

# Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



**Nottingham**  
**City Council**

<b>Reference Number:</b>	1970
<b>Author:</b>	Anne Clarke
<b>Department:</b>	Resources
<b>Contact:</b>	Mark Smith (Job Title: Server Infrastructure Manager, Email: mark.smith@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158763211)
<b>Subject:</b>	Renewal of the Subscription and Support of the VMWare infrastructure
<b>Total Value:</b>	£45,000 (Type: Revenue)
<b>Decision Being Taken:</b>	<p>It is recommended that the Portfolio Holder agrees to:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1)The purchase of subscription and support of the VMWare infrastructure for the period 01 July 2015 - 30th June 2016, with an option to renew for one further year until 30th June 2017.</li><li>2)The maintenance costs of £45,000 for the two year period to be met from the IT Revenue budget. There is existing provision within this budget for the full expenditure of £45,000.</li><li>3)A minimum of three quotations will be requested.</li></ol>
<b>Reasons for the Decision(s)</b>	<p>VMWare is used for approximately half of the Council's server estate with further planning to migrate more servers to a virtual platform throughout 2015/16, so it is essential we keep the subscription and maintenance for this infrastructure in place so that best practice and support can be adhered to.</p> <p>The decision to procure a one year agreement with the option of a second year extension is to allow the Council flexibility to review and adopt an alternative virtualisation strategy based on cost and functionality.</p>

**Other Options Considered:**

**1: Do Nothing- VMWare is key to the foundation of the Council's IT infrastructure and without it the Council would not be able to function effectively. To do nothing is not an option.**

**2: Tender for alternative solutions - The current VMWare virtual servers or pseudo servers (this is a piece of software which simulates a computer environment) solution has been in operation for the past six years and has progressively displaced the use of physical servers. The increasing use of virtual servers - which is more cost effective and flexible than physical servers - is an ongoing IT strategy and to move away from this now would create major disruption to the Council, require significant investment in resource and increase the IT infrastructure costs. Therefore tendering for alternative solutions is not an option.**

**3: Tender for extending the Maintenance - This is the recommended solution as it allows for the best stability and continuation for the existing systems. This option also allows for the continued use and development of virtual servers, allowing Nottingham City Council to reduce its carbon footprint and reduce its IT infrastructure costs.**

**Background Papers:**

**DDMF 0434 Subscription and Support renewal for VMware infrastructure.**

**Published Works:**

**Affected Wards:**

**Citywide**

**Colleague / Councillor Interests:**

**Consultations:**

**Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.**

**Crime and Disorder Implications:**

**There are no crime and disorder implications**

**Equality:**

**EIA not required. Reasons: Purchase of maintenance not directly used by colleagues and citizens.**

**Decision Type:**

**Portfolio Holder**

**Subject to Call In:**

**Yes**

**Call In Expiry date:** 07/05/2015

**Advice Sought:** Legal, Finance, Procurement, IT

**Legal Advice:** Given the total estimated value of the scheme, at least 3 written quotations will be obtained in line with CPR 5.1.1. Advice provided by Sarah O'Bradaigh (senior solicitor) on 23/04/2015.

**Finance Advice:** The value of the decision (£45,000) is based on the estimated cost of purchasing a subscription and support for VMWare infrastructure for a period of two years from July 2015. The cost will be met from ongoing provisions for software maintenance within the Resources ICT revenue budget as included in the Medium Term Financial Plan. Value for money will be secured via a tendering process to procure the existing maintenance solution.  
Advice provided by C I Sharpe (Finance Analyst) on 10/04/2015.

**Procurement Advice:** The procurement unit supports the recommendations of this report. Advice provided by Paul Ritchie (Procurement Category Manager) on 17/04/2015.

**IT Advice:** The IT Service supports this proposal. VMWare provides the environment in which large numbers of virtual servers are operated which provide the infrastructure for a large number of application systems used to provide services to citizens, colleagues, Councillors and partners. VMWare is widely used within the IT industry and this proposal is to seek through competitive procurement the best value maintenance for the VMWare environment. Support services are required to maintain the environment and to provide support in the case of significant incidents beyond the experience of in-house resources. Over the next year a significant upgrade project will be undertaken to the server estate and this degree of change increases the risk that external support will be required.  
Advice provided by Paul J. Burrows (Strategy Manager) on 02/04/2015.

**Signatures**

Graham Chapman (PH for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration)
SIGNED and Dated: 29/04/2015
Glen O'Connell (Acting Corporate Director of Resources)
SIGNED and Dated: 27/04/2015