E-GOVERNMENT STRATEGY - UPDATE

1   SUMMARY

1.1   This report is to update Members on the Council's E-Government Strategy.

2   INTRODUCTION

2.1   All Council's were required to submit an Implementing Electronic Government (IEG) Statement to the Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions by July 2001.

2.2   The Council's IS/ICT Strategy 2001/02 to 2005/06 & Electronic Service Delivery Strategy 2001/02 to 2005/06 was approved at Full Council on 24 April 2001. Section 5 of the Strategy was submitted to the DTLR as the Council's IEG Statement in May 2001.

2.3   All IEG statements were then assessed by the DTLR using criteria agreed by the Local Government Association (LGA), Improvement and Development Agency (IDEA), Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) and Society of Information Technology Managers (SOCITM).

3   UPDATE

3.1   The Chief Executive has received a letter dated 5 October 2001 from the DTLR thanking the Council and those Officers, Members and Partners involved in formulating the Council's IEG. The DTLR were also pleased to advise that the Council's IEG had been assessed and was satisfactory

3.2   Two areas are identified where improvements to the IEG Statement are required. These relate to a need for greater detail on implementation of the strategy and information about participation in national projects.

3.3   The DTLR hopes that the Council will be able to demonstrate good progress towards resolving these shortcomings over the next twelve months as future Local Government Online (LGOL) allocations will be dependent on the Council doing so.

3.4   The DTLR intends to produce a national and local strategy, which will include indications on how these resources will be distributed. This will form part of a forthcoming White Paper on Local Government.

3.5   The DTLR will be producing a model IEG Statement based on the 400 or so submitted IEG Statements to help Councils review their current Statement and identify opportunities for further improvement.

3.6   The DTLR are holding a series of regional workshops in November to provide feedback on the IEG.

4   RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

4.1   Satisfactory assessment of the IEG statement qualifies the Council for a share of the LGOL resources allocated to local authorities. It is not yet clear whether this will amount to a cash allocation or credit approval.

4.2   In adopting its IS/ICT Strategy the Council acknowledged that implementing the IEG Statement would have considerable resource implications and progress depends on the level of funding available.

5   RECOMMENDATION

It is proposed that the Sub-Committee **RECOMMENDS**

That Officers review the Council's IEG Statement and IS/IT Strategy in the light of the comments received from the Department of Transport Local Government and the Regions and report back to Council once funding levels are known. (CD(LPA))

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Background Papers:

Letter from DTLR dated 5 October 2001

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