Committee Report

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CUSTOMER FIRST ADVISORY GROUP
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY (PLANNING AND FINANCE)
CABINET
COUNCIL

22ND NOVEMBER 2005 29TH NOVEMBER 2005 12TH DECEMBER 2005 15TH DECEMBER 2005 22ND FEBRUARY 2006

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 IEG 5 statement by the OPDM deadline of 19th December 2005.

2. SUPPORTING / BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Council is required to submit a statement of progress against e-government targets to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) each year. Statements were submitted in 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004. In return the Council received capital grants of, respectively, £200k, £200k, £350k and £150k.
- 2.2 In this final year the ODPM has instigated a monitoring exercise, hence the requirement to submit a mid-term report (IEG 4.5 submitted in June 2005) 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 deadlines. These include:
 - 19th December 2005 deadline for IEG5
 - April 2006 deadline for IEG6 end of programme return.

From this year through to 31 March 2006, all authorities will be able to input and maintain IEG data in real time via the ESD toolkit¹. This will allow them to sign off and complete the IEG self-assessment "traffic lights" as projects are actually implemented. This statement is again based on self-assessment and is designed around the National Strategy for e-Government.

- 2.4 The submission is again 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 is expected to deliver by March 2006 as part of its e-Government investment programme.
- 2.5 The final guidance notes "Priority Outcomes: Explanatory Notes for Practitioners" from the ODPM have only been made available recently (September 2005). In order to meet the December deadline and to progress the IEG through the Council's consultation & approval process, the document has undergone final modification during the approval process.
- 2.6 The colour indications and dates given in sections 1 and 2 refer to the status of the Priority Outcome/Transformation Area and should be interpreted as follows:

¹ The ESD Toolkit is a website which allows collection of Electronic Service Delivery Data across all Local Authorities.

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Where Status reads	Date means
Red	Date implementation planning/assessment began
Amber	Date started to implement
Green	Date implementation complete

The IEG statement has been generated from the ESD toolkit and the dates cannot be easily removed.

2.7 In addition, there are two sections which contain the same data as in previous submissions:

Section 3 BVPI 157

There is no statutory requirement to re-assess this data until March 2006. Therefore this section remains the same as the projections given in IEG 4.5 in June 2005.

Section 4 Access Channels

The information contained within this table is last year's estimates, as the BVPI 157 data from the services generates the access channel figures as well. The document was compiled by the Customer First Team and input has been sought from a number of services within the Council.

- 2.8 As for previous IEG statements, successful implementation will depend on timely and sufficient input from all parts of the Council.
- 2.9 The Council has permission from the OPDM to submit a Cabinet-approved IEG5 by the 19th December provided this is followed by the approval of the full Council in February. ODPM's late provision of the guidance has forced this approach.

3. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

- Cabinet approves the submission of the attached Implementing Electronic Government (IEG) statement.
- Council confirms 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)

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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