

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	1976
Author:	Anne Clarke
Department:	Resources
Contact:	Luke Johnson (Job Title: IT Infrastructure Manager, Email: luke.johnson@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 07971232070)
Subject:	Disaster Recovery Solution Contract renewal
Total Value:	£24220 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	In accordance with financial regulation 3.29 - dispense with the provisions of Contract Prodecural Rule 5.1.1 relating to tenders and to extend the contract for maintenance service in respect of the Disaster Recovery System based at Woodthorpe Grange for a period of 3 months, with an option to extend thereafter for a further three months period until 3rd November 2015 (the cost of the decision to be met from the IT Revenue budget).
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>In April 2014 the Council awarded a contract for Storage Area Network (SAN) infrastructure. It was anticipated that this would take approximately 12 months to implement.</p> <p>The existing contract for the maintenance of the Disaster Recovery System was originally due to end on 4th November 2013 but had to be extended until 3rd May 2015 to allow for the SAN project to be implemented. (The extension was the subject of DDM 1582). There has, unfortunately, been delays with the SAN implementation due to unforeseen circumstances at Woodthorpe Grange and Loxley House, namely, the flooring at these sites had to be strengthened and power increased. Hence, the need for a further extension of 3 months up until 3rd August 2015 with an option to extend for a further 3 months until 3rd November 2015 (if needed) to allow for ongoing maintenance/support of the Disaster Recovery System whilst the SAN infrastructure is completed.</p> <p>The operational efficacy of the IT network would be put in serious jeopardy without a system for quickly resolving equipment faults. It is not feasible for IT to operate their own hardware repair system, due to constraints associated with stockholding costs e.g. security, storage facilities, obsolescence, volume of stock, etc. Further, IT does not have the specialist knowledge needed to resolve some types of faults.</p>

Other Options Considered: Do nothing

The council has a significant investment in I.T hardware. In order to ensure business continuity of the IT system, it is imperative that any faults with the Council's IT hardware estate are speedily resolved.

There is no other option because unless the Disaster Recovery contract is extended, the Council would need to carry large stocks of costly spares, however, there would still be a significant risk that some issues may not be resolved because of a lack of specialist knowledge. Therefore the best solution is to have a Disaster Recovery contract to cover .

Background Papers:

Published Works: Portfolio Holder Decision 0452 - Phased Approach to implementation of a live Disaster Recovery - Solution Published on 21st May 2008.Storage Area Network (SAN) Refresh Project Executive Report 15 October 2013. DDMF no 1582 Disaster Recovery Solution Contract Renewal Published on 25 July 2014

Affected Wards: Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests:

Dispensation from Financial Regulations: Yes

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: Maintenance contract not directly used by colleagues and citizens.

Decision Type: Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In: Yes

Call In Expiry date: 08/05/2015

Advice Sought: Legal, Finance, Procurement, IT

Legal Advice: Dispensation under financial regulation 3.29 (operational issues) is needed to provide ongoing support/maintenance of the Disaster recovery system for a further limited period until the SAN is implemented. Advice provided by Sarah O'Bradaigh (senior solicitor) on 26/03/2015.

Finance Advice: The value of the decision (£24,220) is based on the cost of renewing the Disaster Recovery System maintenance contract for a period of 6 months from 4 May 2015 to 3 November 2015. The cost of renewing the contract will be met from provisions for hardware maintenance within the Resources ICT revenue budget for 2015/16 as included in the Medium Term Financial Plan. Dispensation from Contract Procedure Rule 5.1.1 in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.29 is being sought on the grounds of operational efficiency. Value for money will be obtained by securing operational continuity pending the implementation of the Storage Area Network (SAN). This should reduce the risk of abnormal costs arising from service disruption. The option not to extend the contract after a period of 3 months could mitigate the cost of this proposal depending on the progress of the SAN implementation towards the end of July 2015. Advice provided by C I Sharpe (Finance Analyst) on 27/03/2015.

Procurement Advice: For the reasons and circumstances stated in this DSDM, the Procurement Unit support the recommendations of this report. Advice provided by Paul Ritchie (Procurement Category Manager) on 07/04/2015.

IT Advice: The IT Service supports this proposal. The Council's Disaster Recovery facility provides insurance against the risk of loss of operational data in the event of damage to systems based in the main data centre. The facility also provides a basis for limited service delivery should the main data centre and site be unavailable. To ensure that these services are available they require support and maintenance from suppliers that cannot be readily provided by in-house resources. Advice provided by Paul J. Burrows (Strategy Manager) on 25/03/2015.

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: 21/04/2015
Geoff Walker (Acting Head of Strategic Finance) - Dispensation from Financial Regulations
SIGNED and Dated: 21/04/2015
Chief Financial Officer's Comments: