

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:

2890

Author:

Anne Clarke

Department:

Strategy and Resources

Contact:

Simba Chirara

(Job Title: Voice and Data Infrastructure Manager, Email: simba.chirara@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158764688)

Subject:

Nexus 7710 Switches

Total Value:

£255,000 (Type: Capital and Revenue)

Decision Being Taken:

- 1. Approve the purchase of Nexus 7710 computer Data Center (DC) switches, at a cost of £225,000.**
- 2. Approve the addition of the annual maintenance costs of £6,000 over 5 years (total £30,000) to be added to the existing maintenance contract dated 31 October 2013 with the incumbent Capita IT Services.**

Reasons for the Decision(s)

- 1. Currently the Council's data network converges on a number of the Nexus 7010 switches in the Loxley House Data Center (DC). They need upgrading to cope with increased network traffic.**
- 2. The more powerful switch model is the Nexus 7710. The model can provide 10Gbps or up to 40Gbps. The council only requires 10Gbps for the foreseeable future. However the model can be upgraded at a later date, if necessary, by replacing the 10Gbps cards and installing 40 Gbps cards in the chassis.**
- 3. There is a knock on effect. Capita provide maintenance for the network. The element of the maintenance cost for the new switches is £30,000 over 5 years which is approximately £8625 more than the price of maintaining the existing switches.**
- 4. The new switches would be purchased from the CCS framework No RM3733 from their catalogue. There is no need for a minicompetition as the catalogue provides all the information necessary to choose the supplier.**
- 5. The CCS framework is compliant with the PCR as is the choice of replacement switches.**
- 6. The increase in the maintenance cost of the Capita maintenance contract is well under the PCR threshold."**

Other Options Considered:

- Option 1 - Do nothing. This option was rejected as we require additional 10Gbps port capacity in the Data Center for projects. The current hardware and software support for the Nexus 7010s finishes on 31 August 2019 and the Council will be exposed to security vulnerabilities because we will not be able to receive any security patches for the switches. Additionally, we can no longer purchase components for the Nexus 7010s that have a life span compatible with future replacement Nexus switches. This means that economically the Council loses by continuing to procure components for the old Nexus 7010 hardware.**
- Option 2- upgrade the 7010 cards by replacing the Supervisors cards 2Es (2bd generation) and add 2 more 10Gbps cards that are in life (F2 series), or upgrade the components on the Nexus 7010. The components are Supervisor 2Es, F2 10Gb cards, Fabric 2 cards. These are not viable options as they would only be short term solutions as the last date for hardware support on the N7010 chassis is 31 Aug 2019 and so this option was rejected.**
- Option 3- Replace the switches with another manufactures' switches which could be installed in the current chasses. All network connectivity to other DC switches and servers are configured to work with the Nexus family of switches. To move to another manufacturer would require the network to be reconfigured to work with these other switches/cards. Such a reconfiguration process would be lengthy, expensive and cause interruptions in network which would cause extended service outages (some of the services being 24/7 critical services). For this reason this option was rejected.**

Background Papers:

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 implimentations

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: Purchase of infrastructure hardware not directly used by colleagues and citizens.

Social Value Considerations:

N/A

Major Implications for IT:

Yes

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

Yes

Call In Expiry date:

01/08/2017

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance, Procurement, IT

Legal Advice:

The goods are being purchased compliantly from a Crown Commercial Services framework which is EU/PCR compliant. The value of the increase in services under the maintenance services is well within the EU/PCR tolerances.

A call-off purchase from a compliant framework is in accordance with the Council Contract Procedure rules.

Therefore this procurement does not give rise to any significant legal issues.

Legal will be able to give support to the procurement. Advice provided by Brian Lewis Stewart (Solicitor) on 04/07/2017.

Finance Advice:

The cost of this decision is £255,000; £225,000 capital to be met from the IT Efficiency Fund and £30,000 revenue to be met over the next five years from the IT revenue budget. Provision is included in the medium term financial plan for these latter costs.

Advice provided by Ian Greatorex (Finance Project Manager) on 27/06/2017.

Procurement Advice:

The decision is to replace cisco switches at a cost of £225,000 via a compliant CCS framework. There are no procurement concerns with this approach as this route will assess best value and ensure compliance with our own and EU regulations.

The maintenance of these switches is already covered by an existing contract and therefore procurement do not have significant concerns with this variation. On this basis, procurement supports the approach. Advice provided by Rosalie Parkin (Category Manager) on 30/06/2017.

IT Advice:

The IT Service supports the decision proposed within this delegated decision.

The proposal to replace end of life Cisco switches after 7 years of operation with newer technology from the same supplier will ensure the Council continues to have a standardised and supportable voice and data network. The new equipment includes additional functionality to assist in management of wireless networks which are of increasing use.

Advice provided by Paul J. Burrows (IT Change, Projects & Strategy Manager) on 27/06/2017.

Signatures

Graham Chapman (PH for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration)
SIGNED and Dated: 25/07/2017
Candida Brudenell (Corporate Director for Strategy and Resources)
SIGNED and Dated: 25/07/2017