

Motherwell, 15 May 2019 at 2 pm.

A Meeting of the **TRANSFORMATION AND DIGITALISATION COMMITTEE**

PRESENT

Councillor Duffy, Convener; Councillor Fisher, Vice-Convener; Councillors Bonnar, Cameron, Carson, Di Mascio, Douglas, Farooq, Hogg, Hume, Kelly, Larson, Masterton, McNally, McNeil, Morgan, Shevlin, Stubbs and Wilson.

ALSO PRESENT

C. McGuire (GMB), M. Quigley (UNISON) and M. Scroggie (UNITE).

In accordance with Standing Order 64(a), Councillors Kerr, H. McVey and Stevenson attended as substitutes for Councillors Barclay, McCulloch and Roarty respectively.

CHAIR

Councillor Duffy (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Executive Director (Enterprise and Communities); Business Change Programme Manager; Chief Technology Officer, and Committee Officer.

APOLOGIES

Councillors Barclay, Logue, McCulloch, Roarty and Annette Valentine.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN TERMS OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2000

1. There were no declarations of interest.

DIGITAL AND IT STRATEGY

2. There was submitted a report by the Head of Business Solutions (1) providing, in the Appendix to the report, a copy of the proposed Digital and IT Strategy 2019/24 and associated Enterprise Architecture Principles; (2) outlining how technology would be utilised to transform service delivery and support the Council to achieve the priorities contained in The Plan for North Lanarkshire; (3) detailing the ten plans/policies identified as having an impact on the Digital and IT Strategy and which would form sub-policies of the overall Strategy; (4) advising (a) that the Digital and IT Strategy and its sub-policies would be monitored by this Committee, and (b) that individual programmes and projects contained in the Strategy would be subject to approval and monitoring by the relevant Committee, and (5) highlighting that the Digital and IT Strategy 2019/24 would be submitted to the Policy and Strategy Committee for approval.

Decided:

- (1) that it be noted that the Digital and IT Strategy 2019/24 would be submitted to the Policy and Strategy Committee for approval, and
- (2) that the content of the report be noted.

DIGITALNL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION PLAN

3. With reference to Paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting of the Policy and Strategy Committee held on 21 March 2019, when the indicative five-year investment for the DigitalNL Transformation Programme had been approved, there was submitted a report by the Head of Business Solutions (1) advising (a) that the Programme of Work, also approved by the Policy and Strategy Committee at its meeting on 21 March 2019, illustrated that stakeholder engagement was key to the success of DigitalNL; (b) that communication and engagement with employees, customers, businesses and residents was required to sit at the heart of the stakeholder engagement process, and (c) that stakeholder engagement should be taken forward via a plan capable of evolving and adapting to reflect stakeholder views and needs; (2) detailing, in the Appendix to the report, the proposed DigitalNL Communication and Engagement Plan in respect of phase one of the DigitalNL Transformation Programme; (3) outlining the range of communication and engagement approaches included in the DigitalNL Communication and Engagement Plan, which were planned to support the introduction of digital services up to December 2019, and (4) intimating that the DigitalNL Communication and Engagement Plan formed part of the overarching Digital and IT Strategy 2019/24.

Decided: that the planned stakeholder engagement activities, as outlined in the report and Appendix, be noted.

DIGITAL SCOTLAND SUPERFAST BROADBAND PROGRAMME AND NEXT STEPS - R100 AND DIGITALNL

4. There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Enterprise and Communities) (1) advising that, since 2012, the Council had been working with the Scottish Government's Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband (DSSB) programme to ensure that local communities and businesses had access to superfast broadband (at least 24Mbps); (2) highlighting that the DSSB programme had concluded in early 2019 and the Scottish Government had subsequently issued (a) three summary reports entitled 'Delivering on Our Commitment in North Lanarkshire', 'Contract 1 Finance Overview – North Lanarkshire Council', and 'Guide for Local Authority Elected Members – North Lanarkshire Council', which set out the project management and governance processes applied and the key achievements of the programme in the North Lanarkshire area, and (b) a further report to all local authorities entitled 'Delivering on Our Commitment in Scotland', which detailed the achievements of the project throughout the whole of the rest of Scotland project area (excluding the Highlands and Islands); (3) providing, in the Appendices to the report, copies of the four documents issued by the Scottish Government in relation to the conclusion of the DSSB programme; (4) intimating that the vast majority of North Lanarkshire premises and communities were now able to access superfast broadband, with a relatively small number of premises and communities still to be addressed; (5) detailing that the more difficult to reach premises within the North Lanarkshire area would be addressed via the Scottish Government's Reaching 100% Programme (R100), which sought to extend the availability of broadband infrastructure in order to achieve the Scottish Government's publically stated commitment to deliver superfast broadband access to 100% of premises across Scotland by the end of 2021, and (6) setting out the four projects, identified via a series of Council and ALEO workshops, that the Council planned to take forward in order to deliver against the strategic objectives contained in the DigitalNL Economy and Place Ambition.

Decided:

- (1) that the end of programme report 'Delivering on Our Commitment in North Lanarkshire', which summarised the achievements and outputs of the DSSB programme in North Lanarkshire be noted;

- (2) that it be agreed to continue to engage with the Scottish Government's new R100 Programme in order to build upon the success of the earlier DSSB programme, to maximise access to superfast broadband connectivity across North Lanarkshire, and to continue working towards the Scottish Government's publically stated aim of 100% coverage (for premises) by the end of 2021, and
- (3) that the progress made in relation to the DigitalNL Economy and Place Ambition be noted.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE DIGITALNL TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

5. With reference to Paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting of the Policy and Strategy Committee held on 21 March 2019, when the indicative five-year digital investment for the Digital Transformation Programme had been approved, there was submitted a report by the Head of Business Solutions (1) advising that two complementary projects, Digital Economy and Place (SmartNL) and Digital Council, were now underway in order to facilitate North Lanarkshire achieving its aim of becoming the place to Live, Learn, Work, Invest and Visit; (2) highlighting that the Digital Business Partner and in-house team were working together to deliver the first phase of the Transformation Programme; (3) intimating that the initial focus of the project was on developing the procurement and engagement plans, both of which were critical to the success of the programme; (4) detailing the procurement work being undertaken in relation to the systems integrator, and infrastructure and connectivity (DigitalNL/SmartNL), and (5) setting out (a) the recent communication and engagement activities undertaken, including the enlisting of a range of officers to fulfil a Digital Transformation role and the development of the DigitalNL Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Plan, and (b) in the Appendix to the report, the SmartNL and DigitalNL Working Groups established under the overarching DigitalNL Programme Delivery Board.

Decided: that the progress made to date in mobilising the DigitalNL Transformation Programme be noted.

CONTRACT EXTENSION OPTIONS - WIDE AREA NETWORK

6. There was submitted a report by the Head of Business Solutions (1) advising (a) that the Council's Wide Area Network (WAN) consisted of approximately 240 leased line services provided by Capita, via the Scottish Wide Area Network (SWAN) Framework, which had been established by the Scottish Government in 2014, and (b) that the value of the contract was approximately £1.1m per annum with a contract end date of 30 June 2019; (2) highlighting (a) that the current network design was problematic and generally accepted as not being of modern design; (b) that it was anticipated that there would be an increase in server user demand and a shift in the delivery model as envisaged by the DigitalNL Project, and (c) that suitable interim arrangements were required to be implemented to enable the Council to maintain operational services, pending finalisation of the procurement exercise, in terms of infrastructure and connectivity and its subsequent transition; (3) setting out the potential options for the provision of WAN Solutions on an interim basis, following the termination of the existing WAN contract on 30 June 2019, and in order to satisfy the Council's short to medium term internet requirements; (4) detailing, in the Appendix to the report, the appraisal undertaken in relation to the potential options in terms of the interim provision of WAN Solutions, and (5) seeking approval for option four, as outlined in the report, which proposed a contract via Crown Commercial Services RM1045 for a two-year interim period.

Decided:

- (1) that the available options as outlined in the report be noted, and
- (2) that a contract via Crown Commercial Services RM1045 for a two-year interim period, as outlined as option four in the report, be approved.

CONTRACTS AWARDED BELOW COMMITTEE APPROVAL THRESHOLD

7. There was submitted a report by the Head of Asset and Procurement Solutions providing, within the Appendix to the report, details of contracts which had been awarded by the Head of Asset and Procurement Solutions, under delegated authority, during the period from 1 January to 31 March 2019.

Decided: that the content of the report and Appendix be noted.