

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

Council

23 September 2020

DIGITAL STRATEGY 2020-2024

Report of: Susan Parker - Head of Programmes, Redesign & Quality

Portfolio:

Cabinet Lead for Communications - Cllr Alex Rennie

Head of Service: Susan Parker

Director: Lydia Morrison

Key Decision: Yes

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1. To note the approval of the Digital Strategy for Havant Borough Council

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 That the Council notes the approval of the Digital Strategy 2020-2024.

3.0 Executive Summary

3.1 A delegated decision to approve the Digital Strategy was made by the Leader of the Council on 15 April 2020, with the recommendation that Full Council would note the strategy at the earliest opportunity.

3.2 The approval of the strategy was important in order to provide the framework for requirements which became business critical as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and national lockdown.

3.3 In the period between April and September, officers have been able to continue to provide services from wherever they are located, and importantly, Councillors have been able to resume meetings through video and hybrid arrangements.

4.0 Budgetary Implications

4.1 The Digital Strategy is entirely business case and evidence-based driven and as such, resources will be considered on a case-by-case basis. £265k Capital receipts have been ring-fenced for delivery, subject to business case approval.

4.2 The council will also pursue national transformation funding opportunities where available to supplement business cases. We will seek to share costs with partners, ROI from released costs, undertake sound procurement and adhere to the Finance Strategy (MTFS).

5.0 Background and relationship to the Corporate Strategy and Directorate Business Plan/s

5.1 The Digital Strategy is one of the main enablers to deliver the theme of Sustainable Council as defined in the corporate strategy for the Council.

6.0 Options considered and reasons for the recommendation

6.1. A piecemeal approach could be adopted to deliver projects on an individual basis. However, this is highly likely to be more costly and dependencies across systems may be overlooked which will limit the transformation opportunities for the Council.

7.0 Resource Implications

7.1. Capita are our 3rd Party ICT provider and certain initiatives will require their resources.

8.0 Legal Implications

8.1. None.

9. Risks

9.1 As implementation progresses the following risk factors will require mitigation:

- Capita resources
- Change management – skills and confidence
- Health & safety considerations
- Competitive funding environment
- IT business as usual service

10.0 Consultation

10.1. The IT User Group, Executive Board and Cabinet have been consulted on the development of this strategy.

11. Communication

11.1. Communication plans will be managed through the wider transformation objectives of the Council.

12. Appendices

Appendix A – Printed Decision – Approval of the Digital Strategy

Appendix B – Digital Strategy – Delegated Decision

Appendix C – Digital Strategy 2020-2024

Appendix D – Digital Glossary