



## DECISION RECORD

<b>Service Reference Number</b>	DFIT/2024/009
<b>Decision Maker:</b> David Bell, Director of Finance	
<b>Delegated Authority</b>  Officer exercising delegated powers pursuant to paragraph 15.1 of Part B of the Constitution	
<b>Decision:</b>  To direct award the contract for the support and maintenance of the Oracle E Business Suite, Browser Proxy Solution and Advanced Database Security to the existing support provider Rimini Street for a period of two years at a cost of £450,777.00 GBP excluding VAT with an option to extend up to a further year through the G-Cloud 13 Call-Off Contract.	
<b>Reasons for the Decision:</b>  The current contract will expire in June 2024 and therefore it is necessary to renew to ensure the Council has ongoing support and maintenance for this key ICT application  The current contract that is nearing the end date was awarded to Rimini Street through the G-Cloud and the 3 <sup>rd</sup> party supplier was both the most economically advantageous and offered an excellent level of support through the contract.  As we are going through the procurement process to replace Oracle EBS, we need to continue to support the existing system. Considering the reasons in the supporting information, it would be near impossible to move away from our existing support provider at this stage. This will be a continuation of support by Rimini Street which commenced in 2016.	
<b>Nature of Decision:</b>  <b>Non-Key</b>	
<b>Exemptions</b>  Is the accompanying formal report (or other documentation where applicable) exempt? N/A	

**Background and Supporting Information:**

In December 2015, Cabinet authorised the procurement of a supplier to provide software support and maintenance for the Oracle E Business Suite through a further competition process using Lot 1 of the Crown Commercial Services Enterprise Applications Support Framework (reference RM1032). Following that process a contract was awarded to Rimini Street for an initial period of 3 years commencing June 2016 with options to extend for up to a further 2 years. This was renewed again to cover from June 2020 to June 2024.

The Oracle EBS is the key line of business application in the authority. It encompasses the Council's financial, payroll, human resources, procurement, learning management and customer relationship management functions.

The services provided under this contract are: the annual patching of the system to apply legislative changes to payroll and the provision of a service desk facility which deals with any HCC support calls. As The Oracle EBS is such a key business application, it is not an option to attempt to run it without the required technical expertise and support. Furthermore, technical support for annual patching is necessary to ensure the Council continues to comply with any legislative changes to payroll, taxation, etc.

The Rimini Street support covers the support of:

- E-Business system
- Browser Proxy Solution (BPS)
- Advanced Database Security of the product.

The BPS is a bespoke Rimini Street solution that resolved a dependency/security vulnerability on Oracle Java 8 that had to be resolved as well as a dependency on internet explorer that was an end-of-life Microsoft browser. The BPS allows the use of Microsoft Edge and allows the use of a customised non-Oracle Java product and a web start component.

Also there has been customisation completed by Rimini Street that allows communication with the HMRC, for the construction industry scheme verification.

Rimini St Ltd demonstrated best value through the further competition exercise and the award of the contract represented a significant cost saving compared to the previous arrangements. Throughout the contract, the supplier has performed well and the contract is considered to still represent best value.

During this final extension period, the Council will need to award a contract for the required services beyond June 2024 in compliance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015.

**Equalities Impact Information:**

Does the decision have relevance to equality or affect any group with protected characteristics?

**NO**

**Contact Officer:** Chris Grainger

**Chief Officer Comments**

Comments of the Director of Legal Services and Partnerships (Monitoring Officer)

The director of legal services and partnerships notes and supports the decision to extend the contract with Rimini Street. The contract was originally procured through the Crown Commercial G-Cloud framework which is fully compliant with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the Public Contract Regulations 2015. The use of the framework ensures that there are elements of competition undertaken and as a result the Council receives best value. The extension is required to ensure the operation and maintenance of the software given its importance to Council service areas. [GL]

Comments of the Director of Finance and Transformation (Section 151 Officer)

The s151 officer is the author of the Decision Record and the costs will be contained within the revenue budget (TW)

Comments of the Assistant Director Organisational Development and Human Resources and compliance with the equality act

There are no staffing or equality issues arising from this decision. KH

Comments of the Deputy Leader of the Council

I support the award of the contract as the extension is vital to support current operation whilst the procurement for a replacement goes through due process to ensure best value for the Council.

Scrutiny Comments

This decision has not been subject to pre-decision scrutiny. (Sc8146 – AS)

**Exceptional Circumstances**

Is the decision record currently exempt from publication at the point of decision?

**No**

**Signature of Decision Maker:**

Signed: **Signature confirmed**

Date signed: **10/06/2024**

<b>FOR COMPLETION BY THE SCRUTINY OFFICE:</b>	
Date published on CMIS:	11/06/2024
Can the decision be called in?	<b>No</b>
Date decision comes into force:	11/06/2024