



Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority

Record of an Authority decision delegated to an Officer as required under Regulation 7 of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulation 2014

Subject of decision	To procure a new Equipment Management System by purchasing additional modules from our existing supplier (Redkite) without inviting competitive tenders, pursuant to paragraph 3.1(g) of the Authority's Contract Standing Orders The contract will be for the licence, support and maintenance, this will initially be taken out for 3 years, which will then be automatically renewed in 12 month increments unless terminated before.
Officer name	Lee Watson
Job title	Assistant Director/Area Commander- Assets
Date decision taken	14/06/2023
Reasons for the decision	The main reasons for upgrading or replacing our equipment and asset management system are given below: • A Response objective under CRMP 2021-2025 is to "ensure firefighters have access to the most up-to-date personal protective equipment and state-of-the-art firefighting equipment and fire engines". Tracking our equipment asset locations, testing and maintaining these assets and monitoring their life expectancies is a requirement under this objective. • Technological advances since our current equipment asset management system was procured give opportunities for much more efficient tracking and testing processes. • Enhanced systems allow monitoring of new equipment requested by stations and reasons for replacement. This requires an additional stores requisition programme linked to the asset management system. These reasons are also underpinned by the Authorities Digital Strategy 2022 The system is an off the shelf software solution that meets the Authorities needs below: - • The current system (Redkite) has been in place for over 10 years and holds testing and defect records for 27,000 items of operational equipment. The system is business critical helping the Authority to meet our Strategic Objectives and enablers. • Moving to a new system would require significant time and cost to implement to ensure that all data is correctly transferred. The retendering to implementation would expect to take 18-24 months. • Any new system would require detailed training to stores, equipment and station staff using time and money, this will have a large impact on the teams as they deliver and learn a new

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	system alongside their day job. The advantage of the upgrade would be familiarity for the teams reducing the implementation time and cost. • Based on market research, annual licencing costs for alternative systems are significantly higher than the current supplier. • Extending the contract with the existing supplier will be the most efficient solution. The extension would be for two additional modules to the system; stores requisition and mobile equipment asset management. • Stakeholders of the system have been part of the review and decision.
Details of decision	To extend and expand contract with existing supplier (Redkite) for Equipment Management System including additional modules for scanner software and stores requisition functions. Current annual cost approx. £5,000 Proposed one off cost approx. £45,000 (software + implementation) Proposed future annual cost approx. £14,500 The additional functionality of the new modules will allow monitoring of equipment losses and defects and save time in stores and on stations. The decision has been made on the grounds of compatibility with our existing systems and servers resulting in minimal cost and disruption to the service; This was approved by SLB
Details of alternative options considered and rejected (if any)	To run an open tender process for an Equipment Management System including scanner software and stores requisition functions. This has been discounted due to its unlikeliness that alternative providers would provide the service for less than the amount we are currently paying and there is no guarantee that the ongoing costs would remain as-is Not undertaking a competitive tender increases the risk of not achieving value for money. However the Authority will publish a contract modification notice in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, which does carry the risk of a supplier challenging the justification for the contract modification. Officers believe this to be low risk and in the event a challenge were made, the early publication of the intention to modify the contracts does allow the Authority adequate time to reconsider a competitive process.
Any interests declared by a Member or Officer	
Links to relevant background documents or information	

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Signed.....  Date.....14/07/2023.....

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