
Subject: REPLACEMENT OF CUSTOMER PREMISES EQUIPMENT AT COUNCIL OFFICES

Date: 22 March 2023

Decision to be taken by: Brinley Hill, Head of Transformation

Report of: Abi Robinson, Digital Services Manager

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Chris Vinson (Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance, Digital and Climate Change)

Decision Type: Executive Non-Key Decision

Classification: Unrestricted

Delegated Authority: Authority delegated by Cabinet (Cabinet decision CAB 94 of 27 February 2023) and Council (at its meeting held on 1 March 2023) when approving the Council Budget 2023/24 and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2023/24-2026/27 (as set out in Annex 10 of the report) as follows: ‘Delegates the approval of projects included in Annex 6D, the Digital & ICT Programme, to the Head of Transformation, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance, Digital and Climate Change.’

Purpose of the report: Replacing the end-of-life Customer Premises Equipment in the DDC offices.

Recommendation: To approve a new project to replace the Customer Premises Equipment in the Council offices which is now at the end of its life.

1. Summary

1.1 To replace the Customer Premises Equipment (CPE) which provides connectivity to the Kent Public Services Network (KPSN). The KPSN provides internet connectivity to the DDC office building.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 Internet and Wide Area Network (WAN) connectivity is provided by KPSN. As part of the KPSN contract DDC purchased the CPE. This is now at the end of its life and no longer supported.

2.2 As part of ICT coming back in house, we now have direct communication with KPSN regarding the contracts and sites around the district. We have been notified that the CPE providing connectivity to KPSN is no longer supported and needs replacing.

3. Identification of Options

3.1 Option1 – Do not replace.

3.2 Option 2 – Replace with new CPE.

4. Evaluation of Options

4.1 The option to not replace the CPE has been considered, but presents a risk of service outage, impacting the entire Council.

4.2 The recommended option is to replace the CPE as soon as possible. As there could be delays in receiving the hardware, KPSN have spare old units which they can temporarily implement in case of an outage with our current equipment.

4.3 KPSN have provided a quotation to provide and implement the new equipment. The cost totals £4,115.31, with an annual ongoing charge for maintenance of £173.57 which will be included in our KPSN contract.

5. **Resource Implications**

5.1 There is budget allocated in the ICT reserve for this project.

5.2 Total one-off cost is £4,115.31, with an ongoing annual maintenance charge of £173.57.

6. **Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

6.1 No comments received.

7. **Corporate Implications**

7.1 Comment from the Director of Finance (linked to the MTFP): Accountancy have been consulted on the report and have no further comments to add. (AG)

7.2 Comment from the Solicitor to the Council: The Solicitor to the Council has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no further comments to make.

7.3 Comment from the Equalities Officer: 'This report for the replacement of the CPE equipment in the DDC offices which is now end-of-life does not specifically highlight any equality implications, however in discharging their duties members are required to comply with the public sector equality duty as set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/section/149>'

7.4 Other Officers (as appropriate):

8. **Appendices**

None.

9. **Background Papers**

Relevant papers on Digital Services files.

Contact Officer: Abi Robinson, Digital Services Manager