



LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

LFC-25-052

PART TWO

Confidential facts and advice

Information may have to be disclosed in the event of a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. In the event of a request for confidential facts and advice, please consult the Governance Team for advice.

Procurement of SAFEcommand™ Software

This information is not for publication because:

The report contains information which is commercially sensitive and publication of the information included in this report is deferred as its disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the London Fire Commissioner (LFC).

Legal recommendation on the grounds of keeping the information confidential:

In the event the information contained in this Part Two and/or its appendix is the subject of a request for information under section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the "Act"), it is considered that access can be denied on the basis that such information constitutes exempt information under:

Section 43(2) of the Act on the basis that the information in this report includes information which is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

Public Interest Assessment

At present, on balance, it is considered that the public interest is best served if the information is not disclosed at this point. Disclosure by the LFC would be likely to have a detrimental effect on the LFC's position and related commercial interest regarding the expenditure incurred for the Airbus SAFEcommand™ system.,

The eligibility of these exemptions should be reassessed in the event of a request under the Act for this information as the level of sensitivity will change over time and different circumstances may alter the arguments in favour of non-disclosure.

The recommended period for non-publication of Part 2 is after successful procurement and tender award

Legal Adviser

I make the above recommendations that this information should be considered confidential at this time.

Name: Natasha Chaudry

Date: 13 January 2025

Confidential decision and/or advice

1 Introduction and background

The part 1 report for this decision sets out the background for the request to the Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service to authorise the London Fire Commissioner (LFC) to commit revenue expenditure of up to £1.576M to re-procure the Airbus SAFEcommand™ system, which includes modules for mobilising, guiding, messaging, crash recovery, risk information. The SAFEcommand™ system is used to deliver and display mobilising information to crews on appliances, via Mobile Data Terminals (MDT). The Brigade has been using the SAFEcommand™ (formerly VMDS) system for several years and it was last re-procured in 2020. The system is comprised of the primary software, middleware and support of the system. The existing contract expires in August 2025.

Opting for a five-year contract offers financial incentives and licensing benefits, delivering an annual saving of £23,895

Product	Five Year	Annual
<u>Contract Costs</u>		
Airbus Products	£ 1,155,675	£ 231,135
Crash Recovery System	£420,100	£84,020
Total	£ 1,575,775	£ 315,155
<u>Current Budget</u>		
Airbus Products	£ 1,260,530	£ 252,106
Crash Recovery System	£434,720	£86,944
Total	£ 1,695,250	£ 339,050
Saving	£119,475	£23,895

Supporting Information

The original paper had proposed a three-year contract with Airbus, rather than the five-year contract that we currently have. The rationale for this was that opting for a shorter contract would provide an opportunity for ICT to evaluate product offerings from new suppliers to the market. However, such options can only be explored once the new Mobilising system has been implemented and fully bedded in. Implementing a new product is a complex and time consuming process, particularly as any new product will need to comply to specific "code of connection" requirements. In addition, resource from NEC (who are also implementing the new mobilising system) will be required to assist in the implementation of any alternative to the SAFEcommand™ product. These resources are committed to further work after the implementation of the mobilising system. It is therefore felt that the three-year option would incur un-necessary risk at this time. In addition, the contract will include "break clauses" should the landscape alter significantly over the next three years, which would allow the LFC to exit the five year contract.

The total prices for three and five years for the Airbus Support and Maintenance are:

	Total price	Price per year
Three years	£756,240	£252,080
Five years	£1,155,675	£231,135

In addition to the above Crash Recovery System licenses pricing for the Bliksund CRS software is set out below.

	Total price	Price per year
Three years	£285,580	£95,193
Five years	£420,100	£84,020

Overall the five-year option is £160k less compared to the pricing offered for three years.

Other benefits offered by Airbus for the five year option include a site license for Crash Recovery and additional licensees for ScResponse & ScGuide

Financial comments

This report recommends that revenue expenditure of up to £1,575,775 over five years (£315,155 per year) is agreed to re-procure the SAFEcommand™ system, which is used to deliver and display mobilising information to crews on appliances via Mobile Data Terminals (MDT). This agreement is due to start upon the expiry of the current agreement in August 2025.

The cost of this work will be solely funded by the LFC revenue budget, which is £1,695,250 over five years (£339,050 per year). Hence there is sufficient budget cover for the agreement renewal across all years. An underspend of £119,475 against budget is expected which will initially be held as a contingency, and then reviewed as a potential saving in future years budgets.

Legal comments

Please see Part 1 for legal comments.

Confidential appendices and supporting papers

None