

## **Cabinet Meeting on Wednesday 15 September 2021**

### **Call-Off Contract for the Supply of ICT Equipment and Services**



**Cllr Mark Deaville, Cabinet Member for Commercial Matters said,**

“As a county council we are committed to getting the best services delivered at the best value for Staffordshire taxpayers.

The procurement of a contract will give us both flexibility and rigour for the ICT Hardware and Software when needed.”

#### **Report Summary:**

The objective of the report is to establish approval to proceed with the award of a Call-Off Contract for the Supply of ICT Hardware and Software Services from the ICT VAR Framework Agreement (the “The Contract”) and to secure approval for the Director of Corporate Services to be given delegated authority to approve the award of The Contract. The Contract will be for a period of 3 years starting 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021 to 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024 with the option to extend by 2 x 12- month periods

#### **Recommendations**

I recommend that Cabinet:

- a. Agree that Staffordshire County Council (the “Council”) concludes its regulated procurement in line with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (the “Regulations”) for The Contract;
- b. Agree, following the procurement process, the successful supplier be awarded the Contract for the period 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021 to 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024 and that dependent on the quality of their delivery, that the 12-month service extensions be implemented to a final contract end date of 19<sup>th</sup> September 2026; and
- c. Agree that the Director of Corporate Services be given delegated authority to:
  - i. Approve the initial award of the successful supplier to The Contract and authorise the Council entering into the Contract with successful supplier;
  - ii. Approve all subsequent purchases under The Contract and authorise the Council to make further purchases under The Contract; and

iii. (if applicable) approve the 2-year extension to The Contract in its 3rd year.

<b>Local Members Interest</b>
N/A

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#### **Recommendations of the Cabinet Member for Commercial Matters**

I recommend that Cabinet:

- a. Agree that Staffordshire County Council (the “Council”) concludes its regulated procurement in line with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (the “Regulations”) for The Contract;
- b. Agree, following the procurement process, the successful supplier be awarded the Contract for the period 20th September 2021 to 19th September 2024 and that dependent on the quality of their delivery, that the 12-month service extensions be implemented to a final contract end date of 19th September 2026; and
- c. Agree that the Director of Corporate Services be given delegated authority to:
  - i. Approve the initial award of the successful supplier to The Contract and authorise the Council entering into The Contract with successful supplier;
  - ii. Approve all subsequent purchases under The Contract and authorise the Council to make further purchases under The Contract; and
  - iii. (if applicable) approve the 2-year extension to The Contract in its 3rd year.

#### **Report of the Director for Corporate Services**

##### **Reasons for Recommendations:**

1. The current contract for ICT Hardware and Software expires on the 10th October 2021. The estimated annual value for the contract is c.£1.6m per annum for the Council.
2. The procurement of The Contract will be qualified for up to £12 million to consider flexibility in the Council’s spend and to accommodate the potential additional spend of public sector partners.
3. The Contract is being procured to provide the Council with a preferred supplier for the majority of its ICT Hardware & Software requirements allowing for Staffordshire ICT (SICT) to provide a responsive and effective service
4. The marketplace for ICT hardware and software was evaluated and the decision was made that completing a further completion against an existing framework would be the most favourable procurement route. By utilising an existing framework timescales and associated costs could be reduced whilst maintaining value and benefits to the Council

5. Without recourse to a suitable contract, Council officers would be required to invest more resource into spot tendering / quoting for individual work packages which would require a plethora of separately tendered projects per annum conforming to the Council's own Procurement Regulations

### **Legal Implications**

6. The potential value of spend for the services lends the procurement process to strictly follow the Regulations. The implications of any process failing to follow these Regulations could lead to serious legal challenges to the Council with the probable halt by a court on any contract award. The terms and conditions for the contract are those that have been set out within the ICT VAR Framework Agreement, which have been reviewed and agreed.

### **Resource and Value for Money Implications**

7. Having one contract for ICT Hardware and Software will allow SICT to aggregate their spend allowing them to leverage greater economies of scale

### **List of Background Documents/Appendices:**

Community Impact Assessment – Summary Document

### **Contact Details**

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