

SHADOW EXECUTIVE

28 OCTOBER 2008

SUBJECT	IMPLEMENTATION PLAN MONITORING REPORT – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT ON ICT TRANSITION ISSUES (To consider issues emerging from an independent review of the ICT transition programme of works)
REPORT OF	Director of Corporate Resources
<i>Contact Officer: Clive Heaphy (01462 611421)</i>	

IMPLICATIONS

SUSTAINABILITY	N/A
FINANCIAL	Additional costs from the continuing work of Deloitte, yet to be determined.
LEGAL	None arising from this report
PERSONNEL/EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES	None arising from this report
COMMUNITY DEV/SAFETY	None arising from this report
TRADES UNION	None arising from this report
HUMAN RIGHTS	None arising from this report
KEY ISSUE	No
BUDGET/POLICY FRAMEWORK	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO REPORT

Report of Deloitte & Touche – attached as Appendix A.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

See main report.

<i>Reason for Recommendation: To provide assurance to Shadow Executive that the ICT programme will deliver the necessary systems and applications support to Central Bedfordshire Council to enable it to provide a full range of services from 1 April 2009.</i>

Background

1. The successful launch of Central Bedfordshire Council on 1 April 2009 is highly dependent upon its ICT infrastructure, network and applications being established and operational from the outset.
2. It is also highly dependent upon the transfer of relevant data from its predecessor bodies to Central Bedfordshire in a timely and accurate manner.
3. Because of the high dependency of this area of transition and known issues around two major applications (SAP and Swift), members of the Shadow

Executive at their meeting of 30 September 2008, requested that a further report be considered in wider transition issues in relation to the overall programme of works.

4. Deloitte were asked to undertake a short piece of work from an independent perspective to review the programme of works, the management of that programme any factors which may jeopardise the implementation of that programme and hence cause operational problems after 1 April 2009.
5. Their report is attached at Appendix A.

Summary of Key findings

6. The report was undertaken in short time at a high level and was not intended to be a thorough review of detailed project elements.
7. Positive aspects of the findings were the extensive nature of the work undertaken to date, the adoption of leading practice and future-proofing (which enable future services transformation to take place / cost efficiencies to be recognised) and the security and sizing of the infrastructure.
8. However, the report was less positive when it came to the prioritisation of the critical elements of service solutions, visible programme co-ordination activities and plans and the closeness of working relationship between the three Councils, particularly around shared service activities.
9. The report made 6 recommendations, all of which were accepted by the Officer Programme Board at its meeting of 22 October 2008.
10. Central to the actions proposed was an immediate review of the programme in order to reaffirm the critical elements required by Vesting Day, a de-scoping of certain non-critical projects to a later phase of the ICT programme and stronger leadership of the programme by the new Management Team through the Director of Corporate Resources.
11. Deloitte will be asked to maintain a continued high level presence acting as a critical friend to the ICT Team in ensuring that resources are applied in a way which ensures that there is no deviation from the agreed programme and that issues are resolved without undue delay.

Background Papers: None specific
Location of Papers: Director of Corporate Resources' office, Priory House, Chicksands
File Reference: CG3A