

Paper for the Board

This paper is for the authorisation of expenditure

Sponsor

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Reviewed by

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1. Summary

As detailed in our Scheme of Delegation, expenditure more than £500,000 requires authorisation by the Board. This paper sets out proposed capital expenditure for our digital services development.

The contract value is for £3.1m for two years commencing on 1 April 2021, with an option to extend by a further six months. The development work is essential to complete the functionality in key areas that will, when in place, create significant administration efficiencies.

2. Action required

The Board is asked to authorise the expenditure.

3. Commentary

The contract for the suppliers of our digital services development expires in April 2021, it had been extended to the maximum of its value, so a new procurement was required. There is still a significant amount of development work required to complete the functionality in key areas that will, when in place, create significant administration efficiencies.

The procurement was undertaken via the Crown Commercial Framework as the route to market. Several suppliers, including the current supplier, bid for the work. The assessment panel scores were unanimously in favour of a new supplier who scored significantly higher on all dimensions; technical, cultural fit and price.

Our current supplier will continue to provide our IT infrastructure. Whilst disappointed with the outcome, they are committed to working with us and the new supplier. We have project management support in place to mitigate risks in moving the development from one supplier to another.

This capital spend has been approved by Government Digital Services and is planned into the budget. The Executive Leadership Team have approved the business case and the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee have reviewed the business case.

4. Recommendation

That the Board authorise the expenditure so that we can award a contract and ensure a smooth transition between suppliers.