

## ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

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| 1. | <b>Meeting:</b>     | <b>Deputy Leader</b>                        |
| 2. | <b>Date:</b>        | <b>15 April 2013</b>                        |
| 3. | <b>Title:</b>       | <b>Certero – AssetStudio software suite</b> |
| 4. | <b>Directorate:</b> | <b>Resources</b>                            |

### 5. Summary

The Council uses Certero AssetStudio as its main IT asset tracking, software compliance and reporting tool.

The annual maintenance of the software costs £11,700. Exemption from Standing Orders is sought on the basis that only the software supplier (Certero) are capable of supplying and supporting this software.

### 6. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- **The contract for the licence, support and maintenance of the AssetStudio system be exempt from the provisions of standing order 47.6.2 (requirement to invite at least 2 oral and written quotations for contracts with a value of £5,000 but less than £20,000) and the contract be awarded to Certero.**

## **7. Proposals and Details**

Certero AssetStudio is deployed to 4000 laptops and PCs across the RMBC IT estate. It reports back on essential security information about the devices and monitors the software licencing position for each device.

Certero (the suppliers of AssetStudio) charge RMBC £11,700 per annum for the licence, support and updates to the software.

ICT and procurement services have confirmed that as the suppliers of the software Certero are the only business which can provide support and maintenance.

Other software solutions exist which could fulfil the same function as Certero, but RMBC does not wish to move to a new product at this time. The estimated cost to change to a new software package, including re-training costs, would be £55,000. It is proposed to carry out a review of options during 2013/14, but in the meantime failure to renew the existing license and support contract for 2013/14 would leave the IT Service unable to ensure all laptops and PCs are kept secure and have the appropriate licences for their use..

## **8. Finance**

The cost of AssetStudio is set out above. Adequate budget is available to cover this cost.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

AssetStudio is used throughout ICT and the information it produces is used throughout the Council.

If we do not renew support and maintenance, the continued use of the software will be put at risk and several key controls within ICT will stop.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

Policy and performance issues are discussed elsewhere in this report.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

Consultation has taken place with colleagues in Legal, Finance and Procurement Services and all have confirmed agreement with the proposals.

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