CABINET- 25 FEBRUARY 2025

CABINET RESPONSE TO THE REPORT OF THE RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE SELECT COMMITTEE

Item under consideration: Unit4/MySurrey Stabilisation Board Report

Recommendations:

- The select committee welcomes the continued prioritisation of work underway to keep resolving issues with Unit4 through contract negotiations and changes to governance and acknowledges the lessons learned, but remains concerned about the number and nature of outstanding issues, the cost and impacts to the council and its staff, and the nature of the original specification used when procuring the system.
- The select committee RECOMMENDS that officers update the select committee approximately 3 months from now (or at the most appropriate time, such as at the end of the Stabilisation phase) on the progress in resolving the remaining issues with Unit4, the performance and capacity of the system, and the effectiveness of the new governance arrangements.
- The select committee RECOMMENDS that Cabinet consider undertaking a review to understand and evaluate the likely impacts of any Local Government Reform (LGR) on the use of the Unit4 system to deliver the core financial functions of any future Authorities, as part of its planned wider work on how IT infrastructure would change due to LGR, and that the results of any review are shared with this select committee.

Cabinet Response:

Cabinet is grateful to the Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Resources and Performance Select Committee for their recognition of the work of the Stabilisation Board on the Unit 4 system, supporting processes, and the work undertaken to address the audit actions. Cabinet is also grateful to the Committee for their ongoing scrutiny of this work and recognition of the challenges in stabilising the platform, working with the supplier in the resolution of outstanding issues in an effort to deliver the benefits originally envisaged when the system was procured.

Cabinet accepts the recommendations made by the Committee, particularly in light of the possible impacts of Local Government Reform and welcomes the opportunity for an additional review within the next 3 months for scrutiny on system performance, stability and capacity, and the revised governance arrangements.

Cabinet is also grateful to the Audit and Governance committee for their review and scrutiny of the work and suggests that in future, updates on this topic are offered once to avoid duplication.

David Lewis Cabinet Member for Resources 20 February 2025

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