

AGENDA ITEM: 14



FINANCE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING ON	Tuesday 3 June 2025
PREPARED BY:	Debbie Buggs
PRESENTED BY:	Debbie Buggs
SUBJECT	New finance System
PURPOSE DECISION / DISCUSSION	For Discussion
LINK TO CORPORATE OBJECTIVE	Organisational Robustness
RISK IMPACT ASSESSMENT	n/a

As noted in the Budget pack for 2025, the current finance system Exchequer is on extended support which means that the supplier is no longer improving the system, and will probably phase it out in the medium term.

We engaged Adapta to advise on the replacement system.

We received five initial expressions of interest, and short listed three: Microsoft Business Central, with implementation partner TES, Xledger and Ipllicit. We have ruled out Aqilla and AccountsIQ.

We had teams meetings with the finance department and the five firms then we held in person meeting with TES, Xledger and Aqilla and a teams meeting with Ipllicit at which the finance team, Libby from Adapta and Nigel Coles in his capacity as honorary Treasurer were present.

Adapta collated responses from all five firms.

We are currently in the process of taking references, and expect to be able to make a decision by the end of July.

Council previously approved:

The use of Adapta for advising on the replacement of Exchequer (£21,000)

The replacement of Exchequer and associated consultancy costs of doing this(using the £50,000 in the 2025 strategy budget)

Adapta's estimate for the advisory work was based on 13 days work, and they are running to budget on this.

The set up costs quoted are £23k iplicit, £63k TES, £35k Xledger, and some 10 days from Adapta at £13,500, although the contribution from Adapta will depend on the supplier chosen.

PREVIOUS CONSIDERATION	Budget for 2025 Council business conducted electronically 17 October 2024
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	As set out in the paper.