



LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

Report title

LFB OneRisk Solution – Agreement to Funding (Amended)

Report to

Date

Corporate Services Directorate Board
Commissioner's Board
Deputy Mayor Fire and Resilience Board
London Fire Commissioner

15 March 2022
06 April 2022
26 April 2022

Report classification

For Decision

The subject matter of this report deals with the following LFB strategic priorities :

Delivering excellence **Seizing the future**

The strategic driver for this proposal would align with the strategic pillars 'Seizing the future' and 'Delivering Excellence' and in particular would support the aims – '*constantly improving effectiveness of our Service*' and '*improved execution*', for the reasons outlined in this paper

Report number – LFC-0689y (LFC-0461)

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE DECISION-MAKER

Executive Summary

The objective of the LFB OneRisk solution is to replace the Brigade's different systems that collect and manage building risk information with a solution that provides an integrated view of building fire-related risk.

The London Fire Commissioner has previously approved and agreed expenditure on the *LFB OneRisk* solution in 2021 (LFC-0461).

This report seeks further specific approval for revenue expenditure necessary to support and maintain the LFB OneRisk Solution on an ongoing basis once implemented.

In addition, this report sets out additional legal and procurement costs that were omitted on the original report that need to be included in overall expenditure for this project for completeness.

For the Deputy Mayor

That the Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience authorises the London Fire Commissioner to commit revenue expenditure of up to the amount set out in the Part 2 report for the purposes of supporting and maintaining the *LFB OneRisk* solution during its operational life and for the payment and for the payment of additional external legal assistance of £40,000 and procurement assistance of £37,500..

This LFC decision will only be taken after further consultation with the Greater London Authority's finance and legal advisers and Corporate Investment Board.

For the London Fire Commissioner

The London Fire Commissioner agrees to commit revenue expenditure of up to the amount set out in part 2 of this report for the purposes of supporting/maintaining the *LFB OneRisk* solution during its operational life and for the payment of and for the payment of additional external legal assistance of £40,000 and procurement assistance of £37,500.

The London Fire Commissioner delegates authority to the Assistant Director Technical and Commercial to award a contract for these services.

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. A report "*LFB OneRisk Solution – Agreement to Funding*" (LFC-0461) was agreed in March 2021 which authorised capital expenditure to initiate a procurement in respect of the *LFB OneRisk* solution. All aspects of the *LFB OneRisk* solution remain as described in the earlier report which is attached as appendix 1.
- 1.2. The earlier report included (at paras 3 to 7, and appendix 1) the recommendations from a peer review of the project undertaken by the Director for Transformation. One recommendation from the review (ref: F in para 6) was to "*Undertake detailed budgeting exercise including implementation and running costs*". The peer review said that this recommendation should be completed "*prior to tender award*".
- 1.3. This report seeks specific approval for revenue expenditure necessary to support the *LFB OneRisk* Solution on an ongoing basis once implemented.

2. Support the LFB OneRisk solution once implemented

- 2.1. The earlier report stated that revenue expenditure to provide annual support and maintenance of the proposed *LFB OneRisk* solution, once implemented, could be contained within existing ICT budgets by re-purposing funds currently dedicated to supporting the systems that *LFB OneRisk* will replace. The revenue implications were set out in paragraph 54 of the earlier report (attached as Appendix 1). However, since this earlier report was written, there has been

increased scrutiny applied throughout the governance process, particularly in relation to expenditure.

- 2.2. The LFC therefore considers it prudent to submit this further report which explicitly requests authorisation for the revenue expenditure necessary to support the LFB OneRisk solution from within existing ICT budgets. The support will be provided by the supplier/developer engaged to provide the system in accordance with the procurement decision made in March 2021 (LFC-0461).
- 2.3. In addition, it has been determined that there is a requirement for external legal and procurement assistance for the project. The legal advice is required in support of the procurement process and providing advice on intellectual property rights (IPR) issues relating to the OneRisk project. The external procurement assistance is required to support the project through the procurement stages to counter capacity issues within the department.
- 2.4. The cost of this external legal assistance will be a £40,000 and procurement assistance will be £37,500. These revenue expenses will be funded from "protection uplift" grant money that has been made available to the AC Fire Safety.

3. Financial comments

- 3.1 This report recommends that the London Fire Commissioner agrees to commit revenue expenditure of up to the amount set out in part 2 of this report. The financial implication of this are also set out in the part 2 report.
- 3.2 This report also states that there is a requirement of external legal assistance at a cost of £40,000 and procurement assistance as a cost of £37,500. This cost will be met from the "protection uplift" grant money provided by the Home Office. This has been transferred into the Fire Safety and Youth Engagement earmarked reserve which has a forecast balance of £6,515,000 as at the end of the 2021/22 financial year.

4. Legal Comments

- 4.1 This report seeks to approval of additional revenue funding for a new ICT system 'LFB OneRisk Solution'.
- 4.2 Under section 9 of the Policing and Crime Act 2017, the London Fire Commissioner (the "Commissioner") is established as a corporation sole with the Mayor appointing the occupant of that office. Section 1 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 ('the 2004 Act') states the Commissioner is the fire and rescue authority for Greater London.
- 4.3 Under section 327D of the GLA Act 1999, as amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2017, the Mayor may issue to the Commissioner specific or general directions as to the manner in which the holder of that office is to exercise his or her functions.
- 4.4 By direction dated 1 April 2018, the Mayor set out those matters, for which the Commissioner would require the prior approval of either the Mayor or the Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience (the "Deputy Mayor"). In particular, paragraph (b) of Part 2 of the said direction requires the Commissioner to seek the prior approval of the Deputy Mayor before "[a] commitment to expenditure (capital or revenue) of £150,000 or above as identified in

accordance with normal accounting practices...". The decision to procure the additional services as set out in the recommendation of this report exceeds this value, therefore, this report to the Deputy Mayor fulfils the aforementioned requirement in the direction.

- 4.5 The previous report (LFC-0461, attached) confirmed that the Procurement Department will be engaged in the Project Team and in the tender process from start to end to ensure compliance with the requirements set out in the Public Contract Regulations 2015; the GLA responsible procurement policy, and LFC standing orders. The Project Team will also ensure the specification and end product is compliant with other requirements including and not limited to DPA/GDPR. Additionally, the external legal advice will be procured by General Counsel's Department in accordance with the requirements set out in this paragraph by way off a call off from an extant PCR compliant framework; the 'London Borough's Legal Alliance'.
- 4.6 Section 5A of the 2004 Act enables the Commissioner to "do anything it considers appropriate for the purposes of the carrying out of it's functions.
- 4.7 The Commissioner is also a 'best value' authority under the Local Government Act 1999 and must make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- 4.8 The development and procurement of one ICT system 'LFB OneRisk Solution' and related outputs fall within the duties and powers of the Commissioner. It will assist all staff and workers to be more efficient and effective in their day to day work, seek to address some of the recommendations from the Phase 1 GT inquiry, and generally ensure best practice in terms of data management.
- 4.9 The Commissioner's Board must in advance the report being presented to the Deputy Mayor and the Commissioner taking a decision first note the contents of the report in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Commissioner's Board. The proposed recommendation for the London Fire Commissioner to delegate authority to the Assistant Director of Technical and Commercial to deal with all contract awards in connection with the new ICT system LFB OneRisk Solution is permitted under Part 4 of the LFC's Scheme of Delegation.

List of Appendices

| Appendix | Title | Open or confidential |
|----------|--|----------------------|
| 1. | LFB OneRisk Solution – Agreement to Funding (LFC-0461) | open |

Part 2 Confidentiality: Only the facts or advice considered to be exempt from disclosure under the FOI Act should be in the separate Part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

Is there a part 2 form – YES

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:

Drafting
officer to
confirm the

following
(✓)

Drafting officer

Julian Martin (Chief Information Officer) has drafted this report and confirms the following:

Assistant Director/Head of Service

Julian Martin (Chief Information Officer) has reviewed the documentation and is satisfied for it to be referred to Board for consideration

Advice

The Finance and Legal teams have commented on this proposal.

David O'Sullivan, Financial Advisor, on behalf of the Chief Finance Officer

Thomas Davies, Legal Advisor, on behalf of General Counsel