

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	1879
Author:	Laurie Ritchie
Department:	Resources
Contact:	Laurie Ritchie (Job Title: IT Security & Governance Officer, Email: laurie.ritchie@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158762662)
Subject:	IT Security Health Checks to enable the Councils continued connection to the Public Service Network (PSN)
Total Value:	£30,000 Expenditure over 3 years (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	It is recommended that the Portfolio Holder:- Delegate the decision to the Head of IT to enter in to a 3 year contract to provide the Council with annual IT Security Health Checks which are mandated for the Councils compliance and certification to access PSN secure email and service applications.
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>The Public Service Network (PSN) enables local authorities to access secure Government (GCSX) email and provides secure connectivity to Government Application Services used by the Department of Works and Pensions (DWP) and Nottingham Revenue and Benefits (NRAB). Annual accreditation requires a programme of IT Security Health Checks to validate the security status of PCs and Servers on the Councils network. The programme of tests provide assurance that the council's external systems are protected from unauthorised access or change and that they do not provide an unauthorised entry point into systems that access PSN services.</p> <p>In the past tests have been purchased annually from revenue budgets however savings of approximately 30% are achievable by entering into contract with a single company over a period of 3. 5 Companies have been approached for quotations of which the best value is Sec-1 Ltd</p>
Other Options Considered:	The council is required to undertake IT Security Health Checks in order to achieve the annual PSN Code of Connection. To do nothing is not an option as the council would lose its PSN certification and would no longer be able to connect to government secure networks. As a result DWP, NRAB and other Council teams would no longer be able to meet statutory requirements.

Background Papers:

Published Works:

Affected Wards: Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests: None

Consultations: Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications: None

Equality: EIA not required. Reasons: Not applicable

Decision Type: Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In: Yes

Call In Expiry date: 17/03/2015

Advice Sought: Legal, Finance, Procurement, IT

Legal Advice: The proposals set out in the report raise no significant legal issues and are supported. Advice provided by Malcolm Townroe (Legal Services Manager) on 26/02/2015.

Finance Advice: The value of the decision (£0.030m) is based on the estimated cost of IT Security Health Checks over a period of 3 years. Assumed costs of £0.010m per annum over the next three years will be met from existing revenue budget provisions within Resources ICT. Quotations have been sought to secure value for money in terms of cost. Broader value will accrue from the Council retaining the necessary accreditation to maintain connectivity via the Public Service Network.
Advice provided by C I Sharpe (Finance Analyst) on 19/02/2015.

Procurement Advice:

This proposal is to enter into a 3 year contract to provide the Council with annual IT Security Health Checks which are mandated for the Councils compliance and certification to access PSN secure email and service applications.

A quotation process has been conducted to secure value for money, and therefore there are no significant procurement concerns with this proposal. However it is recommended that any future requirements which have an additional spend over £10,000 must go through the corporate procurement team and the procurement portal. Advice provided by Rosalie Parkin (Category Manager) on 25/02/2015.

IT Advice:

The IT Service support this proposal.

External verification of compliance with Public Service Network (PSN) requirements is necessary and purchase of a 3 year package from an external verifier presents a saving to the Council in comparison with separate annual procurements. PSN accreditation allows the Council to connect to other public sector organisations such as the Police, Health and DWP and so to securely exchange data. This is a requirement of a number of services including those protecting the vulnerable.

Advice provided by Paul J. Burrows (Strategy Manager) on 24/02/2015.

Signatures

Graham Chapman (PH for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration)
SIGNED and Dated: 06/03/2015
Glen O'Connell (Acting Corporate Director of Resources)
SIGNED and Dated: 06/03/2015