

ICT END-USER DEVICE – DESKTOP HARDWARE

This form records an officer decision and is published in accordance with the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014

Date of Decision	December 2025
Decision Taker (including Job Title)	Ashley Hughes Executive Director of Resources and S 151 Officer
Specific Delegation	<p>This decision is taken under the delegated authority granted to the Director of Digital in accordance with the Council's Constitution – Scheme of Delegation. The authority to award contracts of this value is delegated to this role as per the approved scheme.</p> <p>This record relates to an officer decision taken under the Constitution dated July 2025 which delegates at Chapter 2 part 5 paragraph 55 authority to the Executive Director of Resources to take any decision in relation to resources and procurement in accordance with the Constitution;</p> <p>This decision to implement the resolution of the Council under the Enterprise Level ICT Corporate Solutions item, considered by the Finance Sub Committee on 10th September 2025 (contained in Appendix 1 of item 24, - Pipelines Report – ALL-2025-07-31-18-16-33).</p>

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee
held on Wednesday, 10th September, 2025 in the The Capesthorne Room -
Town Hall, Macclesfield, SK10 1EA

PRESENT

Councillor D Clark (Chair)
Councillor G Marshall (Vice-Chair)

Councillors D Brown, B Drake, S Gardiner, T Dean and R Vernon

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ashley Hughes, Executive Director of Resources and S151 Officer
Chris Benham, Director of Finance
Tracy Baldwin, Strategic Finance Manager
Lianne Halliday, Head of Procurement
Julie Gregory, Acting Head of Legal Services
Nikki Bishop, Democratic Services Officer

15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor C O'Leary. Councillor T Dean
was present as substitute.

The Chair welcomed Chris Benham, Director of Finance, to his first
Finance Sub Committee meeting.

16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

17 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2025 be agreed as a
correct record and signed by the Chair.

18 PUBLIC SPEAKING/OPEN SESSION

There were no registered speakers.

The 'significant decision' has therefore already
been taken by the Committee and the officer acts
only to implement that decision in accordance with
his delegated authority.

Financial Procedure Rules:

Under Chapter 3 – Part 4 – Para 5.27 -


Responsibility for Functions – Officer Delegation, of
the Constitution, the decision to let this contract is
made pursuant to all relevant financial limits
prescribed and is within budget and is made by a
duly authorised officer - per Para 2.29 - under the
relevant scheme of delegation.

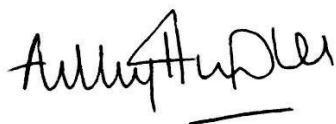
Contract Procedure Rules:

The direct award is made in line with the Health
Trust Europe Framework Agreement for the
provision of hardware, as advised by CEC
Procurement officers. This procedure falls within
and accords with the CPR, and certification of that
fact is sought from the legal officer endorsing this
record.

Brief Description of Decision	<p>The decision to implement the decision of the Council referred to above in relation to the purchase ICT End-User Devices – Desktop Hardware. The decision to procure needs to be implemented prior to the forecast increase in the prices of such items on the market (see below).</p> <p>The contract will be awarded [REDACTED] through the Health Trust Europe framework agreement.</p>
Reasons for the Decision and alternatives considered	<p>An allocation of funding has been made to enable ICT Services to continue to deliver a fully managed and compliant estate of end user devices (EUDs). The decision is to purchase [REDACTED]. This is a decrease in actual number of [REDACTED] factoring in the potential reduction of staff headcount. Due to market conditions and the emergence of AI and AI capable infrastructure, the market is experiencing an unprecedented change in price for components for compute devices, laptops, phones, PC's etc.</p> <p>HP, Dell, and Lenovo have all now announced price increases across their portfolios of client devices. They have announced that as of 15th of December 2025 as the date on which an increase in price will take effect and is likely to be in the region of 13% increases for Lenovo products, Dell and HP have suggested 15-20%.</p> <p>To mitigate this risk on increased cost, the decision is made to purchase and order [REDACTED] units during this calendar year to mitigate the price increases. [REDACTED]</p> <p>Out-of-support devices can pose significant risks to the council's estate as they will not receive the latest firmware, application, and driver updates to mitigate security vulnerabilities. Cybercriminals often exploit these weaknesses, leading to potential data breaches and system compromises.</p>
Member consultation and interests declared	<p>This decision was approved at Finance Sub Committee on Wednesday 10th Sept 2025 where members were consulted. No interests were declared.</p>

Significant Decision	NO
Legal Implications	<p>This procurement will be regularly achieved on standard terms pursuant to the [REDACTED] framework agreement under which a [REDACTED] is permitted.</p> <p>That being so there are no exceptional features which adversely impact the Council's best interests.</p> <p>All such procedures comply with the Contract Procedure Rules within Chapter 3 Part 5 of the Constitution.</p> <p>Certain of the information in this unpublished version of this ODR is subject to issues of commercial confidence and therefore only a redacted version will be published.</p> <p>The decision maker has the necessary authority to make this decision under the Constitution.</p> <p>Phillip Rudall: Senior Commercial Solicitor Contracts and Procurement, Legal Division. 10th November 2025.</p>

Financial Implications	<p>Device replacement is part of the Council's approved capital programme with assigned capital codes. The code for this procurement is: CAP-10192 - ICT Device Replacement C120010</p> <p>A capital budget (funded by prudential borrowing) of £[REDACTED] is allocated over a 4 year period for Device Replacement from 2025/26. [REDACTED]m new budget was approved in the 2025/26 budget. There was also an underspend of £[REDACTED]6m from 2024/25 which was reprofiled into 2028/29</p> <p>The capital project shows spend of £[REDACTED]6m for the year to date, leaving a balance of [REDACTED]m, which is sufficient to fund the proposed purchase if the capital budget was reprofiled – effectively bringing forward [REDACTED]7m from future years into 2025/26.</p> <p>A reprofiling of [REDACTED]m into 2025/26 requires consultation with Chair of Corporate Policy Committee and Chair of Finance Sub-Committee.</p> <p>By purchasing at this time, there is an element of cost avoidance estimated at [REDACTED]m.</p>
	 [REDACTED]
Confidential/Exempt Information	Please see legal comments above, consequent on which certain information will be exempt from publication.
Background Papers	



Signed
of Resources. S151 Officer

Ashley Hughes. Executive Director

OFFICIAL

Dated 15/12/2025

Signed 

Chair Corporate Policy Committee

Dated ...15/12/2025.....

Signed 

Chair Finance Sub-Committee

Dated ...15/12/2025.....