

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**PUBLIC REPORT**

<b>Report to: Cabinet</b>	<b>CABINET</b>
<b>Report of:</b> <b>Date of Decision:</b>	<b>Director of Change and Support Services</b> <b>18 October 2016</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL INFORMATION &amp; COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY &amp; DIGITAL STRATEGY (2016 - 2021)</b>
<b>Key Decision: Yes</b>	<b>Relevant Forward Plan Ref: 002195/2016</b>
<b>If not in the Forward Plan: (please "X" box)</b>	<b>Chief Executive approved</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>O&amp;S Chairman approved</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member(s):</b>	<b>Councillor Ian Ward - Deputy Leader</b>
<b>Relevant O&amp;S Chairman:</b>	<b>Councillor Mohammed Aikhlaq – Chair of Corporate Resources and Governance O&amp;S Committee</b>
<b>Wards affected:</b>	<b>All</b>

<b>1. Purpose of report:</b>						
<p>1.1 To seek approval of the Birmingham City Council (BCC) Information &amp; Communications Technology and Digital (ICT&amp;D) Strategy (2016-2021) (Appendix A2) which will guide the prudent use, maintenance and development of the Councils ICT assets beyond the end of the existing Service Birmingham contract in 2021.</p> <p>1.2 To seek approval, within the strategy, of the following the six themes of:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. Integrated ICT &amp; Digital Services</td> <td>4. Commissioning</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Digital Facilitation</td> <td>5. Governance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Insight</td> <td>6. Innovation</td> </tr> </table> <p>1.3 To inform Cabinet that the implementation of the strategy will be monitored by The Deputy Leader’s Corporate ICT Programme Board (see Appendix A3) and that the annual update to the strategy and updates on the implementation programmes will be brought before Cabinet each year.</p> <p>1.4 To inform Cabinet that a subsequent report seeking approval for the associated investment plan will be brought before Cabinet in due course.</p>	1. Integrated ICT & Digital Services	4. Commissioning	2. Digital Facilitation	5. Governance	3. Insight	6. Innovation
1. Integrated ICT & Digital Services	4. Commissioning					
2. Digital Facilitation	5. Governance					
3. Insight	6. Innovation					
<b>2. Decision(s) recommended:</b>						
<p>That Cabinet:-</p> <p>2.1 Approves the adoption of the ICT &amp; Digital Strategy (2016 - 2021) (Appendix A2).</p> <p>2.2 Approves the adoption of the six key strategy themes that will drive and underpin future strategic ICT direction and investment:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. Integrated ICT &amp; Digital Services</td> <td>4. Commissioning</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Digital Facilitation</td> <td>5. Governance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Insight</td> <td>6. Innovation</td> </tr> </table> <p>2.3 Notes that a subsequent report seeking approval for the associated investment plan will be brought before Cabinet in due course.</p>	1. Integrated ICT & Digital Services	4. Commissioning	2. Digital Facilitation	5. Governance	3. Insight	6. Innovation
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<b>Lead Contact Officer(s):</b> <b>Telephone No:</b> <b>E-mail address:</b>	Andy Fullard, Interim Information and Technology Director 0121 303 2550 andy.fullard@birmingham.gov.uk
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**3. Consultation**

Consultation should include those that have an interest in the decisions recommended.

3.1 Internal

Senior officers in Finance, Legal and Procurement have been consulted. The Deputy Leader (the portfolio holder) and the Chair of Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee have been consulted regarding the contents of this report and they have raised no objections to this progressing to an executive decision.

3.2 External

We have carried out a wide external consultation – encompassing commercial partners (Leisure trusts, Acivico and Amey). A full list of consultees is given in Appendix A1 and their comments have been included in the strategy as appropriate.

**4. Compliance Issues**

4.1 Are the recommended decisions consistent with the Council's policies, plans and strategies?

The Council's objectives and priorities as detailed in the Council Business Plan and Budget 2016+ will be supported by the development, approval and adoption of this ICT & Digital Strategy (2016 - 2021).

4.2 Financial Implications  
(Will decisions be carried out within existing finance and resources?)

The strategy has been prepared within existing resources by the Intelligent Client Function, with the assistance of Service Birmingham. There are no direct financial implications arising from the adoption of this strategy, however, to support its delivery, resources are included in the Council Business Plan & Budget 2016+. A subsequent report will seek approval to progress the IT investment plan and the associated governance arrangements supporting its delivery.

4.3 Legal Implications

- The city council will carry out this work under the General Power of Competence. Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011
- The second delivery programme (ICT Transition) will involve the expiration of the Service Birmingham partnership with Capita and a transition to a new ICT delivery arrangement. Advice will be taken from Legal as necessary

4.4 Public Sector Equality Duty (see separate guidance note)

A BCC Equality Analysis has been undertaken [EA001412] (Appendix A3) and demonstrates no material impact on seven out of the nine protected characteristics.

The potentially affected characteristics are:

- Disability (specifically- the use of ICT-related equipment)
- Ethnicity (more specifically - language)

BCC will take reasonable measures to ensure that it provides digital services that remain accessible to organisations and individuals regardless of personal differences due to disability, age, or ethnicity. If any issues arise that have not been identified as part of this analysis, the council will take reasonable remedial action as soon as is practicable.

## **5. Relevant background/chronology of key events:**

Please see Appendix A1

## **6. Evaluation of alternative option(s):**

### **6.1 Do Nothing** - It would be possible to continue as is, however:

- The Council would still need to make provision for the end of the Service Birmingham contract, meaning that the ICT Transition Programme must be delivered
- As ICT is a key enabler for the Future Council, not delivering the key areas of the ICTD Strategy would negatively impact on its success.
- There is an existing rolling programme of updates to, and replacement of, ICT & Digital assets as the Council's hardware and software components reach the end of their service and support lives. The implications of this are that the Investment programme will need to be delivered to ensure the Council's network and wider ICT estate functions effectively

### **6.2 Develop and deliver the ICT & Digital Strategy**

As the Council is already committed to both of the delivery programmes, to some extent, it would be advantageous to carry out this work, aligned with the organisation's strategic goals (Business Architecture) in mind.

**7. Reasons for Decision(s):**

- 7.1 By approving (and implementing) the strategy, the Council has an opportunity to:
- Improve the structure of its ICT architecture, aligning it with the services to be commissioned and delivered either by the Future Council, or jointly with private individuals or other public and third sector partners – as well as suppliers
  - Having a strategy and an associated Enterprise Architecture will ensure that both delivery programmes “cleanse” the Council’s ICT & Digital estate; eliminating duplication, inefficiencies, as well as reducing cost
  - Make a controlled transition in the management of its ICT & Digital services out beyond 2021 and the life of the Service Birmingham Contract

Other benefits of adopting and implementing the strategy are associated with the six themes given in Appendix A1, section 5.1.2.

**Signatures**

**Date**

Deputy Leader  
Portfolio Holder for ICT

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Councillor Ian Ward

Director for Change  
and Support Services

.....  
Angela Probert

**List of Background Documents used to compile this Report:**

- “The way forward: an independent review of the governance and organisational capabilities of Birmingham City Council” – Sir Bob Kerslake
- Council Budget & Business Plan 2016+
- ICT & Digital Strategy (2016-2021) Consultation Log

**List of Appendices accompanying this Report (if any):**

- A1. Background Information to this report
- A2. Birmingham City Council - ICT & Digital Strategy (2016 - 2021)
- A3. Equalities Analysis [EA001412]
- A4. [Deputy Leader’s Corporate] ICT Programme Board - Terms of Reference

<b>Report Version</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>Dated</b>	<b>07 October 2016</b>
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## **PROTOCOL PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY**

- 1 The public sector equality duty drives the need for equality assessments (Initial and Full). An initial assessment should, be prepared from the outset based upon available knowledge and information.
- 2 If there is no adverse impact then that fact should be stated within the Report at section 4.4 and the initial assessment document appended to the Report duly signed and dated. A summary of the statutory duty is annexed to this Protocol and should be referred to in the standard section (4.4) of executive reports for decision and then attached in an appendix; the term 'adverse impact' refers to any decision-making by the Council which can be judged as likely to be contrary in whole or in part to the equality duty.
- 3 A full assessment should be prepared where necessary and consultation should then take place.
- 4 Consultation should address any possible adverse impact upon service users, providers and those within the scope of the report; questions need to assist to identify adverse impact which might be contrary to the equality duty and engage all such persons in a dialogue which might identify ways in which any adverse impact might be avoided or, if avoidance is not possible, reduced.
- 5 Responses to the consultation should be analysed in order to identify:
  - (a) whether there is adverse impact upon persons within the protected categories
  - (b) what is the nature of this adverse impact
  - (c) whether the adverse impact can be avoided and at what cost – and if not –
  - (d) what mitigating actions can be taken and at what cost
- 6 The impact assessment carried out at the outset will need to be amended to have due regard to the matters in (4) above.
- 7 Where there is adverse impact the final Report should contain:
  - a summary of the adverse impact and any possible mitigating actions (in section 4.4 or an appendix if necessary)
  - the full equality impact assessment (as an appendix)
  - the equality duty – see page 9 (as an appendix).

## Equality Act 2010

The Executive must have due regard to the public sector equality duty when considering Council reports for decision.

The public sector equality duty is as follows:

1	<p>The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act;</li><li>(b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;</li><li>(c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.</li></ul>
2	<p>Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;</li><li>(b) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;</li><li>(c) encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.</li></ul>
3	<p>The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.</p>
4	<p>Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) tackle prejudice, and</li><li>(b) promote understanding.</li></ul>
5	<p>The relevant protected characteristics are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) age</li><li>(b) disability</li><li>(c) gender reassignment</li><li>(d) pregnancy and maternity</li><li>(e) race</li><li>(f) religion or belief</li><li>(g) sex</li><li>(h) sexual orientation</li></ul>