

Executive Decision Making by an Officer with Delegated Powers

Decision to be taken by: Mandy Quayle, Director of People and Digital

Pursuant to an Authorisation from: Cllr Stowe, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Change, 23rd December 2021: Procurement of replacement hardware - Veritas Netbackup Storage Appliance

That the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member with responsibilities for Finance and Change:

1. Approves, without further competition, the award of a call-off contract for the supply of a replacement Veritas Netbackup Storage Appliance under the NHS Digital Workplace Solutions (SBS/19/AB/WAB/9411) framework agreement to the preferred tenderer in accordance with the direct award criteria thereunder. The proposed call-off contract shall continue for a period of 3 years.

Report title: Award of contracts for Veritas Netbackup Storage Appliance

The decision	<p>Following the conclusion of a procurement process under the above-mentioned NHS Digital Workplace Solutions (SBS/19/AB/WAB/9411) framework agreement and having consulted with Cllr Stowe, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member - Finance and Change in accordance with a decision by them dated 23rd December 2021:</p> <p><u>DECISION</u></p> <p>To award a call-off contract for the supply of Veritas Netbackup Storage Appliance to INSIGHT DIRECT (UK) LTD. Such call-off contract shall continue for a period of 3 years.</p>
Background documents	<p>Cabinet Member Decision (23/12/2021): Procurement of replacement hardware and licensing contract for the supply of Veritas Netbackup Storage</p>
Reasons for the decision	<p>Given that the Veritas Netbackup Storage Appliance used by the council currently will become end of life in January 2022 and as such will no longer be within its warranty life period, it has been necessary for the council to procure a replacement storage appliance.</p>
Resource implications	<p>The cost of the Veritas Netbackup Storage appliance is £202,000 and will be funded from the existing ICT Cyclical Maintenance Peripheral Hardware Capital Budget.</p> <p>Resources have been identified and allocated to ensure successful implementation.</p>

Who has been consulted?	<p>Cllr Stowe, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Change</p> <p>Internal Support Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legal Services ▪ Strategic Procurement ▪ Finance
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What were their comments?

Legal Service: On the basis of the information contained in this report, it is confirmed that the proposal set out herein meet public procurement law requirements.

Strategic Procurement: ICT& SP had agreed the procurement route in advance and accordingly agree that this is a legally compliant route to market.

Strategic Finance: It is confirmed that the proposal set out herein is within expected capital costing.

Cllr Stowe, Cabinet Member Finance and Change, has been briefed on the decision and proposals and has confirmed his agreement to the approach outlined.

Background/Context

GCC have been using the Veritas Netbackup solution as the trusted backup for the past five years. This is an on-premise solution which involves making a copy of files and then compressing the copies; as a subsequent step these compressed copies are then backed up onto Veritas physical storage shelves which are housed in Gloucester and Corsham. These storage shelves will no longer be supported from January 2022 and replacements are required.

In December 2021, Cllr Lynden Stowe, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Change approved, without further competition the award of a call-off contract for the supply of a replacement Veritas Netbackup Storage Appliance under the NHS Digital Workplace Solutions (SBS/19/AB/WAB/9411) framework agreement to the preferred tenderer in accordance with the direct award criteria thereunder. Subsequent to market pre-engagement the preferred tenderer has been identified as Insight Direct (UK) Ltd.

Due to the current hardware reaching end of life in January 2022 and in view of the worldwide shortage of chips impacting on delivery times, an Urgent Notice of Implementation was published on 15/12/2022.

The contract will be for a period of three (3) years.

Alternative options considered and why they were rejected

The available options are to do nothing or to award a contract on the proposed basis. The option to do nothing is not available as the Council will not have supported hardware in place to carry out backups of business-critical data.

Risk Analysis

The evaluation of the proposed direct award has not identified any significant risks to GCC associated with the award of this contract or within the implementation phase of the contract.

Equalities considerations

Procurement of the hardware as set out in this report will not have a negative impact on anyone with a protected characteristic(s).

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been completed? No

Has any conflict of interest been declared by any Cabinet Member consulted on the decision?

The council's Monitoring Officer should be consulted, in the first instance, if any conflict of interest is declared by a Cabinet Member.

If any conflict of interest declared, was a dispensation granted by the Audit and Governance Committee of the Council?

No

Date of dispensation:

Does this decision report form or any supporting papers provided contain confidential or exempt information?

(Refer to Democratic Services Unit for advice if necessary)

No

If Yes, please provide details of document(s) that are confidential or exempt

Does this decision need to be published on the GCC website?

(Refer to guidance on "Executive Decisions taken by Officers").

Yes

In coming to this decision I have given due and full regard to the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty contained in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ("the Act") by reference to the law itself.

Having fully considered all available information, I have decided to reject any alternative options and take the recommended decision(s), for the reasons set out in this report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Quayle', is written over a faint, light-colored circular stamp or watermark.

Signed

Mandy Quayle, Director of People and Digital

Date: 24/12/2021

Contact details for further information:

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