

Agenda Item 8

EXECUTIVE DECISION – 4 MAY 2022

AWARD TO RESELLER FOR PROVISION OF MICROSOFT SUBSCRIPTION AGREEMENT AND RELATED SERVICES

COMMENTS FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

At its meeting on 28 April 2022, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board considered the report and unanimously agreed to support the recommendations to the Executive.

In response to questions from members of the Board, the following points were confirmed:

- The 2022/23 Microsoft Subscription order could not be continued through the existing contract as the Microsoft 365 'E5' Ramp offer had consumed the headroom in the original contract decision meaning the total value being spent under the existing contract awarded via the CCS RM6194 BOS framework would be exceeded and the procurement would be non-compliant with the framework.
- The 'E5' Ramp offer had been procured quickly through the original award as part of the Council's Covid-19 working from home response package. There had been an opportunity to obtain a discount for three years at the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic which was taken by the Council. This discount was soon after removed from the market and was currently no longer available. The Council did not want to lose the last year of the discount rate which was of some considerable value to the Council.
- The proposed one year contract would provide a compliant way to enable the Council to retain the benefit of the last year of the Ramp discount and not breach the headroom in the current contract, and to allow all the contracts required this year to become coterminous with the greater bulk of the Council's Microsoft contracts moving forward, which would enable the Council to seek a better deal in 2023. It was estimated that this had protected a saving of approximately £150,000.

The Board acknowledged that 'doing nothing' was not an option and welcomed the savings that had been made.

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