

PART 2 – CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

DMFD243

Procurement of physical network connections

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 Information Governance team for advice.

This information is not for publication until the stated date, because:

The report contains commercially sensitive information that should not be released before completing procurement of the replacement physical network connections, including wide area network (WAN) and metropolitan area network (MAN).

Date at which Part 2 will cease to be confidential or when confidentiality should be reviewed:

31 December 2025

Legal adviser recommendation on the grounds for not publishing information at this time:

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 that 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 London Fire Commissioner (LFC) would likely have a detrimental effect on the LFC's position; its related commercial interest regarding the expenditure incurred for the purposes of this report; and its ability to undertake a procurement exercise.

The Information Commissioner has recognised this exemption may cover a wide range of commercial information relating to ongoing procurement activity. This Part 2 report includes information related to future plans to procure replacement physical network connections (including WAN and MAN), and the LFC's financial position in relation to those procurements.

The exempt information would disclose the LFC's financial position in relation to the proposed procurement to potential bidders; and would prejudice the competitive tendering exercise for the new contract.

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

Name: Stephen Fernandes Owen

Date: 26 July 2024

Once this form is fully authorised, it should be circulated with Part 1.

Confidential decision and/or advice:

This report requests the Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service to approve the LFC committing revenue expenditure of up to £10,774,500 over five years, to procure physical network connections.

Financial comments

This report seeks authorisation for the LFC to commit revenue expenditure to procure WAN and MAN services; and enter a new contract with a supplier. The proposed new contract will be for five years. A replacement service is estimated to cost no more than £10,774,500 over five years (or £2,154,900 per year).

The cost of the contract will be covered from existing budgets within the LFB's ICT department.

Table 1 – Budgets for replacing the physical network connections

Subjective code and description	Cost centre	Sum of budget 2024-25 (£)
4621 – Network equipment & services	E79	1,629,075
4621 – Network equipment & services	E80	330,716
4652 – Software-off-the-shelf	E79	195,109
Annual total		2,154,900
Five-year total		10,774,500