

**Customer & Corporate Services Scrutiny
Management Committee**

9 September 2019

Report of the Assistant Director – Legal & Governance

ICT Strategy Update Report – E-Democracy

Summary

1. The attached annex is an update on City of York Council’s ICT Strategy and E-democracy capability.

Background

2. At the meeting of the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee in June 2019, Members requested that a report be produced on the potential use of IT and video conferencing solutions. The suggestion was that this may help with engagement at public meetings and enable residents and Members alike to actively participate in public meetings when it was not possible for them to be present.
3. It was noted at the meeting that reports on this topic had been brought to this committee in the past. In July 2015 a report on the ‘Expansion of Local Democracy using Digital Means’ and in 2016 a task group was set up and reported on ‘E-Democracy’.

Consultation

4. There was no consultation necessary in the production of this report.

Options

5. Members can:
 - a. Highlight further areas for investigation by officers
 - b. Decide to initiate a Scrutiny Review into this topic and request a scoping report

c. Decide not to take this issue further at this time

Council Plan

6. N/A

Implications

7. There are no known Financial, Human Resources, Equalities, Legal, ICT or other implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

Risk Management

8. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with this report.

Recommendations

9. Members are asked to note the content of this report and associated annex and agree the next steps from the options above.

Reason: To ensure that the Council is providing the most appropriate and up to date technology to support engagement in democratic processes.

Contact Details

Author:

Steve Entwistle

Scrutiny Officer

Tel: 01904 554279

steven.entwistle@york.gov.uk

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Dawn Steel,

Head of Democratic Services.

Tel: 01904 551030

dawn.steel@york.gov.uk

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Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex A – E-Democracy Presentation Slides