

## **REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE**

### **LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REPLACEMENT UPDATE**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval to re-tender the Library Management System (LMS) within a consortium of East Midlands library services.

#### **Information and Advice**

2. The Library Management System (LMS) is the core business system for the public library service and the educational library service. Nottinghamshire County Council currently works in partnership with Nottingham City Council in a consortium to provide a joint LMS. The County Council leads this consortium, hosts the LMS, and administers the LMS for both Nottinghamshire County Council Libraries and Nottingham City Libraries.
3. The current LMS was implemented in 2002 and maintained and supported by ICT Services in conjunction with Libraries, Archives and Information staff. Systems of this nature are required to develop as service needs change and this is achieved through a regular incremental upgrading process.
4. The application is currently provided by the supplier on annually renewable contract. However after such a period of time it is advisable to test the market to ensure that best value is being achieved and that the latest applications are available to the service. In addition Derbyshire County Council and their consortium partner Derby City Council are required to go out for tender for a new system towards the end of 2014.
5. Nottinghamshire County Council has therefore led a joint procurement process to enable the Derbyshire consortium and the Leicestershire consortium (which includes Rutland) to jointly tender for a replacement LMS. This approach reduces costs of the tendering process and aims to achieve value for money in reducing purchase and on-going costs.
6. In addition, the procurement of the same LMS supplier provides the potential for joint working between current consortia and across any or all of the participating library services without loss of identification for the local authority and customisation to local authority policies.
7. A specification and tendering process is being led by the Team Manager, Library Resources, with full support from the Nottinghamshire County Council procurement team and ICT Services. Formal tender responses are due to be evaluated in early 2014 with

the selection of a supplier made by April 2014. Implementation of the agreed solution will be made across the consortium from September 2014 to Spring 2015

### **Other Options Considered**

8. All other options considered would have a potentially negative impact on the sustainability of the library service.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

9. A re-tendering exercise is best practice in achieving value for money and improved LMS functionality.
10. A consortium approach provides greater scope for efficiency and future joint working

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

11. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Implications for Service Users**

12. Procurement of a sustainable LMS provides access to library resources and meets changing needs over the coming years.

### **Financial Implications**

13. There are no direct financial implications

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That the principle of working in an extended consortium in the re-procurement and provision of a Library Management System be approved.

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**Constitutional Comments (initials xx/11/13)**

14.

**Financial Comments (KLA 14/11/13)**

15. There are no financial implications arising directly from the report.

**Background Papers and Published Documents**

None.

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All.

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