North York Moors National Park Authority
Finance, Risk, Audit and Standards Committee

28 May 2018

IT Update

1. **Purpose of the Report**

1.1 To update Members on work carried out in the previous year and the planned work for the current year to support and develop the Authority's Information Communications Technology.

2. **Major Projects Carried Out by the IT team in 2018/19**

2.1 **Laptop, Desktop Refresh and Move to Windows 10**

The procurement of the new desktops was carried out using a mini competition through pre-approved government frameworks. This ensured the Authority got value for money for the devices purchased. Below is a table of costs per device compared to when we carried out the same refresh in 2013.

	2013	2018
Laptop	£518	£515
Desktop PC	£310.68	£431.84

The increase in cost per device for the PCs was largely down to a significant improvement in spec as the Authority's IT requirements have grown significantly over the past five years we have had to improve the quality of the devices used to cope with this demand.

Feedback on the new devices and the rollout from Officers has been positive. It is worth noting that the team's long term volunteer was an integral part of this process and built all 110 new PCs, freeing up 3 weeks work time for team members to work on other projects.

2.2 **Taste of The North York Moors Website**

The CCF Project team had a requirement to produce a website to showcase the producers and places to eat in the NYM. After initial discussions it was decided to produce the website in-house and using the shared National Parks Wordpress server. This would allow us to assess the ability of this provision should we take the decision to change content management systems for the refresh of the main Authority website in 2019/20. A simple theme was purchased which gave a basic design to the site; time was spent completing the design requirements whilst working with the Portal Manager and Andy Kay from the Dales to ensure the site and infrastructure was to a high enough standard.

2.3   **Provide Support on GIS to Yorkshire Dales April to December 2018**

The ICT Manager at the Yorkshire Dales enquired if NYM could provide them with GIS support whilst their GIS Officer had a six months sabbatical. After a conversation with our GIS Officer we decided that we could offer the support. The support was provided with little impact on the GIS Officer's NYM work and I have received very positive feedback from the Dales with regard to the support provided to them.

2.4   **Production of Local Plan Maps**

101 maps have been produced to be added to the Local Plan showing various policies and constraints. Due to the nature of the maps and the data to be displayed on them, it was a significant piece of work carried out under tight timescales.

2.5   **Delivery of GDPR Compliance, Including Review of File Permissions**

While the implementation date of 25 May 2018 came and went without incident, this was due to the GDPR team putting in the appropriate amount of time and effort in to ensure the Authority was as well prepared as it needed to be and ensured that the external Data Protection Officer was content with the provisions made. Whilst there is a continued need to keep on top of data protection and continued education of Officers, Members and Volunteers in good data management practices, the Authority is in a good place to deliver this.

2.6   **Secure Socket Layer of Main Authority Site**

Google have started to use whether or not a site is SSL enabled (Having SSL enabled means that traffic to and from the website is fully encrypted so it is more secure, something you would typically expect if making payments or purchase on line) in their website weight criteria (this is the criteria used to rank sites in their search order if people use google to search for websites). We were asked if we could investigate what was involved in making the Authority website SSL enabled. The process of making the site secure was tricky, due to the complexity of our website and that we were the first Squiz (platform the website uses) National Park to go through the process. The IT Manager thoroughly investigated what was needed and spoke with the Portal Manager, our website hosting company, and our GIS support company to arrange for the various parts of our website to have the SSL certificate added. After thorough testing the changes live with no major outages.

3.   **Current Major IT Project Work Stream for 2019/20**

3.1   Below is a table of the planned major pieces of work to be carried out by the IT team in 2019/20.

Project	Brief Description	Planned Start Date	Planned Delivery Date
Upgrade/Replace all Windows 2008 servers	Upgrade or replacement 40 servers over 7 months	01/04/2019	31/12/2019
Website review/ implementation	Work with Park Services to redesign the Authority website	01/04/2019	31/03/2020
Planning System upgrade	Work with planning team to test latest version, carry out necessary changes then implementation	22/04/2019	30/09/2019
Manage transition out of current Portal Partnership	Existing Portal model is being replaced and need to ensure services we use are transitioned	01/05/2019	01/04/2020

Investigate/report and carry out move of Server hardware to best location.	Relocation of servers from current room to a more secure location.	01/05/2019	01/04/2020
Finance System Upgrade	Upgrade to latest patch set to improve security	01/07/2019	05/07/2019
Upgrade Exchange server	Upgrade of email server to latest MS version	01/08/2019	31/09/2019
Earthlight upgrade	Upgrade to latest version of Earthlight and Aurora	Oct-19	Nov-19
Replace Danby and Sawmill Servers	Replace of physical hardware whilst maintaining data and access	01/10/2019	31/10/2019

4.   **Legal and Financial Implications**

4.1   There are no legal implications arising from this report. The costs of the work outlined in the table above have been included in the 2019/20 budget.

5.   **Recommendation**

5.1   That Members note the diverse work being carried out to support and develop the Authority's ICT team.

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