



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Approval to seek Tenders for a Framework Agreement for IT Security Services
Date:	20 November 2009
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Head of ISB, ext 4200
Contact Officer:	Paul Gribben, IS Portfolio Manager, ext 4237

Background

Infrastructure security protection addresses the critical need to minimise the risk to business operations from external and internal threats by protecting IT infrastructure, applications and data, and by minimising the vulnerabilities that enable attacks.

The threats to our IT infrastructure are changing rapidly, as are the approaches, applications and technologies that we must use to mitigate these threats. Infrastructure protection covers protection strategies, technology selection and deployment best practices and affects the following areas:

1. Network security
2. Messaging security
3. Mobile security
4. Data security
5. Vulnerability management
6. Application security
7. Endpoint security

The Council's IS/IT strategy sets out the needs to have independent IT security services to support and provide assurance for the above areas.

The current framework agreement is due for renewal.

Key Issues

Given the complexity of the threat to our IT infrastructure and the importance of minimising the risk to our business operations we require specialised managed security services to provide expertise in managing the security of our multifaceted IT infrastructure.

Resource ImplicationsFinancial Issues

Framework agreement for approximately £25,000 per annum for a period of 3 years with an option to renew for a further 1 year.

Above expenditure is to be funded from ISB's revenue budget.

Human Resources

None

Asset and Other Implications

None

Recommendations

It is recommended that the council invites tenders to establish a new framework agreement for the supply of IT security services.

Decision Tracking

Officer responsible: Rose Crozier, Head of ISB

Action to be completed by: March 2010

Documents Attached

None