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NOTICE OF MOTION
TO MORAY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2024

Preliminary Issues
None to consider

Background
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly evolving as a consequence of recent advancements in technology and the design of competing artificial intelligences in a wide range of environments.

It is widely reported that the pace of development of AI is highly likely to be the most rapidly evolving technology ever seen by humankind with many potential applications - both positive and negative.

AI is better understood in some industries than others and it is vital that the public sector, including Local Government is embracing and understanding this issue, ensuring we have actions in place to help us both utilise AI and manage its impact on our communities and the services we provide for them.

At the recent AI Safety Summit the introductory paragraph stated:

"We are in the midst of a technological revolution that will fundamentally alter the way we live, work, and relate to one another. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has begun and promises to further transform nearly every aspect of our economy and society, bringing with it huge opportunities but also risks that could threaten global stability and undermine our values."

This provides a useful summary of what we require to understand in the deliver of our own services.

Action
- Council requests an officer report providing a high-level assessment of the Council's readiness in respect of the rapidly evolving impact of (AI) across our operations, including but not limited to:
  - the risks and opportunities for the broad range of services provided by the council;
    - N.B. It should be understood that whilst the Council's ICT Service will have a key role to play, the risks and opportunities are much

broader and could impact significantly on the provision and structure of a wide range of services
- o skills gaps that the Council may have in relation to AI and how they might be addressed;
- o strategies and policies that require to be developed and/or updated in respect of AI;
- o estimated timescales over which such strategies and policies should be considered;
- o the potential risks of not taking action.

Financial implications

- Any direct costs would relate to further actions, which would be considered in the requested report.
- There is an indirect cost of officer time, however as AI is a major and rapidly emerging technology across our services, and which has the potential to both enhance and disrupt those services in a comparatively short timeframe, it is expected that officers will already be considering potential implications for their services and the Council as a whole, therefore this motion sets in place a clear route for Councillors to consider this urgent emerging issue.

Proposed By: Cllr Graham Leadbitter

Seconded By: Cllr Scott Lawrence

Date Motion Submitted: 20/11/23