



Decision Title: Digital Evidence Management (DEMS)

Decision summary

A Digital Evidence Management System (DEMS) is a system for the end-to-end processing of digital evidence. A DEMS enables a digital file to be stored, viewed, shared, and disposed of, with all actions audited. The Outline Business Case detailed the issues officers and staff face with the current digital evidence management systems, related to both functions and performance, as well as relating to the use of multiple systems / having different evidence types stored in different places. Whilst the systems in place now have provided benefits, the market has moved on; new DEMS products are available and are being utilised by UK police forces.

The **Outline Business Case** initially presented two options for consideration:

1. Procure a new, fit for purpose DEMS for Avon & Somerset. This would replace existing systems. This will be conducted as a regional procurement exercise, with Avon & Somerset as the lead Force.
2. Continue with the status quo. Work would continue with users and suppliers to improve, where possible, the current systems.

The Constabulary's Portfolio Steering Board (PSB) reviewed the OBC at its meeting on 13/09/23, endorsing Option 1. In endorsing this option PSB noted and committed to the indicative costs outlined in the OBC which were developed through the discovery work completed to date, and which will be clarified further through the completion of the procurement process. PSB also noted the indicative savings that would be achieved to offset these costs when legacy systems are switched off.

Given the financial values associated with this activity, the Outline Business Case was referred to the Governance & Scrutiny Board. The Board agreed to option 1 and gave approval to initiate procurement processes.

A Final Business Case will be presented in the future post procurement to the Governance & Scrutiny Board.

Background or reference to supporting papers:

The Digital Evidence Management Outline Business Case was presented for approval at the Governance & Scrutiny Board on 16/10/23.

Avon and Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any declarations of disclosable interest in this matter. Any such interests are disclosed.

The above request has my approval.

Date 15/11/23



Police & Crime Commissioner for Avon & Somerset

CFO Signatures

Date 15/11/23

(OCC CFO required if decision requested or presented for approval by Constabulary)



PCC CFO

OCC CFO

Other relevant lead officer as required

Date 15/11/23

(e.g PCC CEO, COG lead)

OPCC CoS

Alice Ripley



Job title

name

signature