

Appendix 4 - 4.1.3 Forms (Technical Exemption)

| Function | Cluster | Description of Contract | Estimated Start date of Contract | Estimated End date of Contract | Total Estimated Contract Value £ | Reason for seeking approval under 4.1.3 Technical Exemption: |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|
| Corporate Services | Digital & Technology | Contract for network connectivity for 80 council remote sites due to the cessation of SWAN (Scottish Wide Area Network) in December 2025 | 07/11/2024 | 06/11/2027 (with option to extend by 1 + 1 years) | £2,200,000.00 | <p>The proposed procurement aims to replace the current SWAN WAN solution with faster fibre connectivity to increase capacity and improve service and technology. This change addresses the growing number of devices, supports agility and mobility, and leverages digital transformation and cloud innovation. A dependable, cost-effective solution that is ubiquitous, secure, and adheres to new cyber standards is crucial for protecting user devices and data. The network must be flexible enough to meet diverse organisational needs, supporting new working, learning, and collaboration modes, including multi-tenant setups in council buildings.</p> <p>In this initiative, we will rationalise council buildings while enhancing connectivity at remaining sites to ensure durable, robust network coverage that supports curriculum needs and various devices. This will underpin our Digital Transformation efforts with Microsoft and other digital partners through fast fibre connectivity.</p> <p>Awarding to the current supplier adds value to the proposal due to the already provisioned infrastructure in terms of connectivity that can be leveraged removing the need for duplication of infrastructure and revenue running cost.</p> |
| Corporate Services | Commercial & Procurement | This support agreement covers the planned maintenance and inspection and remote technical support to continue the operation of the single electrolyser producing gas at Cove and the three units producing gas at Kittybrewster Hydrogen Refuelling Stations. | 01/10/2024 | 30/09/2027 | £438,888.00 | <p>This proposal is from the original manufacturer of the electrolyser units who control all of the management software needed to operate and maintain the units. To the Council's knowledge, no other party has the rights to access the software in question meaning, at this time, the original manufacturer is the only supplier who can deliver this support agreement in full. The Council has previously explored the possibility of allowing third parties such as the operational partner for the ACHES site to access this software however this has not been possible due to contract terms and ownership of the Intellectual Property Rights in the Software and which prevent another party from modifying or updating the equipment which may be required for maintenance purposes. The Council has explored engaging other parties to provide this planned support services based closer to Aberdeen however this was not possible.</p> |
| Corporate Services | Digital & Technology | The undertaking of a procurement process for SIP Lines via Crown Commercial Services – RM6116 Network Services 3 Framework and award via technical exemption to Gamma. | 01/11/2024 | 01/10/2027 | £116,820.00 | <p>Due to the cost and resource impact of replacing the current infrastructure embedded into our telephony infrastructure we have sought to remain with the current supplier by way of a compliant framework route and call off through the CCS Network Services 3 Framework, which allows for a direct award through the use of the catalogue on their eMarketplace.</p> |