

Birmingham City Council

Cabinet

19 March 2024



Subject: Acivico Further Contract Extension – Updated Deferred Report

Commissioner Review

This report demonstrates, that despite clear instructions from Cabinet in 2018 and a number of times subsequently, officers failed to implement and report on those instructions. This has led to several supposed short-term expedient decisions, which then needed officer action, to properly regularise the position. This failed to happen. Even after the intervention of the Deputy Leader, and subsequently Commissioners, BCC seems to have found it impossible to produce a report that meets good local government standards.

This report presumes that the Council would want Acivico to continue if it can deliver value for money, competitive services that are valued by its clients. On that basis, the recommendations are the only ones that can deliver that outcome. However, it also demonstrates how far the Council must go if it is to deliver on the pledges made by the Leader at the budget Council on the way this Council will operate.

The council must formulate the long-term strategy for the delivery of these services, ensuring they are fit for purpose and adhere to performance metrics and governance models.

Commissioners will explicitly review the progress made on the above actions. It will be a useful test case on the changes required by the Direction regime on culture and governance.