Bromsgrove Microsoft Power BI Dashboard

Q. Concerns were raised that if all Members were to have a license, then this would be a significant annual cost to the Council. It was suggested that it could be limited to the equipment available for Members' use in the Members' Room, if necessary.

A public view of the dashboard is being created which will not incur licence costs. This will provide a dashboard view of each performance measure and will be available via the Council website by the end of the year. This option provides greater flexibility for Member use as it can be accessed from any PC that has an internet connection.
Due to Microsoft's licensing policy it is not possible to provide access on a generic machine as licenses are allocated to each named user.

Q. The Director, Finance and Resources confirmed that the dashboard was currently in its development phase and the scope of it was being built, the resources to fund it and the final costs would be considered in the later stage and be subject to further consideration.

The scope of the project was defined in late 2020 before the project started. The purpose of this piece of work is to:

1. Develop and implement a MS Power BI based performance dashboard.
2. Develop internal Power BI skills in the Policy & Performance team.
3. Understand data needs to inform the development of a performance dashboard.
4. Establish the options for presenting and delivering data to a variety of stakeholders.

It is anticipated that the ongoing cost of the dashboard will be no more than £3,000 of license costs per year. Staff time needed to populate the system will be less than the time currently taken to populate the current alternative, which is less efficient. The use of automated processes to generate reports is also envisioned in the future.

Q. It was questioned whether the officer time spent on the dashboard's development had impacted on other areas of work within the Council.

The Power BI specialist is employed as a contractor. The contractor is working to build the dashboard and to support the Policy & Performance officer to develop Power BI skills. The Policy & Performance officer is required to support the existing legacy dashboard as part of their role. The new dashboard will replace this legacy system. Other duties around data analysis, surveys and performance reports have not been impacted.