

## **SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Cabinet
<b>DATE:</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> May 2022
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Recommendation from Overview & Scrutiny - Initial ICT Improvement Programme
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Nicholas Pontone, Democratic Services Lead
<b>WARD(S):</b>	All
<b>PORTFOLIO:</b>	James Swindlehurst, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Forward Strategy & Corporate Resources
<b>KEY DECISION:</b>	No
<b>EXEMPT:</b>	No
<b>DECISION SUBJECT TO CALL IN:</b>	No

### **1. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 This report includes a recommendation from the Overview & Scrutiny Committee from its meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 in relation to the Initial ICT Improvement Programme.
- 1.2 The Committee scrutinised the Cabinet report and resolutions of 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022 on the ICT Improvement Programme and agreed to make the following recommendation to Cabinet:  
  
*“That the Committee support the proposed hybrid approach of building both in-house capacity and securing an ICT partner be supported in principle, but that key data storage and management hardware and systems be kept in-house.”*
- 1.3 The Cabinet is requested to agree it’s response to the Committee’s recommendation, taking into account the Officer’s comments in paragraph 3.2 of this report.
- 1.4 The Committee also requested that it receive an update on the progress and future phases in Quarter 3 of 2022/23, aligned to the Cabinet reporting timescale, and this will be added to the Overview & Scrutiny work programme.

### **2. Recommendations:**

Cabinet is recommended to:

- Note the recommendation from the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and agree a response, taking account of the Officer’s comments in paragraph 3.2.

## Reasons for Recommendations:

The Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules require the Cabinet to consider and respond to any recommendations from scrutiny at the earliest opportunity.

### 3. Report

#### Introduction

3.1 At its meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 the Overview & Scrutiny Committee gave detailed consideration to the Initial ICT Improvement Plan following its approval by Cabinet on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022. The Committee expressed support for the programme as a whole and recognised the importance of improving ICT as part of the Council's recovery plan. The following recommendation was made by the Committee to Cabinet: *"That the Committee support the proposed hybrid approach of building both in-house capacity and securing an ICT partner be supported in principle, but that key data storage and management hardware and systems be kept in-house."*

#### 3.2. Officer's Response to recommendation

The ICT management team provide the following comments to the Cabinet in considering the scrutiny recommendation.

*"The systems used in relation to data storage and management will be dependent on the solution that the Council commissions through the various procurement routes, although the plan is expected to be based around 'cloud appropriate' solutions. An update will be provided to Cabinet and scrutiny in the follow up report later in the year."*

#### 4 Implications of the Recommendations

The financial, legal, risk management and other implications of the Initial ICT Improvement Plan were set out fully in the report to Cabinet of 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022:

<https://democracy.slough.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=105&MId=6828>