

REPORT BACK FROM OSCPR IT SUB GROUP

On 31st January 2006

OSCPR150306

Item 9

Present: Cllrs A Norwood (Chair); Mrs A Bradshaw; K Hitchen
Cllr N Williams (Portfolio Holder)

Apologies: Cllr Mrs Y Clarkson

Also present: Head of Finance and Business Development; Business Development Manager

IT Strategy

Members considered a template for an IT Strategy specifically designed for local authorities. This would be a big change, not just for the IT section but for all services given the greater involvement of business managers, who would need to make a business case for projects and become actively involved. The strategy itself was relatively easy-to-understand, all management aspects, national targets were covered. There was a need to Copeland-ise the document and put a formal case together as to why there was a need to do it. It was also pointed out that the need for a strategy was an outstanding audit action point.

Members present agreed:

- That they were very happy with the proposal, but they would like to see a summary to the document during the 'Copeland-ising' to make for easier reading.
- They would like to have the opportunity to comment on the draft Copeland strategy, expected by the end of March.
- They would like to see a plan, setting out the timetable for the implementation of the strategy.
- They would like thought given to how the strategy is promoted to Members in addition to staff.

Due to the size of the document, this has not been attached as an appendix to this document. Anyone who would like to see a copy of the template are asked to contact the Scrutiny Support Officer jmurray@copelandbc.gov.uk, telephone 01946 598496.

Agilysis report

Members were aware that a report had been commissioned from Agilysis to undertake an appraisal of the Council's IT Service. They considered that report.

Members accepted that there had been movement since that report was commissioned and that while there were a few useful points made, a good deal of the comment had been overtaken by events, in particular the need for additional staff and a greater emphasis on a Cumbria-wide shared service agenda.

Members present agreed that apart from a few useful pointers, that the report be shelved.

Members also requested an invitation to the next IT Section Team Brief.

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