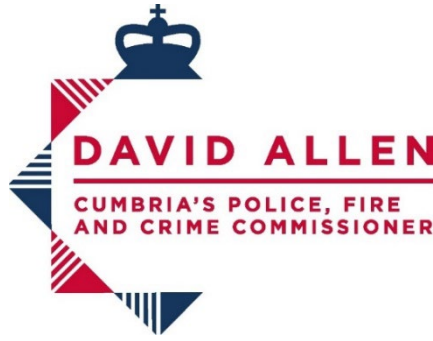




y



Request for a Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner Decision

SECTION 1

| | | | |
|--|----------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Please identify who is requesting the decision: | | | |
| OPFCC Decision | N | Decision Number: | PF xxxx/yyyy |
| CCFRA Decision | Y | Decision Number: | CF 008-2025 |
| Constabulary Decision | N | Decision Number: | CC xxxx/yyyy |

(Please indicate whether this is a PART 1 or PART 2 decision (For Part 2 decisions, only the Section 1 is to be published))

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|----------|
| PART 1 Decision: | | PART 2 Decision: | Y |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|----------|

DECISION TITLE: Procurement of new Network Services for CFRS

Executive Summary:
 The purpose of this paper is to request approval from the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to agree to the procurement of new Network Services for the Fire Service.

The current network architecture is based on a combination of MPLS and Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) technologies. Both are approaching end-of-life and are no longer fit for purpose in a modern, secure, and agile public service environment. This includes critical systems that support fire station connectivity, remote sites, and operational fire-end services. Continued reliance on these technologies poses risks to service continuity, security, and future scalability.

Importantly, this transformation is time-limited, as the national PSTN switch-off is scheduled for 1 January 2027. Therefore, Cumbria Fire and Rescue must complete the transition before this deadline to avoid disruption to critical services.

This attached options paper outlines the rationale for the chosen solution its outlines the strategic rationale, technical requirements, implementation roadmap, and technical requirements and the expected outcomes of the proposed network transformation.

It is designed to ensure Cumbria Fire and Rescue is equipped with a robust digital foundation that supports its independence, enhances operational effectiveness, and aligns with modern public sector ICT standards.

Recommendation:

That the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner:

1. Supports the acquisition of new circuits and networking equipment to host a replacement network for Cumbria Fire and Rescue Services.

Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner

I confirm that I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for Cumbria Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner. Any such interests are recorded below.

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| I hereby: | approve | the recommendations as set out above. |
| | do not approve | |

Delete as appropriate:

Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner / Chief Executive (delete as appropriate)

Signature:



Date:

For OPFCC Office Use only:

Date of publication of decision:

Each section below must be completed prior to submission to the Commissioner for decision.


ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| I confirm that this report has been considered by the Chief Officer Group / OPFCC Executive Team / CCFRA Executive Team and that relevant financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. | |
| Signed: I SEEL | Date: 7/10/2025 |

CHIEF OFFICER APPROVAL (where applicable)

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Chief Constable / Chief Fire Officer (delete as appropriate) | |
| I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. | |
| Signature: | Date: 7/10/2025 |

OPFCC CHIEF OFFICER APPROVAL

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Chief Executive (Monitoring Officer) / Chief Finance Officer (Deputy Chief Executive) (delete as appropriate) | |
| I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner / Chief Executive (delete as appropriate). | |
| Signature:  | Date: 20/10/2025 |

| | |
|---|----|
| Media Strategy | |
| The decision taken by the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner may require a press announcement or media strategy. | |
| Will a press release be required following the decision being considered? | NO |
| If yes, has a media strategy been formulated? | |
| Is the media strategy attached? | |
| What is the proposed date of the press release: | |

Public Access to Information

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the PFCC website within 5 working days of approval. Any facts/advice/recommendations that should not be made automatically available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead in the Part 2 section of the form. Deferment is only applicable where release before that date would not compromise the implementation of the decision being approved.

| | |
|--|----|
| Is the publication of this form to be deferred? | NO |
| Until what date (if known): | |
| If yes, for what reason: | |
| If this is a Part 2 Decision , has the Part 2 element of this form been completed | |