

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

Cabinet Meeting: 30th April 2018

Report of the Leader

Telephone Lines and Calls Contract Renewal

Purpose of the Report

1. To obtain approval for delegated authority to award a contract for the provision of a telephone lines and calls service.

Recommendations

1. That delegated authority is granted to the Head of Finance in consultation with the Leader and Managing Director to accept the most economically advantageous tender for the provision of Council fixed telephone lines and calls for the duration of 3 years with the option to extend further by a maximum of 2 years following the completion of a competition using the Crown Commercial Services Network Services Framework Agreement RM1045 Lot 3.
2. That delegated authority is granted to the Head of Legal Services to draft and execute the contract in line with recommendations 1 above.

Reasons for the Recommendations

1 -2 To have an appropriate contract in place for the supply of fixed telephone lines and calls following the expiry of the current contract on 31st August 2018.

Background

2. The previous 3 year contract with British Telecommunications PLC for the provision of fixed telephone lines and calls was due to expire on the 31st August 2017. However, in July 2017 Cabinet, minute C42, granted delegated authority to enter into a contract for an extension period of 1 year to allow for enough time to prepare a mini competition to award a 3 year contract with the option to extend further by a maximum of 2 years to start following the expiry of the extension on 31st August 2018.
3. During the last 12 months, the necessary work has been undertaken as planned in readiness for this procurement exercise, and all additional work required in the event there is a change of service provider has also been completed.

Relevant Issues and Options

4. Telephone lines and calls is a complex area and the annual cost of this service is around £240K, but it is believed that savings could be achieved by procuring the renewal via a further competition.
5. The Crown Commercial Services (CCS) Network Services Framework Agreement RM1045 / Lot 3 has been selected as the most appropriate procurement vehicle for the renewal of this contract. The National Procurement Service currently has no equivalent Framework Agreement in place.
6. The CCS Network Services Framework Agreement RM1045 provides customers with access to networks and telecommunications services, including PSN compliant services. It provides savings, choice and flexibility for all publicly funded organisations whilst ensuring compliance with the wider government technology strategy through the on-going engagement with the Government Digital Service (GDS).
7. The RM1045 framework agreement expires on 26th July 2019 so will be utilised to carry out a tender process prior to the expiry of our existing contract in 2018.

Resource Implications (Financial and Employment)

8. The tender process will be undertaken within existing resources.

Sustainability and Climate Change Implications

9. There are no such implications that arise as a result of this report.

Legal Implications (to Include Human Rights Implications)

10. The Council will need to enter into a contract under the terms and conditions of the CCS Network Services RM1045 Framework Agreement which have been agreed by the Crown Commercial Service.

Crime and Disorder Implications

11. There are no crime and disorder implications for this report.

Equal Opportunities Implications (to include Welsh Language issues)

12. There are no Equal Opportunities implications for this report.

Corporate/Service Objectives

13. This project comes under the priority outcome of Community Leadership.

Policy Framework and Budget

14. This is a matter for executive decision by Cabinet.

Consultation (including Ward Member Consultation)

15. No ward member consultation has taken place.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee

16. Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee.

Background Papers

The Crown Commercial Services Network Services RM1045 Framework Agreement

Contact Officer

Nick Wheeler - Operational Manager (ICT)

Officers Consulted

Head of Finance
Team Manager (Networks and Communications)
Senior Procurement Officer (ICT)
Procurement Officer - Central Procurement
Principal Lawyer - Legal Services

Responsible Officer:

Rob Thomas - Managing Director