

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

TO:	AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE		
DATE:	12TH APRIL 2023		
TITLE:	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW FINANCE SYSTEM - PROGRESS UPDATE		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	CLLR TERRY	PORTFOLIO:	CORPORATE & CONSUMER SERVICES
SERVICE:	FINANCE	WARDS:	BOROUGHWIDE
LEAD OFFICER:	DARREN CARTER	TEL:	
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides the latest update on progress with the implementation of the new finance system.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 To note progress of the implementation of the new Finance System.

3. CURRENT STATUS

- 3.1 Audit and Governance Committee has previously been notified about the intention to go-live with the implementation of the e5 finance system from Advanced in April 2023. The Committee was advised that a readiness for go-live assessment was to be undertaken during February 2023 in order to review findings from testing, progress with training users, business readiness, the cutover plan and arrangements in place to support and manage the new system.
- 3.2 Following this readiness for go-live assessment the Director of Finance and the Chief Accountant have decided to delay implementation until Autumn 2023 in order to ensure that the system is fully operational at the point of go-live.
- 3.3 The revised project plan takes into full consideration resource availability, the impact of other system projects and dependencies on third parties. The plan includes completing Integrated System Testing and Data Migration by the end of June. User Acceptance Testing, training and a cut-over rehearsal will then take place during the Summer, with the final cut-over work delivering an Autumn 2023 go-live.
- 3.4 The revised plan is currently being reviewed by independent consultants to consider robustness and deliverability.
- 3.5 The Project Team is meeting daily, with weekly meetings chaired by the Director of Finance to track progress.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.6 It is anticipated that the project will be delivered within the allocated capital programme budget allocation.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 3.7 None.