

**h. Potential to Move the Council's administrative offices from Bushloe House to a new location**

**Potential Implementation 2021/22 at the earliest**

**Potential annual net savings of at least £75,000.**

**1. Present Situation**

Bushloe House, the Council's main offices have been used by the Borough Council since its creation in the early 1970s after local government reorganisation. As identified by the recent LGA Peer Challenge the building is very special but does not lend itself to modern working and is costly to run.

The building now only provides back office administrative functions on site together with the Council Chamber. The Council's customer services operation re located to Bell Street in Wigston in 2015.

**2. Options**

This suggestion would clearly involve a major project in terms of complexity, timescale and then potential disruptive impact on services during any transition. At this stage, Council is only being asked to agree for officers to proceed with a preliminary exercise to scope the project and produce an initial report on options.

Even if the Council were to decide to proceed with the move, it is considered unlikely that it could take place before 2021/22 due to the considerable planning required, and is therefore outside the current MTFS planning horizon. However, a statement of intent that such a move might be supported is required to drive other parts of the Council's transformation plans for the next few years, which are within the current MTFS timelines; these are focussed on improving productivity, value for money and service delivery through better use of information technology and the management of Council assets, service review and redesign as set out in the Council's four-year efficiency review. Thus, although the savings target for the office move is set out at just £75,000 (predicated on a 40% reduction in annual running costs) it actually forms a vital part of the Council's longer-term ambitions for the borough and the communities that it serves.