REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE  27TH JUNE 2022

REPORT ON: CORPORATE IT NETWORK UPGRADE

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

REPORT NO: 169-2022

## 1.0   PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1   To consider the purchase of new network hardware to replace ageing equipment that provides essential IT connections across many Council buildings.

## 2.0   RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee -

•        Agree to the purchase of new network hardware

•        Remit the Head of Customer Services & IT to purchase network hardware to be compliantly procured through NHS Digital Workplace Solutions framework.

## 3.0   FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1   The network hardware will cost £139,993 and will be met from the IT capital budget

3.2   Staffing costs to support the deployment of the products to be met from existing Customer Services and IT staffing budgets.

## 4.0   BACKGROUND

4.1   This report supports the Council's IT Strategy which was approved at Policy and Resources Committee on 18 February 2019 (Report 81-2019), The Councils IT strategy sets out to deliver mobile and flexibly accessible services through low cost corporately deployed solutions. IT services requiring to be available anytime anywhere.

4.2   All computers, telephones, Wi-Fi and printers are connected to the Council network. This network spans more than 140 buildings including schools, leisure facilities, libraries, offices and car parks. This is essential to provide connectivity to the Council data centres, applications, data and internet.

4.3   The Council network consists of many different pieces of network hardware. Some of the network hardware within the Council network is now more than 10 years old and needs to be replaced. This reduces support costs and downtime due to failures of old equipment. It will also allow us to take advantage of new features and security standards built into the new hardware.

4.4   A Procurement exercise was carried out on the NHS Digital Workplace Solutions framework to procure the best value solution for the Council. Following evaluation of the quality and price submission the preferred bidder is Specialist Computer Centres.

## 5.0   POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report has been subject to an assessment of any impacts on Equality and Diversity, Fairness and Poverty, Environment and Corporate Risk.  There are no major issues.

**6.0    CONSULTATIONS**

The Council Leadership Team were consulted in the preparation of this report.

**7.0    BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None


**ROBERT EMMOTT**                                        **Date: 27TH JUNE 2022**
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES**