

East Lothian Council

FOI Ref: 2018/507404

A) Digital Transformation strategy

1. Do you have any Digital Transformation program and/or strategy?

Yes

2. What are your digital transformation priorities / objectives for 2018/19?

Establish the core infrastructure required to deliver digital services, implement new HR & Payroll system

3. What is the value of any budgetary savings associated with digital transformation for 2018/19?

There are no formal financial targets against digital transformation for 2018/19.

4. What is the breakdown of these budgetary savings by service area?

It is not currently broken down by Service Area.

5. Who is in charge of this program/strategy development in your organisation?

Transformation Programme Manager & IT Service Manager

6. Does the council have a specific digital transformation team?

Yes

7. Who is the officer responsible for digital transformation in your organisation?

Depute Chief Executive: Resources and People Services

8. Have you allocated a specific budget for Digital Transformation activities in 2018/19 and 2019/20? If yes, please state how much for each year.

No

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9. Have you applied or do you plan to apply to government funding for Digital Transformation? (e.g. City deals, DCMS Urban Connected Communities)

Yes, East Lothian Council (ELC) is a partner in the Edinburgh City Deal

10. Have you received or do you plan to apply for government funding to support digital transformation? E.g. City deals, DCMS Urban Connected Communities. If yes, who from and how much has been received?

Partnership has received funding but not specifically for digital transformation

B) Data sharing and analysis

1. Do you have an internal data sharing plan/strategy for enhancing the efficiency & effectiveness of operations within the council? (e.g. Data sharing across Revenue & Benefit, Social Care, Housing, Community Safety, Environment)

No, although Data sharing arrangements are made between individual services as required by law and our statutory functions as a local authority. Internal data sharing arrangements between Council departments are recorded in service-level Privacy Notices, which are being rolled out across the Council in line with our obligations under the General Data Protection Regulations and the Data Protection Act 2018.

2. Do you have a multi-agency data sharing plan/strategy for enhancing the efficiency & effectiveness of your operations within your council? (e.g. data sharing across police, fire and rescue, NHS services).

Data sharing in Lothian and Borders between NHS, Police and Local Authorities is governed by the Pan Lothian and Borders General Data Sharing Protocol. The review and maintenance of this protocol is supported by a sub-group on behalf of the Pan Lothian Data Sharing Partnership. The high-level protocol is underpinned by a number of local information sharing agreements which more directly address specific information sharing activities.

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3. *Who is the officer responsible for delivering your data sharing program/strategy development?*

Service managers are responsible for ensuring that appropriate data sharing agreements are in place relating to their specific information sharing activities. The Council's statutory Data Protection Officer role is held by the Team Manager – Information Governance, who is responsible for monitoring and supporting the Council's compliance with data protection requirements.

4. *What are your priorities / focus relating to data sharing/analytics?*

ELC aims to maintain efficient and effective information sharing both internally and with our external partners to deliver tailored and seamless services to our clients and service users, within the context of our obligations under privacy and other information legislation.

5. *Have you allocated a budget for data sharing activities during 2018/19 and 2019/20? If yes, how much for each year?*

There is no allocated budget for data sharing activities for 2018/19 or 2019/20.

6. *Are you using or do you plan to use a specific technology platform for delivering data sharing within your organisation?*

We have a plan to introduce a middleware platform.

7. *If yes, was / will this technology be an off the shelf packaged solution, a bespoke solution or developed in-house?*

It is likely to be an off the shelf packaged solution.

Finally, it may help to explain that Freedom of Information legislation only applies to information which is held or recorded by a public authority. It does not apply to views, opinions, intentions or questions which simply require a yes/no answer. In view of this, some of the questions asked are not technically valid for the purposes of this legislation as they are not requests for specific recorded information that ELC may or may not hold.

In order to assist you, however, colleagues have addressed the questions posed to the best of their knowledge. For future reference, a link to the "Tips for Requesters" page of the Scottish Information Commissioner's website has been provided which you may find useful:

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Tipsforrequesters.aspx>