

Report for: Cabinet Member Signing

Title: Data Centre Hosting Services

Report authorised by : Director of Culture, Strategy & Engagement – Jess Crowe

Lead Officer: Carla Villa, Principal Contracts & Supplier Manager x3111

Ward(s) affected: All

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** Key decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

This report seeks Cabinet Member for Finance & Local Investment approval under CSO 9.07.1 (d) which provides that contracts valued at £500,000.00 (five hundred thousand pounds) or more may only be awarded, assigned, or novated by the Cabinet. To award a contract to Crown Hosting Data Centres Ltd for Cody Park (secondary Data Centre (CPK DC) including within the contract a new Data Centre in Enfield (Meridian Pk MPK) to replace the current DC in River Park House (RPH DC) which is due for closure in 2024.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction
N/A

3. Recommendations

To approve the award of the contract to Crown Hosting Data Centres Ltd for a period of 66 months from 1st May 2023 to 31st October 2028 for Cody Park and in Enfield at a total cost of £2,213,916.38

4. Reasons for decision

The RPH DC is due to be closed along with the building and we require a new DC to replace this.

In 2023 Crown Commercial Service (CCS) released a new framework agreement (ref no:RM6262 CH11)where the services being offered offer greater benefits, (like Cloud services i.e., Microsoft, Google, AWS (Amazon Web Services) to the existing one. This award is to secure the Enfield site rack space for Haringey servers. Only 3 racks will be charged for from May until Nov 2023 for the Enfield site with a further 12 to come online in Nov2023. This is to reduce the cost that would be incurred but allow us to secure a footprint within the new DC and plan for the ultimate closure of River Park House in 2024. This project will take some time to plan and deliver. All data connections/servers will need to be moved and done optimising availability of network services to both the staff and residents.

5. Alternative options considered

Do Nothing – We would have no provision for the replacement primary DC. This would remove any provision for resilience or the ability to be able to recover data, in light of a disaster recovery situation.

Go Out to tender –The new framework RM6262 CH11 is a single supplier framework working in partnership with the Cabinet Office that allows call-off of required services. The costs were negotiated and agreed by central government and offer best value and sustainability for those who they also provide services to. The new contract would allow a continuation of the great flexibility that allows services to be dialled up and down as required or technology evolves. It was decided that Crown Hosting Data Centres offered the best service in terms of flexibility, value for money and sustainability.

6. **Background information**

Our existing RPH DC is our Primary DC and Cody Park the secondary DC offering resilience to the network. The plan under Shared Digital was to have Spring Park and Cody Park but due to issues during the hot weather a few years ago we realised that Spring Park could not offer the resilience we required due to a network failure. Spring Park has since been decommissioned. The current contract we have with Crown Hosting Data Centres for Cody Park was purchased through a CCS government framework call off contract RM1069 that works in partnership with the Cabinet Office. We have been waiting for Crown Hosting Data Centres to provide an alternative site to house our primary DC that is closer than the south coast. This is being made available in q1 of 2023 in Enfield. The plan would be to transfer the servers currently housed in RPH to Enfield site but in order to reserve the space required, we would need to contract for them.

Further details are contained in the exempt part of the report including a breakdown of pricing.

7. **Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2022-2024 High level Strategic outcomes’?**

Design smarter working environments to endorse modern and agile working.

8. **Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)**

Finance

The cost of this 66 months Data Centres hosting contract is £2,213,916.38. A further breakdown of costs is included in the exempt part of the report.

Procurement

CSO 7.01 b) permits the selection of a contractor from an established public sector framework subject to the provisions of CSO 7.02 and 9.07. The Crown Commercial framework RM 6262 is a compliant framework and the procurement process undertaken is compliant with the rules of that framework.

As part of the due diligence when establishing the framework CCS commissioned an independent benchmarking of the proposal which confirmed delivery of better commercial terms and cost saving.

Strategic Procurement support the recommendations in section 2 of this report.

Head of Legal & Governance

The Head of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) has been consulted in the preparation of this report.

Framework agreements are an approved procedure under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (the Regulations) (Reg 33) and also provided for in the Council's Contract Standing Orders (CSO 7).

Strategic Procurement has confirmed that the procurement has been conducted in accordance with the Regulations and with the provisions of the Framework Agreement.

The award of the contract is a Key Decision and, as such, needs to comply with the Council's governance provisions in respect of Key Decisions including publication in the Forward Plan.

Normally a contract which is over £500,000 would be approved by Cabinet in accordance with CSO 9.07.1 d. In between meetings of the Cabinet, the Leader may take any such decision or allocate to the Cabinet Member with the relevant portfolio (CSO 16.02).

The Head of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) confirms that there are no legal reasons preventing the Cabinet Member with relevant portfolio responsibilities from approving the recommendations in this report.

Equality

The council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

The proposals within this report take account of these needs and the associate statutory duties and good practice guidelines.

9. Use of Appendices

Appendix A - Exempt report

**10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
N/A**