

## **CABINET**

**13 JANUARY 2015**

### **GATEWAY 3 CONTRACT AWARD: MEDWAY GRID FOR LEARNING SERVICES**

Portfolio Holders: Councillor Mike O'Brien, Children's Services (Lead Member)  
Councillor Peter Hicks, Community Safety and Customer Contact

Report from: Barbara Peacock, Director of Children and Adults

Authors: Marc Dermody, Schools' ICT Commissioner  
Peter Good, ICT Infrastructure Manager

#### **SUMMARY**

This report seeks permission to award a contract to the supplier as highlighted within Section 3.1 of the Exempt Appendix.

The Cabinet approved the commencement of this requirement at Gateway 1 on 2 September 2014.

#### **1. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK**

1.1 The procurement of this requirement directly links into the following Strategic Council Obligations:

- **Medway Council Plan**

This procurement requirement links into the Medway Council Plan through the delivery of a project that as well as providing value for money, supports the following commitment:

- We will champion strong leadership and high standards in schools so that all children can achieve their potential, and the gaps between the least advantaged and their peers are narrowed.

The MGfL services allow schools to communicate effectively within a secure environment and support the delivery of high quality teaching and learning.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Medway Grid for Learning (MGfL) is a secure wide area network connecting school local area networks (LAN), enabling schools to access a number of services that they would otherwise need to purchase and manage independently.
- 2.2 The MGfL consists of several key services; service support, e-mail, webfiltering and anti-virus are provided under contract, originally procured from the South East Grid for Learning (SEGfL) framework. The current contract will end in March 2015 and therefore there is a necessity to re – procure these services.

### **Funding/Engagement from External Sources**

- 2.3 MGfL services will be funded by revenue from schools.

### **Urgency of Report**

- 2.4 The procurement needs to meet the requirement for implementation in April 2015.

## **3. PROCUREMENT PROCESS**

### **Procurement Process Undertaken**

- 3.1 The procurement has followed the mini competition tendering process and has used the SEGfL Framework. The selection list has been taken from this framework.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

- 3.2 The quality and cost ratio used for the procurement was 70%/30%.
- 3.3 There were four sub criteria for quality; **Services, Transition, Customer Service & Support, References & Presentations**. The tenderer scoring is detailed in the Exempt Appendix.

## 4. BUSINESS CASE

### 4.1 Procurement Project Outputs / Outcomes

As part of the successful delivery of this procurement requirement, the following procurement project outputs / outcomes within the table below have been identified as key and will be monitored as part of the procurement project delivery process.

Outputs / Outcomes	How will success be measured?	Who will measure success of outputs/ outcomes	When will success be measured?
<b>1. Support services</b>	A service desk that meets the needs of the school, with a issue resolution rate in line with contractual requirements and an audit trail so that schools can monitor progress and Medway can quality assure	Schools' ICT Commissioner and ICT Infrastructure Manager	Ongoing termly feedback and evaluations from MGfL members once the contract is in place. Also, at the end of each financial year the number of schools staying with the MGfL will indicate satisfaction with the service.
<b>2. A secure E-mail exchange</b>	Schools have access to a secure communication system where members are able to filter their own e-mails, and utilise shared calendars and mobile devices.	Schools' ICT Commissioner and ICT Infrastructure Manager	Ongoing termly feedback and evaluations from MGfL members once the contract is in place. Also, at the end of each financial year the number of schools staying with the MGfL will indicate satisfaction with the service
<b>3. A Flexible and safe web filtering system</b>	A secure web filtering system that allows members to change their filtering policy quickly to suit their teaching and learning needs. Schools are able to monitor sites visited by staff and pupils	Schools' ICT Commissioner and ICT Infrastructure Manager	Ongoing termly feedback and evaluations from MGfL members once the contract is in place. Also, at the end of each financial year the number of schools staying with the MGfL will indicate satisfaction with the service
<b>4. A resilient anti-virus</b>	An industrial standard anti-virus that is up to date and can capture the most recent security threats to a school network	Schools' ICT Commissioner and ICT Infrastructure Manager	Ongoing termly feedback and evaluations from MGfL members once the contract is in place. Also, at the end of each financial year the number of schools staying with the MGfL will indicate satisfaction with the service

## **5. SERVICE COMMENTS**

### **5.1 Financial Comments**

5.1.1 The procurement requirement and its associated delivery (as per the recommendations at Section 8), will be funded from existing revenue budgets.

5.1.2 Further detail is contained within Section 1.1 Financial Analysis of the **Exempt Appendix** that accompanies this report.

### **5.2 Legal Comments**

5.2.1 This procurement was undertaken by way of using a EU Compliant Framework therefore at this stage there are no legal implications. To ensure compliance is maintained the client needs to ensure that all instructions, model order forms and rules for the use of the framework are issued to Legal Services so that the Contract for signing can be drafted in line with those rules of the Framework used.

### **5.3 TUPE Comments**

5.3.1 Not applicable.

### **5.4 Procurement Comments**

5.4.1 This requirement has been procured via an OJEU compliant framework and as such there are no specific procurement concerns or implications. The client is advised to ensure that all appropriate framework call-off documentation is completed as required.

### **5.5 ICT Comments**

5.5.1 ICT have been engaged with the service throughout this procurement, and support the recommendation. There are no service migration issues to be addressed, and therefore no disruption in the service provided to schools.

## **6. PROCUREMENT BOARD**

6.1 The Procurement Board considered this report on 3 December 2014 and supported the recommendation as set out in paragraph 8 below.

## **7. OTHER INFORMATION**

7.1 No other information

## 8. Recommendations

- 8.1 The Cabinet is recommended to agree to award the contract for MGfL services (first line support, e-mail, web filtering and antivirus) to the supplier as highlighted within the exempt appendix.

## 9. Suggested Reasons for Decisions

- 9.1 This is the preferred option because it offers significantly reduced lead times to implementation, competition is ensured and it confirms the capability of the successful company. With the urgent requirement to improve standards achieved in our schools, it is imperative that schools have the most up to date and cost effective services. It provides best value for money and the quickest route to implementation.

## LEAD OFFICER CONTACT

<b>Name</b>	Marc Dermody	<b>Title</b>	Schools' ICT Commissioner
<b>Department</b>	School Services Quality & Commissioning	<b>Directorate</b>	Children and Adults
<b>Extension</b>	8558	<b>Email</b>	marc.dermody@medway.gov.uk

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report:

South East Grid for Learning (SEGfL) framework