

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Reference Number:	1956
Author:	Anne Clarke
Department:	Resources
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Subject: Corporate Infrastructure Refresh Contract Extension

Total Value: £47,760 (Type: Revenue)

Decision Being Taken:

- 1) To approve dispensation from financial regulation 3.29 (CPR 5.1.1)
- 2) To extend the existing contract for maintenance services for the Corporate Infrastructure Solution for 3 months with an option to extend for a further three months . (The cost of this proposal to be met from the IT Revenue budget).

Reasons for the Decision(s)

In April 2014 the Council awarded a contract for SAN infrastructure. It was anticipated that this would take approx. 12 months to implement.

Our current infrastructure contract was due to end on 21st January 2014 but had to be extended to 31st July 2015 to allow for the SAN project to be implemented. (The extension was the subject of DDMF1584). There have, 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 30th October 2015 with an option to extend for a further 3 months until 31st January 2016 (if needed) to allow for ongoing maintenance/support of the Disaster Recovery System whilst the SAN infrastructure is completed.

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.

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. For this reason, this option was rejected.

Background Papers: **None.**

Published Works:
1) Portfolio Holder Decision 0486, 02/12/2008 - Corporate Infrastructure Refresh
2) Executive Board report 15/10/2013 - Storage Area Network (SAN) Refresh Project
3) Portfolio Holder Decision 1584, 28/07/2014 - Corporate Infrastructure Renewal

Affected Wards: **Citywide**

Colleague / Councillor Interests: **None.**

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: **30/04/2015**

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

Legal Advice:
This report raises no significant legal issues. Dispensation is needed in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.29 (operational issues) to extend the disaster recover for a short defined period (with the option for a further extension of 3 months) to ensure support for the council's disaster recovery system pending the implementation of the SAN system.
Advice provided by Sarah O'Bradaigh (senior solicitor) on 13/04/2015.

Finance Advice:

The value of the decision (£47,760) is based on the cost of renewing the Disaster Recovery System maintenance contract for a period of 6 months from 1 August 2015 to 31 January 2016. 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 October 2015.

Advice provided by C I Sharpe (Finance Analyst) on 27/03/2015.

Procurement Advice:

The proposal is for a dispensation from contract procedure rule 5.1.2 and to allow an extension of an existing contract for the maintenance for the Corporate Infrastructure Solution for a period of 3 months (up to 30th October 2015) with an option to extend for a further three months until 31st January 2016 whilst the SAN infrastructure is completed.

Given that this extension is a short term, temporary measure to enable the correct infrastructure to be fully implemented following a compliant procurement process, there are no significant procurement concerns with this proposal.

Advice provided by Rosalie Parkin (Category Manager) on 20/03/2015.

IT Advice:

The IT Service supports this proposal.

The Council's Corporate Infrastructure Solution provides the hardware and communications services that allow the operation of computer systems that help provide service delivery to citizens, support for colleagues and Councillors and communications with partners. 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: 22/04/2015
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: