

Delegated Decision Report

Decision below £250k



Subject:	Additional Server and Storage Hardware for Spindles
Decision maker: Senior Officer	Fiona Greenway, Executive Director of Resources
Decision maker: Cabinet Member	Cllr Abdul Jabbar MBE, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services and Sustainability
Decision date:	11 August 2025
Report author:	Fran Lautman, Assistant Director of Customer Experience
Ward (s):	No impact

Reason for decision:

Approval is required to purchase additional Dell Server and Storage ICT hardware for use in the Spindles Primary Communications Room 1.

A recent assessment indicated that there would be insufficient capacity to host all the remaining Council ICT Systems which will be moving from the Civic Centre Datacentre to the Spindles Primary Communications Room 1.

Expectation and the delays for the migration of Council Finance system Business World (Agresso) moving to a supplier Unit4 hosted solution, has thereby increased the capacity and specification requirements to meet the hosting and data capability at the Spindles Offices.

This additional Dell Hardware extends the capacity requirements and is fully scalable. This ensures that the Council can remain flexible in future decisions, balancing cloud and on-premise resources based on evolving needs.

Recommendation(s):

Procure and install additional Dell hardware for the Council's on-premise business IT systems. This is to be funded through the IT Capital Cost Centre M1159.

Additional Total budget required is **£48,473.05**

- Dell Hardware costs: £39,036.59
- Networking and Cabling costs: £5,106.46
- ICT Resource Costs: £4,330.00

1. Background

- 1.1 Some of the Council's legacy systems are unsuitable for cloud migration due to technical limitations, the age of the applications, or unsupported software from third-party vendors. These systems are still critical to the Council's operations and replacing them with modern cloud-compatible solutions is neither financially nor logistically feasible.
- 1.2 This scalable approach allows the Council to maintain flexibility, as the proposed additional hardware solution can accommodate any future cloud optimisation reviews that demonstrate benefits in moving systems back on-premise—whether for cost efficiency or performance improvements.
- 1.3 The additional Dell hardware will be installed in the Spindles offices to facilitate the planned shutdown of the Civic Centre's data centre without disrupting the functionality of these legacy systems.

2. Rationale for Investment

- 2.1 The investment is necessary for the following reasons:
- 2.2 Business Continuity: Many of the Council's ICT systems cannot migrate to the cloud. Additionally, the scalable nature of the proposed solution allows for flexibility should future evaluations suggest that other systems would benefit from being moved back on-premise.
- 2.3 Futureproofing: The scalable Dell hardware solution enables the Council to adjust its infrastructure in response to cloud optimisation reviews. If moving certain systems back to on-premise proves more cost-effective or performance-enhancing in the future, the new hardware will provide the capacity and capability to handle these systems.

3. Alternative option(s) to be considered.

- 3.1 Do nothing: If the additional ICT Dell hardware is not added it will affect any migrated Business Services workloads to Spindles, impact data storage capability and stop the Civic Centre Decommission works.

3.2 In action would also limit the Council's ability to meet its strategic goals for modernising its ICT systems and could ultimately result in higher long-term costs.

4. Consultation

4.1 The Cabinet Member has been briefed. No conflict of interest have been identified.

5. Implications

<p>Financial</p>	<p><u>Capital Implications</u> The proposed scheme represents capital expenditure and will be a charge against the Information Technology (IT) capital programme.</p> <p>Provision exists within the capital programme against which this scheme will be a charge.</p> <p>It is expected that the £48.5k will be defrayed in the current financial year.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Jit Kara, Senior Accountant</p> <p><u>Revenue Implications</u></p> <p>There are no revenue implications.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Matthew Kearns, Finance Manager</p>
<p>Legal</p>	<p>Legal shares Procurements comments and sees no legal hinderances to this matter.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Mike Grocott, Solicitor</p>
<p>Equality impact including implications for Children and Young People</p>	<p>No Implications.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">James Mulvaney, Policy Manager</p>

Procurement Comments	<p>Dell Hardware - Commercial Procurement Unit has conducted a mini competition under the NHS SBS Digital Workplace Solutions Framework (Reference: SBS/19/AB/WAB/9411), commencement date :10 August 2020 and is valid until 9 August 2025. The procurement process was carried out in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR2015), using an evaluation model weighted at 90% price and 10% quality.</p> <p>Following the outcome of the competition, the Commercial Procurement Unit seeks approval to proceed with the award of the contract to CDW, via the NHS Framework.</p> <p>Upon approval of the DDR procurement will issue required notice as per PCR2015 regulations.</p> <p>Network & Cabling – cost under £10k, therefore no procurement comments are required, as the IT team has obtained a single quote in accordance with the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules</p> <p>ICT Resource – internal costs, no procurement implications.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Senga Henstock, ICT Senior Buyer</p>
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Has the relevant Legal Officer confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council’s Constitution?	Yes
Has the relevant Finance Officer confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council’s budget?	Yes
Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council?	No

Background Papers under Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

There are no background papers for this report.

Report author sign-off	Fran Lautman 
Role	Assistant Director of Customer Experience
Date of sign-off	11 August 2025

Approval	
Officer approval sign-off	Fiona Greenway 
Role	Executive Director of Resources
Date of sign-off	11.08.25

Approval	
Member(s) approval sign-off	 Cllr Abdul Jabbar
Role	Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services and Sustainability
Date of sign-off	11.08.2025