Report to Chief Executive

PART A : Back Up Service

Portfolio Holder:

Officer Contact: Matthew Gratton, Director of Digital

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Date: 7rd October 2026

Reason for Decision

Oldham Council intends to strengthen its overall cyber governance and risk management approach by procuring modern tools and processes that support cyber resilience and regulatory alignment. Sensitive financial, cyber-security, operational, and procurement specific information has been removed in this public version.

Executive Summary

The Council aims to maintain and improve its data protection cyber security posture. Adoption of modern back up and assessment tools will support more efficient governance, improved risk resilience, and alignment with national guidance. This public version excludes detailed technical, financial, and cyber-risk information.

Recommendations

Approval is sought to proceed with the procurement of modern back up tools through appropriate procurement routes.

PART A – Back Up Service

1. **Background**

   The Council currently uses modern backup and recovery services. This is a position that we look to cement and build upon to improve the council's security stance in the face of increasing cyber security risk.

2. **Current Position**

   The Council continues to develop its security stance and the basis of this is maintaining and improving it's data backup and recovery systems. Detailed technical descriptions, compliance gaps, and supply-chain vulnerabilities have been removed.

3. **Options/Alternatives**

   Option1 – Expiration of the current arrangements – Not recommended due to vulnerabilities.

   Option 2- Re-Procure and develop the existing modern tool set. This option is preferred to maintain the council's security stance.

4. **Preferred Option**

   The preferred option is option 2 – Re-Procure and develop the existing modern tool set. This option is preferred to maintain the council's security stance.

5. **Consultation**

   N/A

6. **Financial Implications**

   The proposal is expected to be funded out of existing budgets. Detailed costings and financial schedules have been removed.

7. **Legal Implications**

   Any procurement will be undertaken through compliant routes. Detailed contractual and framework-specific commentary has been removed.

8. **Procurement Implications**

Procurement will follow approved corporate processes and buying guidelines. All sensitive procurement justifications and vendor evaluations have been removed.

9. **Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People**

No Impact identified

10. **Key Decision**

Yes.

11. **Key Decision Reference**

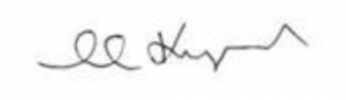
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12. **Background Papers**

No background papers.

13. **Appendices**

N/A

Approved by the Chief Executive following consultation with the political group leaders who were in attendance as follows:- Councillors: Maggie Hurley, Sam Al-Hamdani, Paul Taylor, Ioan Williams, Arooj Shah, Lisa Navesey, Beth Sharp, Max Woodvine, Brian Hobin, Elaine Taylor, Kamran Ghafoor and Aisha Kouser Decision made under the authorisation contained in Section 9C (5) Delegations of Specific Officers of Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions) and Section 3.6 of Part 4 (Executive Procedure Rules) of the Council Constitution for the Chief Executive to take emergency decisions in respect of the Council's executive functions.
Signed:  Shelley Kipling, Chief Executive Dated: 05/11/2026
Date of Group Leaders meeting: 02/11/2026
Summary of feedback from the political group leaders: Group Leaders queried why social value had not been reflected within the procurement evaluation information and sought clarification on how local spend considerations could be incorporated when using national procurement frameworks such as Crown Commercial Service and G-Cloud. Clarification was also requested regarding the balance between capital and revenue expenditure. Following discussion, the recommendations were approved.