

Single Member Cabinet Decision

**Executive  
Forward Plan  
Reference****E 3589****Financial Management System – Contract Approval**

<b>Decision maker/s</b>	<b>Cllr Mark Elliott, Cabinet Member for Resources</b>
<b>The Issue</b>	<p>The Council has been using its current Financial Management System (Agresso) for over 20 years. This system has been an “on-premise” system managed on the Councils internal Servers.</p> <p>Originally the Council signed a perpetual site licence and have been paying the same contract value for many years. However, the supplier of the Agresso system - Unit 4 - announced in 2023 that it would no longer support any on-premise system from 2025 and therefore a decision was needed on our future requirements.</p>
<b>Decision Date</b>	7th January 2025
<b>The decision</b>	<p>The Cabinet Member agrees to</p> <p>Approve a new 5-year contract with Unit 4 for an enhanced Financial Management System (ERPX)</p>
<b>Rationale for decision</b>	<p>A number of options were considered to deliver the best value for money for the Council. The final approach followed uses a fully compliant procurement process using a specific framework through SoftCat which maximises value and efficiency to the Council. It is also in line with most modern software providers utilising SaaS (Software as a Service) technology, the Council’s ICT strategy and the need to migrate all business systems to a hosted platform</p>
<b>Financial and budget implications</b>	<p>The total cost of the 5-year contract equates to £1,195,982.12, this will be funded from existing system budgets and any additional funding required will be built into the base budget of IT services from 2026/27</p>
<b>Issues considered</b>	<p>Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Sustainability; Human Resources; Property; Young People; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation); Human Rights; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations. A full EIQA has been produced to accompany the report.</p>
<b>Consultation undertaken</b>	<p>Senior Council officers were consulted as part of the Councils Financial Systems Steering Group, including the Executive Director Resources (S151) Head of Digital and Customer Experience, Director of Financial Service, Assurance &amp; Pensions, and the Head of Financial Management</p>
<b>How consultation was carried out</b>	<p>This was undertaken during meeting of the Financial Systems Steering group and via emails.</p>

<b>Other options considered</b>	A range of other options were considered however the significant costs and risks involved were prohibitive and therefore a straightforward re-contracting position was recommended
<b>Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision:</b>	None
<b>Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:</b>	None

<b>Name and Signature of Decision Maker/s</b>	Cllr Mark Elliott, Cabinet Member for Resources
<b>Date of Signature</b>	07/01/25

**Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision**