


**RECORD OF EXERCISE OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY OFFICER PURSUANT TO
REGULATION 13 OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS)
(MEETINGS AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012 &
THE OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS 2014**

<u>SUBJECT OF DECISION</u>	
Procurement of Azure Managed Support Contract to include replacement Firewalls	
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	<u>SOURCE OF AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE</u> (i.e. Committee/ Constitution/Minute No. etc.)
DO/117/2026 (AB)	Part 3D paragraphs 3D.2 a) and b) of the Council's Constitution
<u>DATE OF DECISION</u>	<u>DECISION MAKER</u> (Name and Job Title)
5 th May 2026	Anthony Baxter – Assistant Director for Digital and Business Change 
<u>RECORD OF THE DECISION</u>	
<p>a) The issue Management of our Azure IT infrastructure is supported via a managed service contract to ensure our environment is secure and appropriately structured. The current contract comes to an end in August 2026, and a new support contract needs to be procured. The Azure firewalls are currently managed under a separate contract and need to be replaced.</p> <p>b) The Decision In order to ensure our Azure environment is secure and optimised, a decision has been taken to enter into a new contract to provide proactive monitoring and support for that environment, to include replacement of existing firewalls, to be encompassed within the support contract.</p>	
<u>REASON FOR THE DECISION</u>	
Proactive monitoring and support of our Azure environment is essential in order to ensure it is secure and optimisation is maintained. Provision of firewalls is crucial to maintain security.	
<u>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED IN MAKING THE DECISION</u>	
We could choose to discontinue the support and self-manage the environment. However, there is insufficient resource and expertise internally to take this approach. The expertise of a third party is key to ensuring that the infrastructure is secure and well-managed. Replacement of firewalls is essential.	

WARD RELEVANCE

None

FINANCIAL AND BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Met within existing revenue budget

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN WITH MEMBERS/OFFICERS

Assistant Director – Democracy and Governance
IT & Communications Manager

ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARED BY ANY MEMBER CONSULTED

N/A

IN RESPECT OF ANY DECLARED CONFLICT BY A CABINET MEMBER, ANY DISPENSATION GIVEN BY THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE (Note if the decision is a non-executive decision, no dispensation can be given).

N/A

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS (including any Equality Impact Assessment)

N/A

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

None

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

HEALTH EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

None

SECTION 17 CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

None

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

None

SME (SMALL/MEDIUM ENTERPRISES) & LOCAL ECONOMY IMPLICATIONS

None

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None

ANY OTHER COMMENTS

**PLEASE RETURN TO THE MONITORING OFFICER AS SOON AS A DECISION IS
MADE OR AS REASONABLY PRACTICABLE THEREAFTER**