

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

Peter Oakford, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services

DECISION NO:

21/00097

For publication

Key decision: YES / NO

Key decision criteria. The decision will:

- a) result in savings or expenditure which is significant having regard to the budget for the service or function (currently defined by the Council as in excess of £1,000,000); or
- b) be significant in terms of its effects on a significant proportion of the community living or working within two or more electoral divisions – which will include those decisions that involve:
 - the adoption or significant amendment of major strategies or frameworks;
 - significant service developments,

Subject Matter / Title of Decision:

The Kent County Council Technology Strategy 2020-2023

Decision:

As **Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services**, I agree to **approve** the adoption of the Kent County Council Technology Strategy 2020-2023, and its publication on an interim basis, whilst the Council reviews the Technology Strategy, considering the COVID-19 pandemic.

Expected date: December 2021.

Reason(s) for decision:

The strategy explains how Kent County Council will use technology to guide and support Members and officers, in making decisions relating to technology use across the Council. The adoption of the interim strategy sets the key direction for developing the Council infrastructure to a modern infrastructure. The formal adoption of the interim strategy requires a key decision.

Background

The Council's existing Technology Strategy 2016-2020 has provided a basis for enabling the use of new service models and the development of a platform, which has enabled Kent County Council to adapt successfully during the COVID-19 pandemic to changes in working locations and patterns.

This updated strategy was prepared at the beginning of 2020 and whilst the principles hold firm, it is proposed that the strategy is adopted on an interim basis, whilst it is reviewed considering the COVID-19 Pandemic and the Council's emerging service and organisation objectives. The interim strategy provides the core framework for the Council to provide solutions which will enhance the Council's ability to provide services anywhere, anytime.

The Technology Strategy is currently being updated to reflect the evolving ambitions of the Council, centred around the Strategic Reset Programme and the response to the pandemic and the data centre outage in 2021. It has been a challenging period, but by the end of this calendar year, progress will be made against the activity plan 2020 – 2023 which includes:

- Implementation of Corporate One Drive to replace personal Drives.
- Replacement of the ageing SAN and associated infrastructure in Sessions House data Centre.
- Migration of our telephony from Skype to Microsoft Teams.
- Deployment of video conferencing in office buildings across Kent.
- Successfully integrated Child and Adult Care records into the Kent and Medway Care Record (KMCR).
- Creation of a cloud-based data infrastructure populated with Adults, Children's, Finance and Property data.
- Undertaken pilots re the application of the Internet of Things (IOT), robotics and automation.
- Implemented Microsoft defender across the Council's estate to enhance anti-virus Protection.
- Implemented Microsoft Managed Desktop to improve our management of end user Devices.
- Implemented Microsoft Intune to improve our management of mobile devices.
- Improved our protection against Ransomware through advanced backup technology, and network segmentation.
- Achieved Public Sector Network Code of Compliance.

Financial Implications

The strategy sets the framework for our future technology strategy. The implementation of the strategy will have financial implications, however decisions regarding specific technology services and products will progress through the Council's governance and decision-making process as required.

Legal Implications

There are no Legal implications known.

Equalities implications

An EQIA will be completed for all decisions, projects or purchases which are based on the Kent County Council Technology Strategy 2020-2023.

Data Protection implications

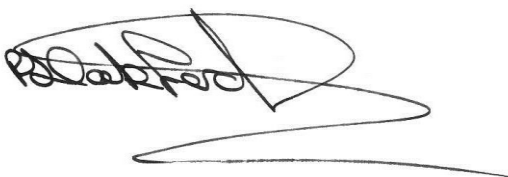
A DPIA screening tool has been completed and there is no requirement for a DPIA to be completed.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The Kent County Council Technology Strategy 2020-2023 was discussed and endorsed by the Policy and Resources Cabinet Committee held on 6th November 2020.

Any alternatives considered and rejected: N/A

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer: None



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signed

21 December 2021

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date