EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION

REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Resources
LEAD OFFICERS:	Director of Finance and IT
DATE:	14 June 2018

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:	ALL
WARD/S AFFECTED:	All
KEY DECISION:	YES ☐ NO ☒

SUBJECT: Replacement of key areas of the Council's IT infrastructure.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report seeks approval to progress with a programme of works to replace areas of the Council's IT infrastructure for the 2018/19 financial year.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

Further to approval of the Capital Programme for 2018-2021 at Finance Council in February 2018, the Executive Board is asked to note the reallocation of £950,000 from the earmarked ICT Capital Reserve in 2018/19, in order to commence the programme of works to replace key areas of the Council's IT infrastructure as intended.

3. BACKGROUND

It has been approximately five years since the last overhaul of the core infrastructure and subsequently there are several areas of the existing infrastructure that are due to be renewed and/ or replaced, with the majority of these required in 2018/19. There will be further works that need to take place however over the next five years to further maintain and/or enhance the existing infrastructure. The areas that are required to be addressed in the current financial year are as follows;

Internal Firewalls
The firewalls are used to prevent unauthorised access to Council systems. The existing firewalls are due to become end of support and need to be replaced to ensure compliance moving forwards.

Wi-Fi
The Councils current wi-fi network currently provides corporate connectivity, guest/public access connectivity and NHS wireless connectivity. There are currently 230 access points in the borough to allow users to connect to systems. The solution currently being used by the Council is no longer being developed and issues have been observed in the stability of system, the current solution cannot be expanded further as the products can no longer be sourced leaving the department unable to provide

wireless in new locations. The project will replace all the current access points with a new solution.

Virtual Platform & Storage
These are the servers which host all the software that is utilised within the Council and also provide storage for Council data. Due to the age of the servers, very shortly they will no longer be supported by the manufacturer and have a high failure rate of disks. The project will look to replace up to 50% of the current estate in this phase of works.

Netscaler's
These devices manage the internet traffic for the Council and require replacing due to end of support with the manufacturer.

Lync/Skype for business
This provides the telephony solution for the majority of Council users. The current version that the Council is using will shortly be unsupported and therefore there is a requirement to migrate onto the latest platform.

Citrix Server Farm
Citrix is used within the Council to provide access to Council systems for external users and also to give access to certain systems to Council users when working remotely. The current solution is now almost 'end of life' and will shortly be unsupported moving forwards.

Each individual workstream will be procured separately to ensure best value for money from the marketplace under a strategy agreed with the Commissioning and Procurement Team.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

- **Firewalls** -If the firewalls which are due to expire at the end of support/life in 2018/19 are not replaced, then the Council will not be security compliant moving forward.
- **Wi-Fi** - Due to end of support/life, the Council's Wireless network requires replacement to ensure operational availability and security compliance moving forward. Access points are also no longer available for this system; therefore we are unable to provide wireless in any new locations going forward.
- **Storage/Virtual platform** - Failure rate of disks will continue with the current solution remaining fragmented and costly. There is a requirement to provide a storage solution to allow the Council to restore critical services in the event of a disaster. This work stream will also review the software required to run the systems.
- **NetScaler's-** If we don't replace these we cannot ensure operational availability and security compliance moving forward
- **Lync/Skype for Business-** The risk of not upgrading the existing Lync system is that we will be running on unsupported versions of operating systems and database software which presents inherent security risks as patches will not be available and as such, we will lose our PSN compliance certification.
- **Citrix Server Farm -** The risk of not upgrading the existing Citrix server farms is that we will be running on unsupported versions of operating systems and database software which presents inherent security risks as patches will not be produced and as such, we will lose our PSN compliance certification.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The equipment will support the "Deliver a Fit For Purpose Organisation" by refreshing technology that is outdated and does not meet the Council's needs.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The core infrastructure scheme for the 2018/19 financial year will cost an estimated £950k; the estimates can be broken down as follows;

Internal Firewalls - £140k
Wi-Fi - £250k
Virtual Platform & Storage - £300k
Netscaler's - £40k
Lync/Skype for business - £75k
Citrix Server Farm - £100k
Project Management time for all of these projects - £45k

Provision for the scheme was included within the ICT Capital Earmarked Reserve for 2018-2021 as part of the Capital Programme approved at Finance Council in February 2018. The report asks the Executive Board to formally designate the scheme within the Capital Programme.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The procurement process shall be in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Council's Contract Procurement Procedure Rules.
All contracts and contract variations will be in a form approved by legal officers in the Commissioning and Procurement team.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The business case includes costs for new temporary members of staff for the project. There will be an impact to some existing staff within the department which will be mitigated through work planning and project prioritisation.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS
Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

10. CONSULTATIONS

Consultations have commenced with business areas and will continue over the length of the project in order to determine the most appropriate devices for staff to carry out their roles in the Council.

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

VERSION:	1

CONTACT OFFICER:	Peter Hughes
DATE:	21/05/2018
BACKGROUND PAPER:	None