

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION NOTICE**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 SECTION 9E**

**1 EXECUTIVE MEMBER**

Cllr James Broach – Executive Member for Governance

**2 TITLE OF REPORT**

Procurement of replacement datacentre servers

**3 DECISION TAKEN**

To award a contract to Specialist Computers Centres PLC (SCC) for server upgrades at the costs in Appendix 1.

**4 IF URGENT, REASONS FOR URGENCY**

Not urgent

**5 DETAILS OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER**

Name Cllr James Broach

Signature James Broach

Date this decision was taken 27/11/23

Date of circulation/publication of this decision \_\_\_\_\_

**6 EXPLANATION/BACKGROUND:**

- 6.1 The Council's datacentre uses virtualisation technology to host multiple IT applications and services across a limited number of physical "host" servers. These current servers date from 2018, are approaching end of life and need replacing in order to maintain a supported and resilient environment. Welwyn Hatfield have used HPE (Hewlett Packard Enterprise) technology for more than 20 years with an excellent record of reliability, developing skills and experience of this platform in the process. To ensure compatibility with existing equipment and

to make use of in-house knowledge we intend to procure this technology once more.

6.2 HPE will nominate a partner for each upgrade of this nature and, in this instance, they have nominated SCC. This means that that SCC are “preferred pricing support” and have the best commercial offer from HPE for the specified equipment.

6.3 NHS SBS Digital Workplace Solutions framework allows a direct award to SCC for server upgrades.

6.4 Legal Implications:

6.4.1 The NHS SBS Digital Workplace Solutions framework is open for Local Authorities to use (i.e. this council was named on the procurement advertisement).

6.4.2 The use of a framework contract to make a direct award is in accordance with sections 10.4 and 10.5 of the Contract Procedure Rules.

6.5 Financial Implications:

The value of the contract is £137,844.95 and will be funded from an allocated Capital project budget of £130,000 and an £8,000 virement from the ICT Rolling Programme/Refresh. A breakdown of costs is included in Appendix 1.

6.6 Risk Implications:

There is little risk of procurement challenge as a direct award using the NHS framework is in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015

6.7 Alternative options considered and reasons for their rejection (if any):

A mini competition was considered, but dismissed as HP have confirmed that they would support SCC on this project.

## **7 BACKGROUND PAPERS USED TO INFORM THE DECISION**

7.1 None

## **8 DETAILS OF ANY MEMBERS OR OFFICERS WHO HAVE DECLARED AN INTEREST IN THIS MATTER AND NATURE OF ANY SUCH INTEREST AND ANY DISPENSATIONS GRANTED**

8.1 None

## **9 ADDITIONAL CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION CONSIDERED**

9.1 Appendix 1

Contact Officer: Andrew Harper / Procurement Manager  
[a.harper@welhat.gov.uk](mailto:a.harper@welhat.gov.uk) / 01707 357371

## Appendix 1 – SCC Pricing

