

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 12 JUNE 2023

REPORT ON: PURCHASE OF ENTERPRISE BACKUP SYSTEM

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

REPORT NO: 168-2023

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider the purchase of a new enterprise backup and data protection system. The existing system is approaching end of life later this year and a replacement system is required.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- agrees to the purchase of the enterprise backup and data protection system;
- remits the Head of Customer Services & IT to purchase a new Enterprise Backup and Data Protection System, following a compliant procurement process using NHS Digital Workplace Solutions framework;

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The cost to purchase hardware, software and licenses for an initial 3-year period is £204,236.

3.2 Installation and setup costs for the new system will be £23,750.

3.3 Staffing costs to support the deployment and ongoing management of the system will be met from existing Customer Services and IT staffing budgets.

3.4 Purchase costs for the hardware and software licenses will be met from IT Capital budget.

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 Council's IT strategy sets out to deliver digital services, mobile and flexibly accessible services through cost effective solutions.

4.2 Dundee City Council has an Enterprise Backup and Data Protection system that is approaching end of life and will fall out of support in November 2023. This system is crucial to provide backup copies of all Council data and historical versions of files, systems and databases.

4.3 Carrying out backups of data is essential for business continuity and disaster recovery. Due to the increased threat from cyber-attacks, such as ransomware, this has become even more important. In accordance with the National Cyber Security Centre recommendations the Council currently keeps 3 backup copies of all our data, in physically separate locations. The new system allows us to meet this requirement and ensures data is safe and protected.

4.4 The Enterprise Backup and Data Protection system will provide resiliency of all Council data held in the Council data centres. It also integrates with public cloud, providing additional benefits and a future proofed solution. It is a secure, scalable system that will be a critical part of the Council's protection from cyber-attacks.

- 4.5 The new system further enhances the Council's disaster recovery by introducing new functions and security features. The system integrates with current IT infrastructure to allow for fast recovery of servers and databases. It can also be expanded in the future if additional capacity is required.
- 4.6 The initial license term is for 3 years with an option to extend for a further 2 years.
- 4.7 A procurement exercise has been carried out using NHS Digital Workplace Solutions framework. Nine tender submissions were received and following an evaluation based on quality and price the preferred supplier is Proact UK.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report has been subject to the Pre-IIA Screening Tool and does not make any recommendations for change to strategy, policy, procedures, services or funding and so has not been subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment. An appropriate senior manager has reviewed and agreed with this assessment.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

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

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None.

ROBERT EMMOTT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

Date: 26 MAY 2023