

Barrow Borough Council
Audit and Governance Committee
30 September 2021
Restricted Assurance Monitoring

Report from: Director of Resources
Report Author: Director of Resources
Wards: None

1.0 Summary and Conclusions

- 1.1 At the Audit and Governance Committee meeting on the 29 July 2021 the IT Procedures Review audit report was presented.
- 1.2 This report provides an update on the actions flowing from the recommendations.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Audit and Governance Committee receive the report.**

3.0 Background and Proposals

- 3.1 The audit report concerning IT procedures and documentation was issued with restricted assurance. There were two major issues and five important issues identified.
- 3.2 The Director of Resources has retained the services of an IT Expert/Specialist to provide resource and support to the IT Team with projects, strategic advice and to close off these procedural/documentation matters.
- 3.3 The overall IT Security Policy will be presented to the Executive Committee in December 2021 and the sub-policies (protocols) will have been reviewed to provide a common review point. The report to the Executive Committee will clarify the status of the IT policies, protocols and procedures to ensure that delegations are clear.

3.4 The IT Strategy will also be presented to the Executive Committee in December 2021 and that will identify priorities for service delivery, for compliance and for resilience. This is predominantly focussed on service based software as the core infrastructure has been updated and enhanced through the IT Agile project.

3.5 System review options are include consultation with neighbours where possible as Local Government Reorganisation is a factor in considering the options.

4.0 Consultation

4.1 Consultation is not relevant to the recommendation.

5.0 Alternative Options

5.1 There are no alternative options as the report is presented for noting.

6.0 Contribution to Council Plan Priorities

6.1 In order to be able to deliver Council Plan Priorities the organisation must have IT that is fit for purpose and relevant for customers. Policies, protocols and procedures must be in place to ensure security and control.

7.0 Implications

Financial, Resources and Procurement

7.1.1 There are no implications from this report. The reports to the Executive Committee will set out the implications of any recommendations therein.

Legal

7.1.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Equality and Diversity

7.2 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis? No, this report is for information.

Contact Officers

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