

Report of Mike Thompson – Head of ICT – Resources

IT Site Security – Internal Audit Review

At the last Audit committee on 29 June 2006 we presented an update report on the actions being taken in response to the IT Site security – Internal Audit Review.

We were asked to present to the next committee meeting a further update on progress and an outline action plan on tackling the outstanding items.

The audit report highlighted a number of areas of concern around the locations and associated environmental and access controls where critical IT equipment is housed in Council buildings.

Recommendation 1 required us to carry out a risk assessment for the sites where critical IT equipment is housed and to come up with recommendations for future environmental and access controls, remedial actions and guidance on future governance requirements

Recommendations 2, 3 and 4 related to identifying the appropriate access and environmental controls required for each critical site, implementing these controls and allocating an on-site officer to enforce and maintain the controls

Timescales – outline action plan

Progress so far

The initial action of identifying all local IT sites, carrying out an inventory of the critical equipment, identifying existing controls, both environmental and access, and carrying out an initial assessment of the critical nature of the location and the equipment housed within the site has been completed by DCC staff. Nine critical sites were identified and these are being put forward to Capita's IT security team to carry out a full risk assessment and analysis of environmental and access controls.

Actions - Capita IT security team

Review information and agree approach	30 September 2006
Site visit/risk assessment of all critical local IT sites	13 October 2006
Report back on the following recommendations:	27 October 2006
Recommendations on local IT sites	
Recommendations on environmental controls/measures	
Recommendations on access controls, security measures and associated procedures	
Recommendations on future governance requirements	
Recommendations on remedial actions and initiatives	

Actions - DCC

Target date

Initial assessment of all local IT sites – identification, inventory, assessment by DCC	Complete
Recommendations on responsible officers	30 November 2006
Issue of guidance on access control	30 November 2006
Identify programme of work and associated costs for local critical IT sites	30 November 2006

We expect there will be a programme of remedial work required to bring our sites up to the required standards, and this is likely to have some financial implications. We may also need to re-assess where we house some critical local IT equipment along with the associated management and governance requirements. Aspects of the management and governance requirements will need to be considered as part of the IT support review currently being undertaken, as devolved IT responsibilities are a major factor as to how these facilities have been managed in the past.