

Committee(s)	Dated:
Finance Committee	15 February 2022
Subject: Report of the Work of the Sub-Committee(s)	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	N/A
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	Y/N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Town Clerk	For Information
Report author: John Cater, Committee Clerk, Finance Committee	

Summary

On 19 July 2016, the Finance Committee agreed that, in addition to draft minutes of Sub-Committee meetings, short reports be provided to advise the Committee of the main issues considered by the Sub-Committees at recent meetings. This report sets out some of the main public issues considered by the following Sub Committees since 25th January 2022:

Digital Services Sub-Committee – 28th January 2022

IT Priority Programmes and Capital Bids 22/23 – Presentation

The Sub-Committee received a presentation updating on Core Programme Themes during 2021-23 and IT Capital Bids 2022-23, with bids being subject to Capital Programme Approval by Court of Common Council in February 2022.

Members noted that a refresh of Member devices would take place following the City-wide elections being held in March 2022. Security and compliance remained a key focus for the team with an upgrade to E5 Microsoft licensing a significant step forward in this regard and mitigating against the ongoing threat. Efforts remained ongoing in looking to enhance the range of services on offer through IT.

It was noted that a number of capital and annual cycle bids had been submitted from across a number of IT areas focussed on priorities against agreed criteria, but no official view on this until approval of the budget by Court of Common Council.

The Chairman questioned whether the plans included tools to reflect the new ways of working e.g., home working. The Chamberlain responded and explained how the IT service had now been set up to offer direct provision and set up of IT equipment from the supplier to speed up service deployment. This was part of a look ahead to the next generation in serving and supporting people in a range of different settings including the office, out on site, or at home.

A Member, also Chairman of Finance Committee, stressed how it was vital to get the right level of oversight and to understand how IT provision would interact with the Energy Reduction Programme.

Members noted that the presentation offered a high-level overview showing the current portfolio of work, how it was funded and current status. IT has a key supporting role in providing the necessary tech for the organisational vision for new ways of working as part of the Target Operating Model. The next 3-6 months would see the team focus on a core programme of activities in responding to more agile and flexible working patterns.

Members stressed the importance of a lead officer for Modern.gov in support of paperless working moving forward, which the IT Director agreed to follow up on. The IT Director assured Members that Modern.gov training would be a key feature of the new Member induction programme following the elections. The Chairman added that there was a need to look at providing access to confidential papers through modern.gov.

Members noted the update.

Finance Grants Oversight & Performance Sub-Committee – 14th February

Summary to be provided at the FC meeting on 15th February.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to note the report.

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