

MEEETING	Democratic Services Committee
DATE	9 June, 2015
SUBJECT	Technological Developments
PURPOSE	Update Members on Information Technology matters
AUTHOR	Arwel Ellis Jones Senior Corporate Commissioning Manager Vera Jones Democratic Services Manager

I-pad provision

1. Numerous discussions have been held in the Democratic Services Committee about information technology and the i-pads. At the last meeting, it was decided that further training would be arranged by the training unit with an independent specialist to assist members to make better use of their i-pads.

2. We have experienced some problems identifying possible dates for various reasons. By now, however, I can report that the first session will be held on Friday, 26 June, 2015. As agreed, the first session will be run as a pilot, and will be restricted to 8 elected members. Subject to the feedback from the pilot session, further sessions will then be arranged. It is likely that they will be for small groups, and we will consider training requirements, language requirements and location as we make arrangements.

3. Please note, if any members require technological assistance, please contact the IT helpdesk on 01286 679114. If a member would like further assistance to make better use of the i-pad, please contact Cara in the training unit to arrange a 1-1 session.

Modern Gov

4. Modern Gov is an electronic Committee Management System. A decision was made to purchase the system in order to improve the following elements:

- The workflow of committee papers and Members' Services
- The method of publishing material on committees, etc., on the Council's new web-site which would offer more benefits than seeking to use the new web-site to undertake the same work.

5. The system will enable us to administrate committees more effectively, and the benefits also include being able to merge with the Council's web-casting system. Other clear benefits include:

- The system has been extensively market-tested by other councils with the vast majority of Welsh councils and the Welsh Government using it

- Neighbouring councils already using the system, facilitating co-operation across council and lose, if councils amalgamated, this could be dealt with easily
- Full conformance with the requirements of the Council's Language Policy
- The ability to link to the Council's Web-casting System
- The Web Development Team welcome this as a better means of meeting the needs of the democratic elements of the Council's web-site

6. The costs for purchasing the system have already been met through resources earmarked from the Council's Strategic Plan funds.

7. Background preparation work is due to start very soon. Training Sessions will be organised for elected members in November about the system and how to use it.

Community and Town Council Websites.

8. A verbal report to be given by the Senior Information Technology Manager.

OBSERVATIONS

- The committee is invited to comment on the above