Data and Knowledge Share

Five years ago the council underwent necessary restructure and reorganisation. The changes successfully mitigated against challenges the organisation faced in light of forthcoming financial restraints, as well as existing behavioural, systemic and channel inefficiencies. Five years on, it is acknowledged that the changes were necessary for progress, but the current situation strongly indicates that the silo behaviour of not only our directorates, but also our services and teams, prevents us from delivering public value. Therefore the problem to be addressed how do we join-up our people, information and solutions.

This piece of work was borne out of a series of drivers:

1. Acknowledgment of the inaccessibility/ closed nature of data that we own
2. Acknowledgment of the lack of knowledge sharing across the organisation
3. Central government directives and GDS behaviour and approach to open data, open source, open standards

The purpose of this project is to facilitate and deliver join-up throughout the organisation by: building and/or procuring a platform to open up our data; utilising collaboration tools and our digital resources to allow/encourage/provide a space for people to connect virtually.

Data

1.   In light of the central government transparency code, local authorities must look to further open up data and there are forthcoming statutory requirement regarding which data sets must be published. Our aim is two-fold: we intend to look at how this data can be published, ensuring its accessibility and usability. We also intend to discover if we can go further than the statutory requirements, and discuss with stakeholders the potential of opening up additional non-sensitive data.
2.   Internally our aim is for colleagues to share all data that can be shared (in accordance with the Caldicott principles and our internal data principles).

Digital architecture

1.   Ensuring that a digital platform exists to support the objective of connecting people to: people, communities, information, and solutions
2.   Encouraging integration and streamlining a single digital platform so that it's user-friendly, valued as useful, and data is not duplicated.
3.   Exploring the functionality of our current digital architecture as well as other products on the market to ensure our architecture provides space for collaboration.

Knowledge layer

1.   Help enable better conversations through practice of knowledge sharing and problem solving collaborative tools
2.   Support the drive for networks and culture change through community building and engagement

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