

**Committee:** IT Working Group  
**Date:** 1 April 2009  
**Title:** Blade Server Project  
**Author:** Nicola Wittman, ICT Manager  
01799 510413

**Agenda Item**

**7**

Item for  
Information

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### Summary

1. This report is to advise Members of the progress on the blade server project.

### Recommendations

2. Members note the content of this report.

### Background Papers

None

### Impact

Communication/Consultation	Staff are being consulted throughout the implementation process
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None
Finance	The funds required are available from a mix of both capital and revenue budgets.
Human Rights	None
Legal implications	None
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	Will be an impact as changeover occurs but will reduce downtime from system failures significantly.

### **Situation**

3. As a result of discussions around the way in which the Council operates a front line support desk service, the final post in the infrastructure team remains to be filled. An internal advertisement is expected to be placed within the next month.
4. Officers have undertaken significant research into virtualization and blade servers and have attended hands-on courses to gain further experience and knowledge of the subject matter. Following on from this a decision has been made that the Council wishes to introduce virtualization via blade servers.
5. The first project to go live using this technology will be the Electronic Document and Records Management system (item 6 on this agenda). Quotations were obtained from potential suppliers and the work has been awarded to HP. The relevant hardware, consultancy and training will be delivered over the next two months.
6. Once the initial blade system is up and running further meetings will be held with nearby councils around shared disaster recovery of the virtualized environments.
7. With the key infrastructure in place the roll-out to remaining suitable systems will take place over the next 12 months.