

MINUTES OF MEETING Cabinet Member Signing HELD ON Wednesday, 5th June, 2024, 11:30 – 11:40

PRESENT:

Councillors: Dana Carlin

ALSO ATTENDING: Kodi Sprott, Principal Committee Coordinator, Glenn Mason, Head of Technology, Rob Todd, Senior Project Manager

1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services referred to the notice of filming at meetings and this information was noted.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

3. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. DATA CENTRE MOVE

Following on from the decision to close Riverpark House there was a subsequent need to relocate the Data Centre. The Council was taking advantage of this move to optimise the environment and to increase resilience.

Cllr Carlin noted that the aim was for the transfer to be completed as soon as possible, so that the closure of Riverpark House could proceed. She was also assured that the current and proposed structure would maintain Council resilience in the face of repeated cyber attacks on all public sector bodies.

RESOLVED

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services approved:

1. To approve, pursuant to Contract Standing Order 9.07.1 (d) (All contracts valued at £500,000 or more at the time of award may only be awarded, assigned, or novated by the Cabinet), the award of a contract for supply, installation and configuration of a Disaggregated Hyperconverged Infrastructure Platform (dHCI

Technology Platform) into two Council Data Centre locations to Supplier A, identified in Appendix 1 - Part B (exempt information) of this report, for 5 years for the tendered contract value of £1,327,567.16 (one million, three hundred and twenty-seven thousand, five hundred and sixty-seven pounds and sixteen pence) subject to the further details set out in section 3.1 of Appendix 1 - Part B (exempt information) of this report).

2. To approve, pursuant to Contract Standing Order 9.07.3, the issuance of a letter of intent for up to 10% of the tendered contract value, totalling £132,756 (one hundred and thirty-two thousand, seven hundred and fifty-six pounds).

Reasons for decision

The Data Centre Programme used the required location move as an opportunity to fully review the current server and virtual infrastructure strategy and understood the growth of the server estate over the last 5-8 years. It became clear there was an opportunity to modernise the infrastructure offering, while reducing the overall footprint, and so power usage, while supporting a key programme objective to procure a solution that supported the short and longterm strategic needs of the Council. The proposed contract enabled the Council to meet this objective by the delivery of the new dHCI Technology Platform into the Council's Data Centres.

The supplier recommended for award of the contract submitted a strong tender that clearly demonstrated significant expertise and commitment to providing the appropriate and relevant solution for the Council's requirements. The supplier ran profiling tools on the Council's systems to understand the actual resources including the virtual and physical infrastructure and was able to cost the solution to reflect this. The supplier's tendered costs aligned to the discovery phase estimates.

The recommended supplier showed a strong understanding of the Council's requirements in its quality submission, demonstrating experience in similar projects and clear processes to deliver successfully.

5. Alternative options considered

Do Nothing

This option, which would involve not awarding a contract to deliver the dHCI Technology Platform and would leave end of life legacy equipment to be relocated into data centres, is not recommended as any equipment failure would cause significant outages for the Council. There is also the need to relocate the data centre in order to close Riverpark House.

Ad-Hoc Replacement of Hardware

As with the Do Nothing option, this approach could have been adopted. However it would ultimately result in the Council using more rack space and power in the data centres and ultimately the cost of the hardware over the next two to three years would be the same as for procuring the new platform.

6. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To exclude the press and public be from the meeting as it contains exempt information as defined in Section 100a of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by Section 12A of the Local Government Act 1985); paras 3 and 5, namely information relating to the financial or

business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

7. EXEMPT - DATA CENTRE MOVE

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services considered the exempt information.

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date