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The National Strategy for eGovernment

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

Defining e-Government Outcomes for 2005 to support the delivery of priority services & National Strategy Transformation Agenda for Local Authorities in England (http://www.localegov.gov.uk/en/1/priorityoutcomes.html)

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