Central Bedfordshire Council

AUDIT COMMITTEE   3 April 2017

Update of ICT Disaster Recovery (DR) Plan

Report of: Stephan Conaway, Chief Information Officer
(stephan.conaway@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

This report relates to current plans for recovery of the Council's IT operations after a major outage at one of the Council's Data Centres.

Purpose of this report

To update the Audit Committee on current plans for disaster recovery (DR) and to inform the Committee of the changing nature of DR

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Audit Committee to review and to note the changes in the DR environment and the work that is on-going in IT and to comment on these plans as it sees as appropriate.

Issues

1.   This report on ICT DR planning was requested by the Audit Committee as an update to how changes in external hosting arrangements are affecting CBC IT DR planning.

2.   The original plan from 2016 has now been updated with the progress of moving applications to externally hosted sites thus reducing dependency on the on-site DR recovery process.

3.   The migration to externally hosted data services does bring with it new challenges, but in terms of Disaster Recovery, it eases the challenges that would have been faced through internal systems loss.

4.   Applications progressed since the last report are:-

   * CBC email services, migration to Microsoft cloud based services to be completed by end of April 2017.
   * Office documents - hosted in Box
   * Telephony – hosted by Vodafone
   * SAP finance (HANA S4) – scheduled completion May 2018
   * SAP HR – success factors – scheduled completion June 2017

Corporate Implications

Legal Implications

5.   No changes from existing arrangements

Financial and Risk Implications

6.   Move to cloud hosting, when established, is targeted to provide the same or somewhat reduced total cost base for the organisation.

7.   Targeted is an overall reduction in risk to the Council through the use of more modern technologies and a professional hosting environment.

Equalities Implications

8.   N/A

Implications for Work Programming

9.   N/A

Appendices:

Appendix A - ICT DR Plan (Current Architecture)

Background Papers:

None