CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

19th April 2021

COUNCILLOR LUCY SHIRES CABINET MEMBER FOR ORGANISATIONAL RESOURCES

For the period February 2021 to April 2021

1   Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Implementation of the infrastructure to support Microsoft 365 continues. This will align all elements of the Council's systems in preparation for roll out of the user improvements to email and office Applications and the sharing of information within NNDC.

The transition to cloud based email with its improved access and capacity for storage of email will be complete by August 2021.

The end of year IT activities to support HR, Finance and Revenues and Benefits has been completed successfully.

The IT teams support for Covid 19 related grants and payments continues.

The Planning System updates work has continued and the work is currently being undertaken to complete the updates to the system.

Work continues to integrate the NNDC Mobile application with the Customer Relationship Management system. Although this has taken longer than anticipated due to problems with third party software. When this is complete the Application will be made available to volunteers to complete the testing before it is launched on the relevant "App Stores" to make it available to users of Android and Apple mobile devices.

The Council has successfully undertaken its annual security assessment to allow connection to the Public Sector Network. This included work to remove the last few Windows 7 PC's/Laptops left in the Council.

Recent work on the Council's website has significantly improved its Accessibility. The Councils website is now just outside the top 30 of all Council sites. Further work will continue to improve this rating further.

In addition, the Council's web access security systems have been upgraded to maintain the security and performance of the Council's IT infrastructure.

The Environment website framework has been provided to allow content to be curated and published by Officers. Additional functionality will be added as it is developed.

A free to access online mapping system is being developed to allow Parish & Town Councils, and other partners, to view and print maps of the district for their local use.

2   Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Works to complete the enhanced back up and Business Continuity infrastructure linking data between Cromer and Fakenham in near real time synchronisation will be completed in May/June and subsequently tested.

Further webforms will be rolled out allowing members of the public to access facilities provided by the new Waste Management Contract including the booking of bulky waste collections.

The roll out if the Environmental Health service upgrade will continue.

The project to replace the Council's financial management IT system will commence.

The implementation and testing of the upgraded Planning system will be completed. Further modules including on-site Building Control application and Section 106 management system will be implemented.

IT will be providing support for the electoral process for the May 6th Elections.

3   Meetings attended

Norfolk Office of Data Analytics – Cross Norfolk data sharing/management initiative.