CROWN HOSTING
DATA CENTRES

CASE STUDY

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Derby City Council

Derby City Council broke even within 24 months of moving its legacy systems to Crown Hosting

Derby City Council needed a home for the systems that could not move to public cloud. Through the framework it planned a mixed cloud and legacy migration, left its existing contracts without extra cost and broke even within 24 months, including the cost of migration.

24 months

To break even, including the cost of migration

80%

Roughly the share of applications that could move to cloud. Crown Hosting took the legacy estate

No extra cost

To leave existing contracts, using a delayed start date to plan the exit



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

ABOUT DERBY CITY COUNCIL

Derby City Council is a unitary authority at the heart of the UK. Its vision is for Derby to be a city that is safe, strong, ambitious and resilient.

CLIENT	SECTOR	WHAT THEY USE	WORKING WITH US SINCE
Derby City Council	Local Government	Colocation for legacy systems in a hybrid estate	2016

01

THE PROBLEM

The council ran a thorough analysis of what Cloud First would mean for its legacy IT estate. It became clear that a single route would not work.

- **A hybrid estate.** Something like 80% of the council's applications could move to cloud. The rest could not.
- **Complexity.** As Senior Project Manager Alistair Taylor put it, “Some things just don't play nicely in the Cloud”.
- **Time constraints.** The council was working to tight timescales.
- **A resistant supply chain.** The council described its supply chain as naturally resistant to change.
- **A physical move.** Relocating equipment meant real upheaval that had to be stabilised before transformation could continue.

02

THE SOLUTION

The council chose Crown Hosting for a rapid service from a compliant framework, with a clear and flexible programme plan through to completion.

1. **Plan through the Service Request process**
   Detailed planning for the mixed cloud and legacy migration began early, with network links established ahead of time.
2. **Delay the start date**
   A delayed commencement date let the council withdraw from existing contracts in a managed way, without additional costs.
3. **Move and stabilise**
   Equipment was relocated to Crown Hosting and legacy technologies were retired as the estate was consolidated.
4. **Flex with demand**
   The council expanded and contracted its capacity as its needs changed, with no lengthy or expensive contract disputes.

03

THE OUTCOME

- **Break even within 24 months.** Savings were significant, even after migration costs.
- **A managed exit from old contracts.** No additional costs were incurred leaving previous arrangements.
- **Legacy technology retired.** The migration enabled expansion, and legacy technologies were dispensed with efficiently.
- **Flexibility without lock-in.** The council can keep examining and adjusting its IT estate.
- **Support for net zero.** The sustainability benefits of the facilities support the council's goal of reaching net zero.

> "[Crown Hosting] gave us the confidence to focus exclusively on the organisational digital transformation agenda.
>
> **Mark Walker**
> Head of ICT, Infrastructure and Cyber Defence, Derby City Council

IN THEIR WORDS

"From implementing diverse routes at near impossible timescales to helping resolve supply chain issues that were not of Crown's making, the Crown team really did pull out all the stops to make ours a successful transition."

Alistair Taylor
Senior Project Manager, Derby City Council

"[Crown Hosting] is a very progressive, top standard data centre as far as we're concerned. Always looking to improve standards and policies to make things easier for their customers, including taking on board suggestions for new ideas and being willing to embrace them."

Simon Morris
Infrastructure, Defence and Innovation Manager, Derby City Council

WHY IT MATTERS

Councils face the same Cloud First policy as central government with tighter budgets. Derby shows that a local authority can use the same framework as Whitehall to handle what cannot move to cloud, and recover the cost within two years.

TALK TO US

Get in touch

If you would like to understand more about how Crown Hosting can save you time, money, carbon and energy, please get in touch with a member of our team today.

CALL 0333 207 0703 >

CROWNHOSTINGDC.CO.UK >

Single supplier of GCA RM6262

Crown Hosting has provided secure, resilient data centre capacity to the UK public sector since 2015.

No procurement necessary

Buy through an access agreement with the Cabinet Office, on terms already competed and assured.

Pay for what you use

Flexible, transparent pricing with no minimum volume commitment.

MORE CASE STUDIES

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Department for Work and Pensions

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Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Luton ICT Shared Services

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