

STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 17 July 2023
Title: Communications Report
Contact Officer: Communications & Community Engagement Officer

Background

The Council previously made a decision to outsource the website and to opt for the .gov template. Several providers were contacted to get quotes and a scope for the work.

Current Situation

Website

A preferred supplier was identified by Councillors, but despite two further emails there has been no response from them. The Communications & Community Engagement Officer has had follow up emails from other interested suppliers and proposes that quotes and further information should now be obtained from these companies.

This is a good opportunity for a review of the website including what information needs to be front page and obvious and for councillors to decide the scope, purpose and desired outcomes of the inclusivity and diversity page and how they will gather data or determine the success or otherwise of the page – what metrics will be measured? It needs to be both simple and agile so that it can be reconfigured to meet changing need and focus easily.

Newsletter

Following a prolonged busy period of events and staff training there has been a delay to the summer issue of the newsletter, but this should be going out at the end of the week commencing 17 July 2023.

Environmental impact

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

Risk

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

Financial implications

Described here or as stated in the report above.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and consider the following:

1. That the Communications & Community Engagement Officer follows up the website outsource and redesign with other web design agencies and,
2. That Councillors make decisions about expectations and purpose of the Inclusivity and Diversity page in order to ensure it is used and useful. Members may like to consider delegating this to expediate the task.