



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

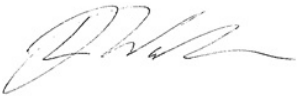
Subject of decision	To procure a new Hydrant Management Software by purchasing the upgrade solution from our existing supplier (Airbus) without inviting competitive tenders, pursuant to paragraph 3.1(g) of the Authority's Contract Standing Orders This will not require a new contract for the licence, support and maintenance, and will be managed as an in-place software upgrade.
Officer name	Lee Watson
Job title	Assistant Director/Area Commander - Assets
Date decision taken	24/04/2024
Reasons for the decision	HWFRS currently have "Hydra" Hydrant Management System supplied by Airbus. The software the Authority currently operates needs upgrading to allow us to achieve up to date compliance standards. The refresh is necessary as the software is no longer supported by our ICT department due to the version being non-compliant in meeting our Cyber Security Requirements. This is also underpinned by the Authorities Digital Strategy 2021-25 The system is an off the shelf software solution holding hydrant records and is business critical, helping the Authority to meet our Strategic Objectives and enablers. The advantages of the upgrade include familiarity for the teams, reducing the implementation training time and cost. Upgrading the software with the existing supplier is currently the most efficient solution, based on market research for alternative systems, for which there are two in the market (Airbus and 3TC). Stakeholders of the system have been part of the review and decision.
Details of decision	Proposed one off upgrade cost approx. £9,200 Annual costs will remain at cost approx. £5,300
Details of alternative options considered and rejected (if any)	Our primary objective is to ensure Cyber Security compliance by removing the current software before August 2024. Currently our ICT department transform the data from the hydrant database to enable it to be in the correct format for our MDT software, allowing UpToDate hydrant information to be displayed for crews. A product from an alternative supplier may involve significant work as their dataset may be in a different format. This is particularly challenging as it would require support from our current MDT software provider who are now winding down their work on

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	this system. On this basis, it may not be achievable to have the hydrant data from any new supplier system available to crews on the MDTs until the MDT software is replaced. It is proposed that this arrangement be reviewed once the new Command and Control and Communications System/MDT Software is fully implemented and entrenched within the Authority, we envisage this being within 18-24 months following the full integration of the Mobile Data and Incident Command Solutions which is anticipated to be June 2025. We can then fully review and evaluated the market and the most appropriate route to procurement.
Any interests declared by a Member or Officer	
Links to relevant background documents or information	

Signed



Date 8/5/24

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