

Report of: Senior Business Relationship Manager

Report to: Chief Planning Officer

Date: 3rd April 2014

Subject: Award of contract for support and maintenance to Idox PLC

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. In 2009 a partnership agreement was signed between LCC and IDOX, running until 31st March 2012, with the option of 2 x 12 month extensions. Both options to extend the contract have been utilised and the partnership agreement expired in March 2014.
2. Substantial investment has been made by LCC in the product since 2002 and the system is now embedded within the relevant Directorates. The system underpins a number of services that include Planning, Environmental Services, Land Charges, Asset Management, Taxi & Private Hire and Entertainment Licensing.
3. Following approval in February 2014 (see ref D40912) to enter negotiations with Idox PLC using Regulation 14 (1) (a) (iii) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 – Use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice, Negotiations have taken place with Idox PLC, resulting in savings of £51,360 per annum over the current on-going costs.

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that a contract be awarded to Idox PLC for a period of two years from the 1st April 2014.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to award a contract to Idox PLC for Support & Maintenance.

2 Background information

- 2.1 The current partnership agreement was established in April 2009 and was signed for 5 years. (3+1+1).
- 2.2 This agreement was for the supply of Land and Property systems, including GIS technology and business applications along with associated services
- 2.3 The IDOX PLC suite of applications are now fully embedded in City Development (Planning & Sustainable Development, Asset Management), Environment & Neighbourhoods (Environmental Services), Legal (Local Land Charges) and Resources (Licensing & Registration Services)
- 2.4 Whilst substantial investment has been made in the Idox software suite, it is intended that an evaluation of the market will be undertaken over the period of this contract.
- 2.5 Following approval in February 2014 to enter negotiations with Idox PLC using Regulation 14 (1) (a) (iii) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 – Use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice, Negotiations have taken place with Idox PLC, resulting in savings of £51,360 per annum over the current on-going costs.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 The current support & maintenance agreement is due to expired in March 2014.
- 3.2 The system is used by a number of users across all LCC Directorates covering the following services:
- City Development (Planning & Sustainable Development)
 - Environments & Housing (Environmental Services)
 - Legal (Local Land Charges)
 - Resources (Taxi & Entertainment Licensing)
- 3.3 The system is the main line of business application which supports the delivery of the following services:
- Planning & Building Control applications
 - Listed Buildings & Tree Preservation orders
 - Food Safety

- Pest Control
- Infectious Diseases
- Dog Control
- HMO Licensing
- All requests relating to Environmental Health
- Taxi Licensing
- Entertainment Licensing

3.4 A support & maintenance agreement is required to ensure that the above services continue to be delivered in an effective manner.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 Consultation has taken place between the lead business users, system administrators, ICT Strategic Sourcing and other Chief Officers whose services r

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 There are no specific issues relating to equality and diversity or cohesion and integration from this piece of work

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The system is embedded in a number of services across the Directorates and this will support LCC to achieve its vision of becoming the best City in the UK by supporting the delivery of the following objectives and priorities:

- Being more responsive to the needs of local communities
- Providing accessible and integrated services
- Strengthening local accountability
- Boosting the local economy
- Maximising housing growth to meet the needs of the city in line with the Core Strategy
- Generating income for the Council
- Ensuring a safe, efficient and reliable waste collection service

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 The system is fully embedded within LCC therefore no further resources are required.
- 4.4.2 Under the terms of the previous contract LCC would have paid £237,276. By re-negotiating the Council will save £102,720 over the 2 years of the contract.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 The value of the contract is above that at which the Public Contract Regulations 2006 apply. Approval was given in February 2013 by the Chief Planning Officer to enter negotiations with Idox PLC using Regulation 14 (1) (a) (iii) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 – Use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 The risk will be managed in accordance with the Contract Management Plan.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 The support & maintenance agreement is required to continue to support the application and support the delivery of essential services in the City.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 It is recommended that a contract be awarded to Idox PLC for a period of two years from 1st April 2014.

7 Background documents¹

- 7.1 None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.