

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chair & Members, Corporate Services Committee

FROM: Peter Darlington
Information Services Manager

REFERENCE: AA501

DATE: 19 March 2010

SUBJECT: **Information Services Update Report – RFN10-04-03**

Purpose

To update the Corporate Services Committee of Council on the latest activity and projects in the Information Services Section.

Comment

Broadband Update

The fibre connection for Motueka and Nelson is now in place meaning that businesses in Richmond and Motueka can now connect up to the ultra fast fibre network. SNAP Internet are currently on the network and should have a service solution in place for customers later this year.

The results of the Crown Fibre Holdings tender for local fibre companies will not be known until later in the year. In the meantime, the government has signed off on proposals for the roll out of high speed broadband in rural areas and the reform of the Telecommunications Service Obligation (TSO). This updated proposal will piggyback off the “fibre to rural schools” initiative and aims to ensure broadband of 5 Mb/sec bandwidth to 97% of rural households. The remaining 3% will receive broadband in the region of 1 Mb/sec. Expressions of interest from service providers will be called for in April 2010 with the government anticipating allocating funding before the end of the year.

GIS Update

Work is about to begin on creating the development system of the new version of ExploreTasman. The first application of the new system will be a basic GIS client that will provide the platform for further services and development. This should be available for viewing in June – July 2010 with work continuing on a full replacement of Explore Tasman towards the end of the year or early 2011.

GIS staff are also currently working on Mapua structure plans and rating data for rivers/stopbank works.

Website Update

The design tender has been completed for the website with Silverstripe being awarded the job of creating the new look design. The design should be completed and in place by early May 2010. Meanwhile, work is beginning on content for the site including the selection and training of content editors within council staff.

The site content phase will be completed by mid-June 2010 ready for testing in late-June to mid-July 2010 and a soft launch in early August 2010. The formal launch of the site will take place in mid-August 2010.

Technology Infrastructure Roadmap

IS staff have nearly completed a technology roadmap for our IT infrastructure covering 2010 – 2014. This will provide a clear picture of changes and upgrades required to ensure that the technology used by council remains up-to-date and fit for purpose. This project is in line with the IS Strategic Plan 2009 update.

Recommendation

That Report RFN10-04-03, Information Services Update, be received.

Peter Darlington
Information Services Manager