



Accounting Officer Memorandum

End User Compute Hardware Sourcing Services – Full Business Case (FBC)

It is normal practice for accounting officers to scrutinise significant policy proposals or plans to start or vary major projects, and then assess whether they measure up to the standards set out in Managing Public Money. From April 2017, the government has committed to make a summary of the key points from these assessments available to Parliament when an accounting officer has agreed an assessment of projects within the Government's Major Projects Portfolio.

Background and context

The End User Compute (EUC) Hardware Sourcing (HS) Full Business Case (FBC) is seeking approval to proceed to contract finalisation and signature with the selected HS supplier from the recent procurement process. The expiry of the existing EUCS contract requires the MoJ to procure HS services to ensure continuous supply of End User Devices (EUDs) and Peripherals.

The FBC builds upon the Future State EUCS Outline Business Case approved in early 2023, re-affirms the preferred option from the OBC and provides an updated view that reflects the preferred bidder as identified following a competitive procurement.

Assessment against the accounting officer standards

Regularity

The whole life cost of the proposal is considered affordable within the current spending review period. Funding has been secured for the current Spending Review (SR) period (up to and including Financial Year 2024/25). Funding for the next SR period is not yet agreed and will be subject to future SR negotiations.



Propriety

A policy meets this assessment if high standards of public conduct have been made, if robust governance has been put in place and relevant parliamentary expectations, including transparency, have been maintained.

This project is assessed as proper.

A board is established to support the Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) deliver the programme and its benefit. The board and SRO are supported by the department's key functions and the FBC has been scrutinised by the department's Investment Committee.

Value for Money

The FBC has assessed the value for money of a dedicated contract with the preferred bidder – as identified from the EUCS HS procurement process against the baseline comparator prior to contract signature.

The dedicated contract with the preferred bidder represents the best value for money for taxpayers. This option delivers the project objectives, provides significant benefits, carries lower risk and a lower cost than the counterfactual.

Feasibility

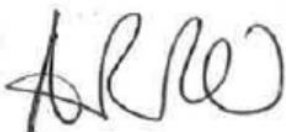
The project is considered feasible, with the latest IPA review having assessed the programme as having an Amber delivery confidence assessment. Actions are being taken to address the risks outlined through the IPA review.

Conclusion

As the accounting officer for the Ministry of Justice I considered this assessment of End User Compute Hardware Sourcing Full Business Case and approved it on 15 July 2024.

I have prepared this summary to set out the key points which informed my decision. If any of these factors change materially during the lifetime of this project, I undertake to prepare a revised summary, setting out my assessment of them.

This summary will be published on the government's website (GOV.UK). Copies will be deposited in the Library of the House of Commons and sent to the Comptroller and Auditor General and Treasury Officer of Accounts.



Antonia Romeo
Permanent Secretary
15/07/2024