Performance & Capacity Advisory Panel

Thursday 5th March 2009

CHESHIRE EAST ICT STRATEGY BRIEFING NOTE

Business Context

Cheshire East has the opportunity to break new ground in using Information & Communications Technology to improve processes. More importantly, it can bring about improvements for citizens in their daily lives. It used to be said that ICT is a key enabler of local authority services. Now it is more than that – it is at the heart of everything the Council does. The ICT Strategy (Appendix 1) has been drafted to set out this agenda for Members, staff, partners and the general public. The local agenda is a key component.

The nature and shape of the Strategy

The Strategy follows the outline agreed by Cabinet which is based on recommendations by the Gartner Group - specialist ICT analysts.

Technical Strategies

It was noted at a Cabinet Briefing in February that an ICT Strategy is a high level document which is supported by a range of technical strategies. At the Cabinet Briefing a template for the Strategy was agreed. The Strategy has now been drafted accordingly. Four of the technical documents have also been produced and appear as appendices to the main Strategy.

- Applications – Appendix A
- Infrastructure – Appendix B
- Finance – Appendix C
- Information Management – Appendix D

The Security Policy has also already been drafted and is the subject of separate consideration. Other technical strategy documents in the course of production are:

- Electronic Desktop Roadmap
- Flexible & Mobile Working Strategy
- Data Centre Services
- Digital connectivity – including a policy on the enablement of local communities

Principal milestones for development of the strategy

March 2009   draft Strategy to cabinet to agree content
March 2009   add graphics and illustrations; publish on website
March 2009   first technical strategies available
April 2009   produce printed version
April 2009   engagement of partners
July 2009   completion of high priority technical strategies
March 2010   review of Strategy and achievements; update