THE EXECUTIVE

14 DECEMBER 2004

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

IMPLEMENTING E-GOVERNMENT STATEMENT (IEG)	FOR DECISION

This report concerns the spending of Implementing E-Government (IEG) grant monies in order to achieve Priority Outcomes as set by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM). This is a matter reserved to the Executive.

Summary

This report sets out the Council's expected position at December 2005 in meeting e-government targets set out by the ODPM in July 2004 as 'Priority Outcomes'. The Grant to the Council of £150,000 in 2005/06 is contingent upon the ODPM being satisfied with the Council's progress against defined 29 'required' and 25 'good' priority outcomes and the submission of the Implementing IEG Statement which also defines progress made on achieving 100% of providing services electronically by December 2005. (BVPI 157).

A further report to The Management Team will prioritise the priority outcomes to be actioned and identify funding and budget requirements and where appropriate make recommendations to the Executive.

Wards Affected - All

Recommendations

The Executive is asked to:

- 1. Agree to the submission of IEG Statement (4) to the ODPM on 20/12/04 (and note that Section 6 is to be completed);
- 2. Note the current corporate position in achieving 100% of providing services electronically (BVPI 157) as being defined as 53.36% in 2004;
- 3. Agree funding from IEG money allocated by ODPM of £350,000 for actioning priority outcomes 2004/05 and £150,000 for 2005/06; and
- 4. Consider if resources should be allocated for priority outcomes as part of the 2005/06 budget setting process.

Reason

To achieve the Government's performance indicator of 100% of council services (where practicable) to be accessible electronically by April 2005.

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1. Background

- 1.1 The Government has set a performance indicator of 100% of council services (where practicable) to be accessible electronically by April 2005 (BVPI 157). Since 2001/02 councils have received a total of £850,000 in successive Implementing Electronic Government (IEG) grants to help to achieving this target.
- 1.2 On 29 April 2004, ODPM published a list of Required, Good and Excellent Priority Outcomes which are to form the basis for eligibility to IEG funding in 2004/05 and 2005/06 totalling £500,000 (£350,000 and £150,000 respectively). The list of 'Excellent' outcomes is only relevant to those authorities which have substantially completed the process of e-enabling their services and are not sufficiently challenged by the 'Required' and 'Good' lists: LBBD does not fall into this category. LBBD are focusing on achieving the required outcomes.

2. Implementing E-Government Statement

- 2.1 To obtain the IEG funding of £350,000 in 2004/05, a position statement as at 1 April 2004 was submitted to ODPM by the due date of 14 June 2004. Funding has now been granted by ODPM which is to be used to enable the priority outcomes to be achieved.
- 2.2 To enable this funding (and further funding) to be allocated across the Council where needed, all services have been asked to indicate what plans they have to achieve the Required and Good outcomes by December 2005, and to highlight any gaps, issues or problems in doing so, including funding and resourcing issues. The 'traffic light' assessment process has been used where:
 - Red = work at research, planned or primary stage;
 - Amber = projects have been approved and are being implemented;
 - Green = work has been actioned and achieved.
- 2.3 This Gap Analysis indicates that several Priority Outcomes will not be achieved unless action is taken either decisions or resourcing or both. In terms of the ODPM's traffic light system:

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by 31/5/05 13 Red, 26 Amber, 15 Green
by 31/12/05 7 Red, 25 Amber, 22 Green
by 31/3/06 2 Red, 18 Amber, 34 Green
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The key aim is to ensure that the provision of the priority outcomes achieve 'Green' status. However, those priority outcomes at Amber stage are due to projects and programmes being implemented but not achieving 'live' status.

2.4 The IEG Statement (see Appendix 1) to be submitted to ODPM on 20/12/04 also details that LBBD has only achieved 54% of meeting the Electronic Government Agenda and that much work needs to be undertaken to achieve 100%.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 An e-government programme to deliver the priority outcomes, improve access to information and services and continuously drive the achievement of BVPI 157 will be based on IEG 4 priority outcomes and the gaps in BVPI 157. Departmental IM+T Managers have been working and will continue to work with departments to establish, determine, drive forward and implement the priority outcomes in line with both corporate and departmental priorities and business needs. This will ensure the programme is managed, reviewed, monitored and evaluated across the Council.
- 3.2 The £350,000 from IEG3 is to fund some of the priority outcomes with further funding of £150,000 to fund the priority outcomes and the infrastructure needed to support and underpin the development of the e-agendas.
- 3.3 A further report will identify the key priorities along with resource allocation and requirements, once further funding has been secured from ODPM. Additional funding will be needed and prioritised and will be detailed in a further report.

4. Consultation

- 4.1 The following people have been consulted in this Report.
 - IM+T Departmental Managers
 - Heads of Service
 - The Management Team
 - Councillor M McCarthy
 - Finance Officers

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

IEG3 Statement Reports on Customer First