

Decision Record – Renewal of the Existing ESPO Framework Contract

Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking decision

Councillor David Wright, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Improvement and IT

Date of Decision:
(NOT BEFORE – 21st September 2021)

25th September 2012

Decision taken

That I, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Improvement and IT:

- 1) Approves permission to start the process for tender of new telephone landline and related services using either the new ESPO Framework or the Government National PSN Framework; and
- 2) Approves the Strategic Director of Resources to be delegated authority to award the contract.

Reasons for Decisions

- 1.1 Warwickshire County Council (WCC) initiated a Framework Contract via ESPO (Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation) over four years ago to allow WCC to be provided with a cost effective service for the provision of telephone landlines, ISDN, SIP Trunking and Broadband services for the county. This provides cheaper telephone calls and Broadband throughout the authority for the benefit of both office-based workers and home workers, including elected members.
- 1.2 This Framework contract has been taken up and used by many other local government authorities across the UK and now has a significant annual turnover.
- 1.3 The initial contract was for three years with an option to extend by one further year. The option to extend was taken up and the end of the existing Framework contract is 31st October 2012.
- 1.4 ESPO has taken a lead in developing a new Framework Contract based upon the greater demand across local authorities. WCC, together with Solihull MBC, have been involved in the refinement of the requirements for this Framework.

- 1.5 However, since the last framework was developed by ESPO, the Cabinet Office has developed a Public Services Network Framework that may also be able to supply these services. We will review this as an alternative framework.
- 1.6 This decision notice gives approval for WCC to move to procure and award the telephony services.
- 1.7 Historically, WCC has spent approximately £500,000 per year on these services including those used and paid for directly by schools. Due to budget pressures and Property Rationalisation, the total expenditure has reduced to approximately £450,000 per year.
- 1.8 Agreement is sought to proceed to use the new Framework Contract when awarded by ESPO or the new PSN Framework. This is estimated to have expenditure over a maximum of four years of £1.8m for Warwickshire County Council.

Background Information/ factors considered in arriving at these decisions - (set out below and in the officer report):

As outlined in the decision notice.

Report Author:	John Parmiter
Head of Service:	Tonino Ciuffini
Strategic Director:	David Carter
Portfolio Holder	Councillor David Wright

Checklist

Urgent matter: yes/no*

No

Confidential or Exempt (state category of exempt information)

No

Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?

No

List of Reports considered [please attach or forward a copy]

Report from author.

List of Background Papers [please include directorate contact names and numbers for access to background papers]

None

Any members and officers consulted or informed and any comments given.

Corporate Board
Legal – Jane Pollard, Sarah Duxbury
Finance – John Betts, Simon Smith
Equalities – Tejay De Krester
Portfolio Holder – Cllr Wright
Members – Cllrs Appleton, Roodhouse and Tandy