# 3. osTicket Live-Deployment

Deployment of a Cloud-Based osTicket System on Microsoft Azure for Home Network Support on Windows 10

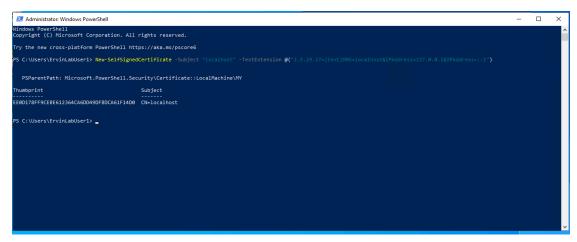
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## 1. Hosting the Azure Windows 10 Virtual Machine

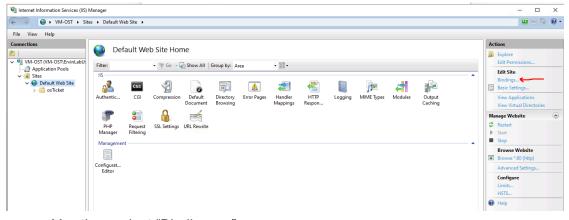
## 1.1. Setting up a HTTPS

As this is for testing and personal project purposes, we'll create our own self-signed SLL/TLS certificate for our "localhost".

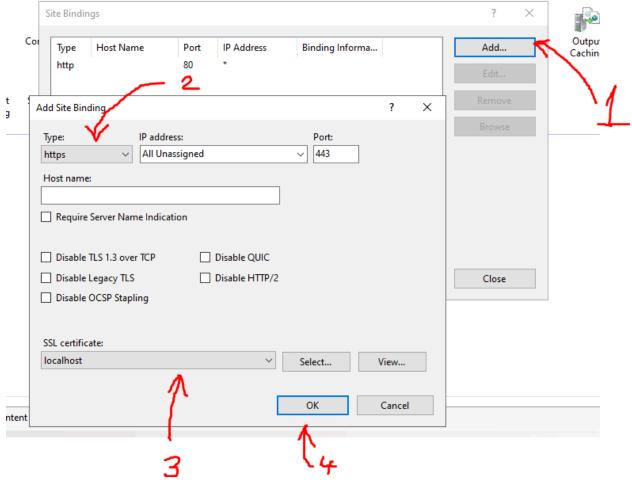
We'll have to Remote Desktop Access to our Windows 10 Virtual Machine.



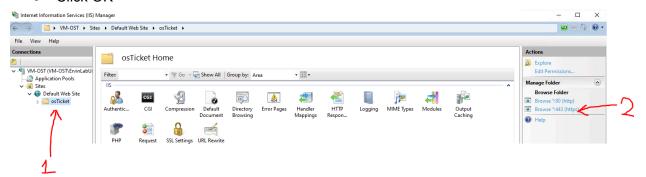
- Open Windows Powershell with administrator
- Paste this line of code: "New-SelfSignedCertificate -Subject "localhost" -TextExtension
   @("2.5.29.17={text}DNS=localhost&IPAddress=127.0.0.1&IPAddress=::1")"
  - This command creates a self-signed certificate with "localhost" as the subject. The certificate is valid for the DNS name "localhost," the IPv4 address 127.0.0.1, and the IPv6 address::1. This allows the certificate to be used securely with connections to https://localhost, https://127.0.0.1, or https://[::1] on the machine where it is installed.



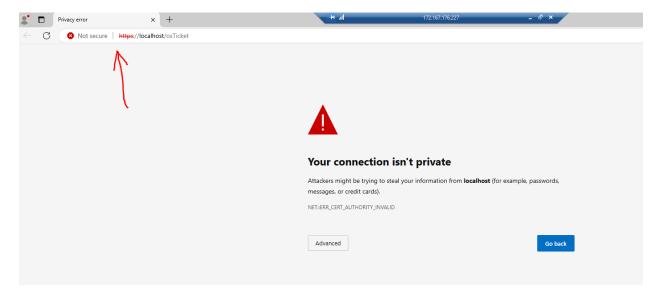
You then select "Bindings..."



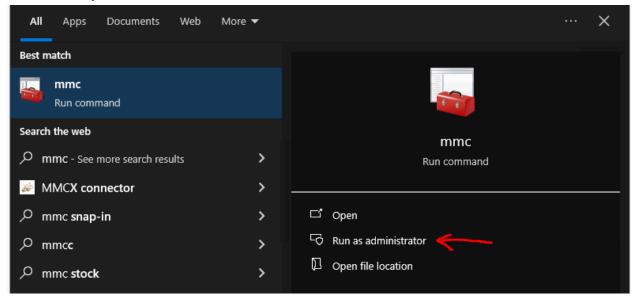
- Select Add
- Change Type to https
- Select localhost under SSL certificate
- Click OK



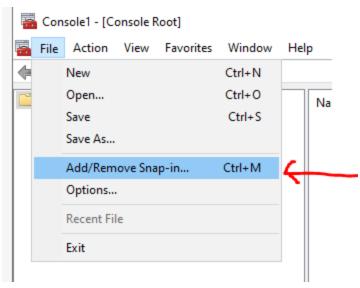
- First select osTicket
- Second select Browse \*:443 (https)



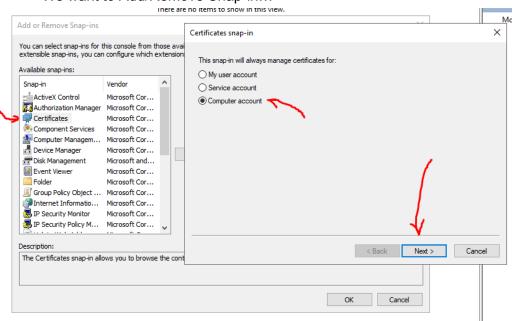
• What you'll see is that the connection isn't secure. Let's fix this.



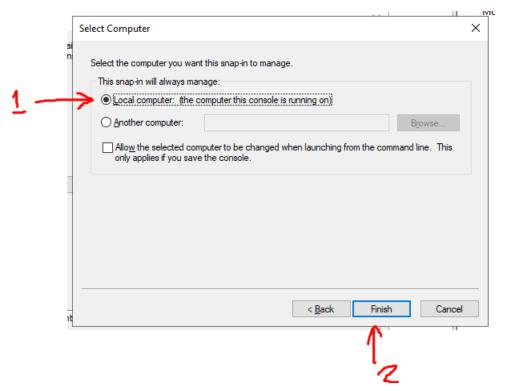
- Search for MMC
- Run as administrator



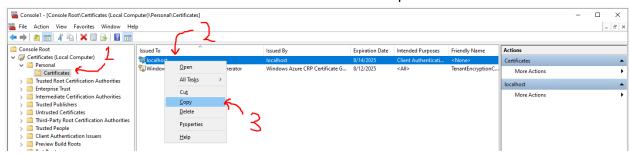
We want to Add/Remove Snap-in...



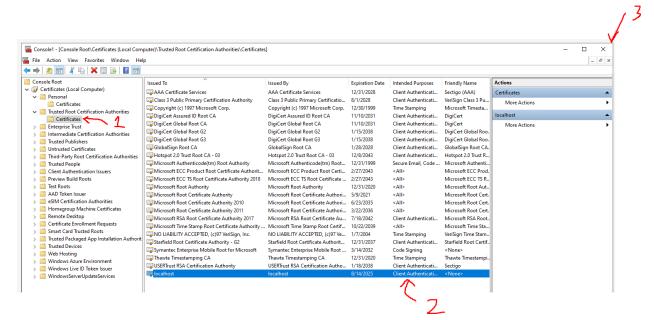
- Select Certificates
- Select "Computer account"
- Go to Next



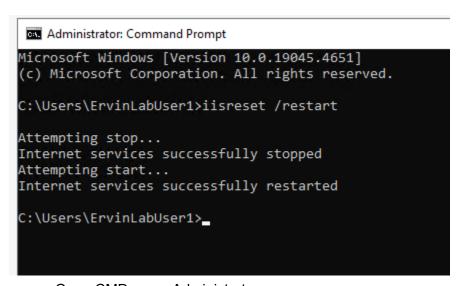
- Select Local Computer
- Click "Finish"
- Then click OK to close out of the Add or Remove Snap-ins



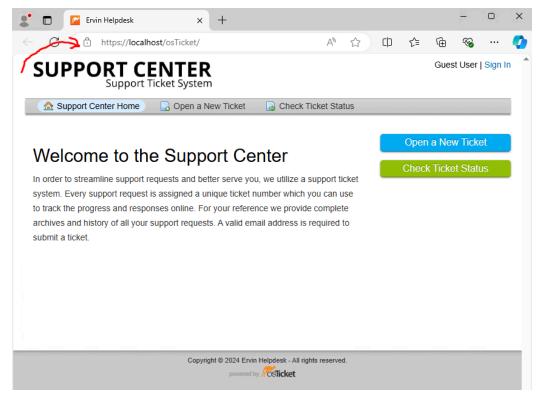
- Select "Certificates" under Certificates>Personal>Certificates
- Go to "localhost"
- Then select "Copy"



- Select "Certificates" from Certificates>Trusted Root Certification Authorities>Certificates
- Paste it into there
- Close it. You don't need to save anything.



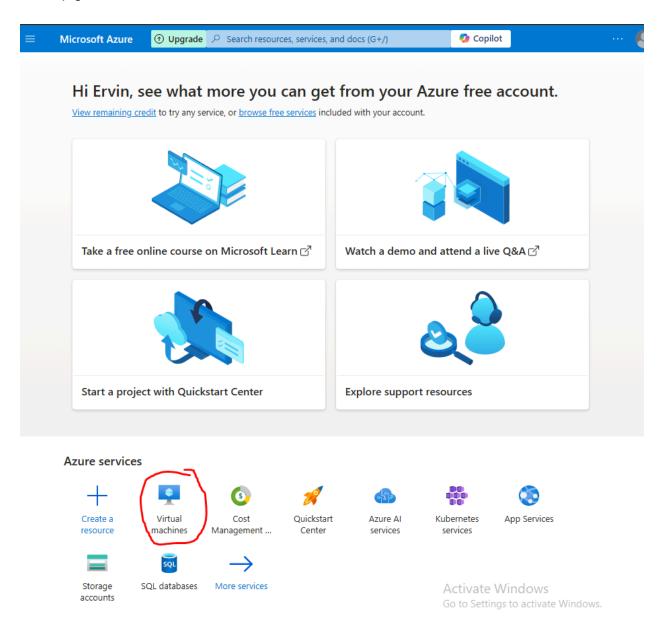
- Open CMD as an Administrator
- Type: "iisreset / restart"
  - This will reset the IIS



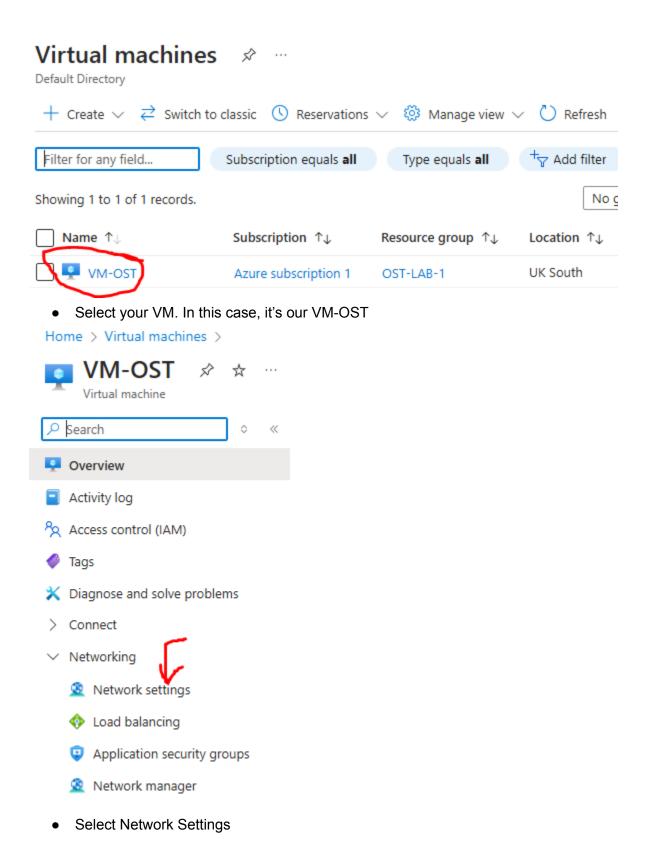
From here you can now see that the HTTPS has been set up.

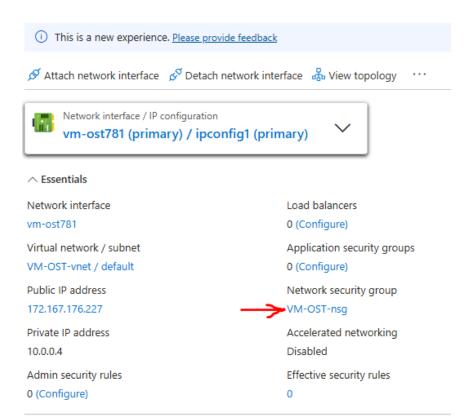
## 1.2. Configuring Network Security Group (NSG) Rules

Here we're going to configure the network security rules to allow for inbound HTTPS traffic. This will help get our virtual machine in Azure into a live environment.

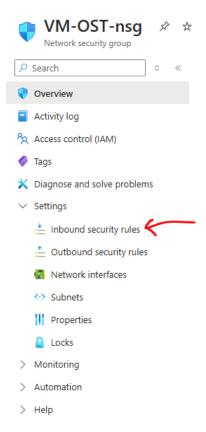


- Select Virtual Machines
- Ignore the "Active Windows" on the bottom left  $\stackrel{\bullet}{\smile}$

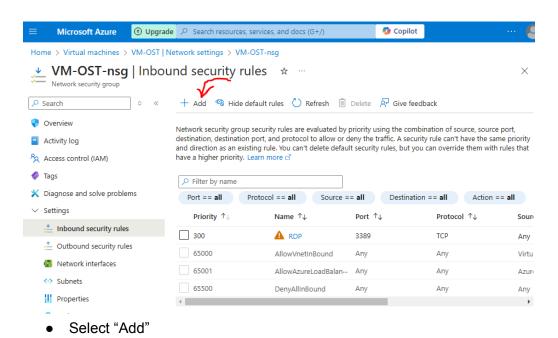


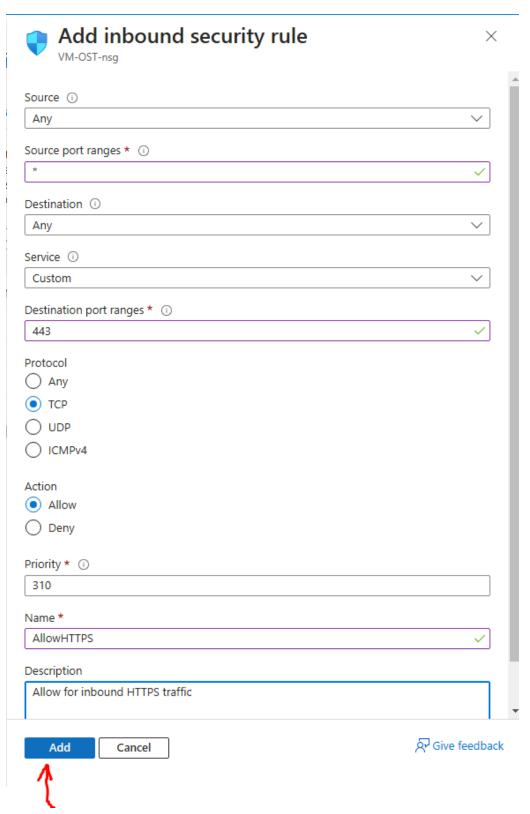


### • Select VM-OST-nsg

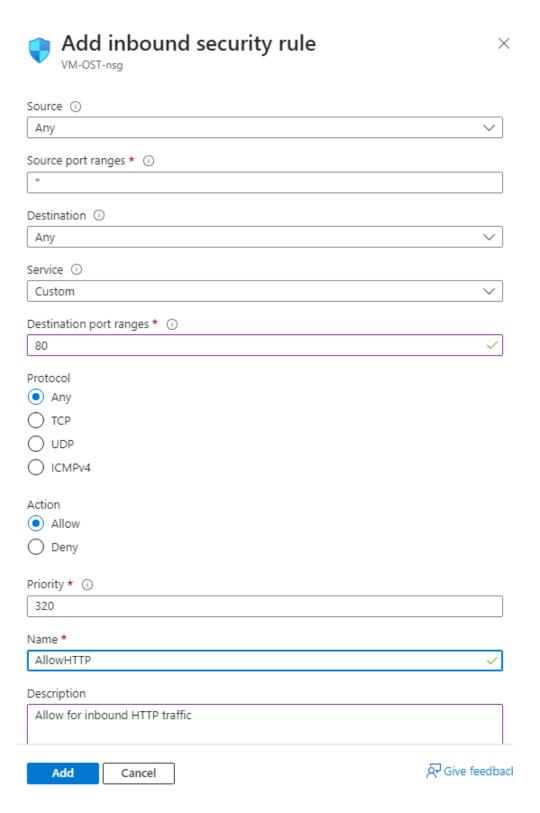


Select "Inbound Security Rules"



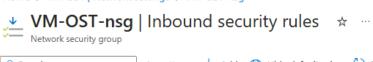


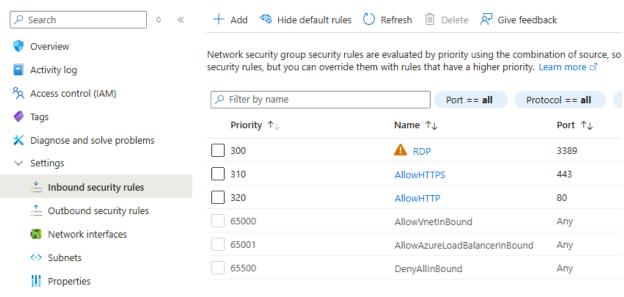
• Fill out all the details as shown above. We want to go for Port 443 as we have now set up a HTTPS. Protocol will be TCP for secure connection - since it's HTTPS as well.



• Add another inbound security rule. This time for Allowing HTTP - under port 80.

### Home > VM-OST | Network settings > VM-OST-nsg





This should now be set.

Locks

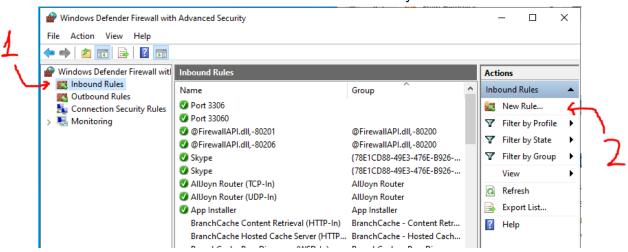
## 1.3. Configure VM's Firewall

Now it's time to configure the Windows 10 Virtual Machine firewall to allow for inbound connections within the VM.

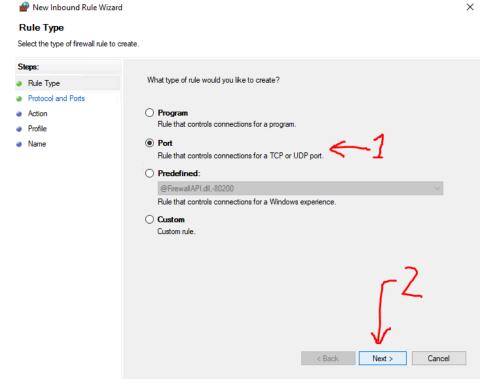
We'll have to Remote Desktop Access to our Windows 10 Virtual Machine if you closed it prior.



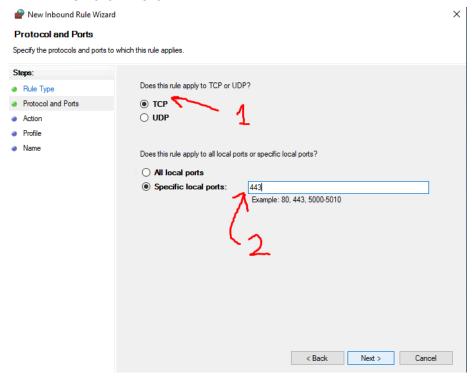
Run Windows Defender Firewall with Advanced Security as Administrator



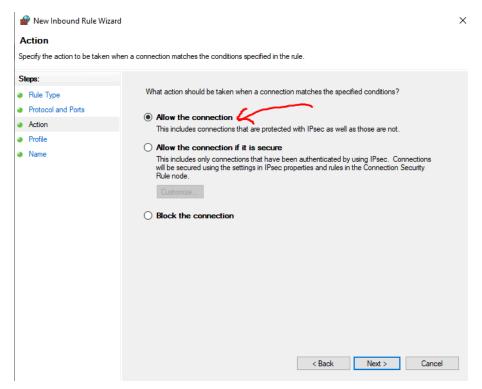
- Select Inbound Rules
- Select New Rule...



- Select Port
- Then click "Next"

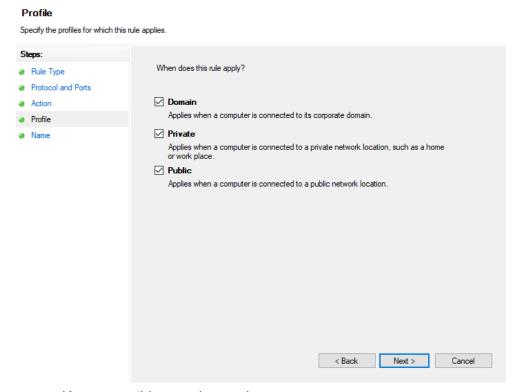


- Select TCP
- Select the specific local port: 443
- Click on Next

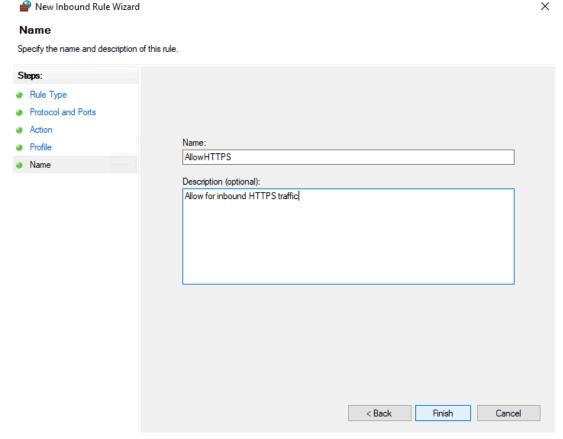


- Select "Allow the connection"
- Press "Next"

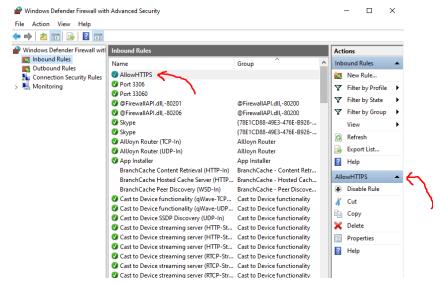
Mew Inbound Rule Wizard



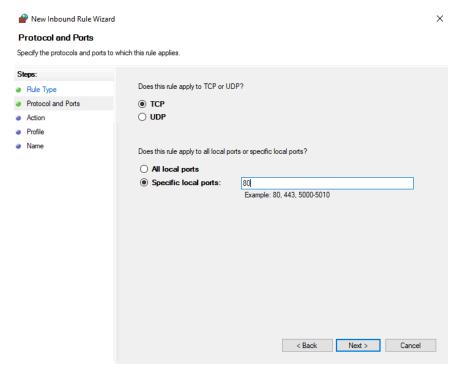
- Keep everything as shown above
- Click "Next"



- We then set the name and description
- Name can be: AllowHTTPS
- Description is whatever you feel works well.
- Press Finish



We can now see that it's setup



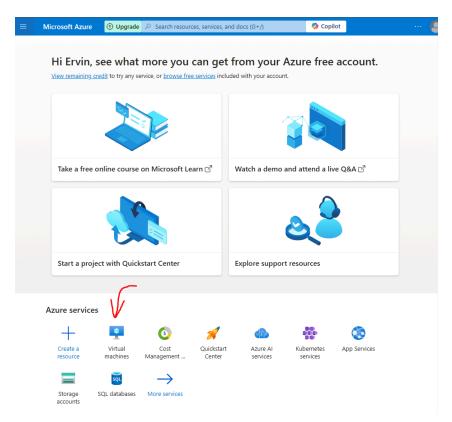
• We'll do the same as before but with port 80 this time to allow for HTTP



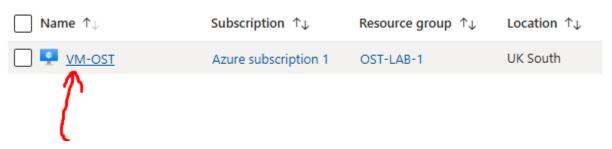
Now we have allowed for both HTTP and HTTPS

## 1.4. Verify Web Server Configuration

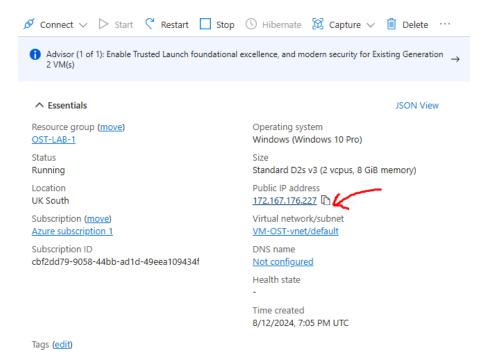
Time to verify the webpage! First we'll need to get our Public IP Address given for our Virtual Machine.



Select Virtual Machines

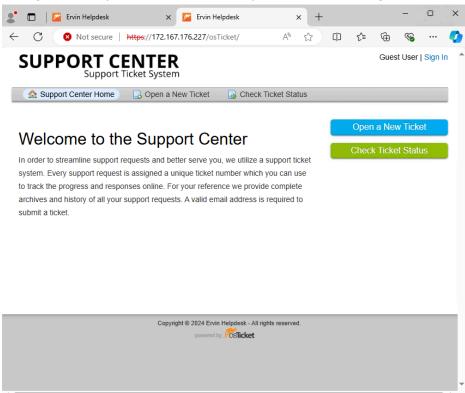


• Select your Virtual Machine



Copy your Public IP Address

Next go back to your Virtual Machine by Remote Accessing it.

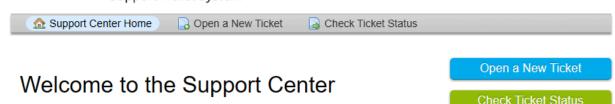


- Type "https://"yourlPaddresshere"/osTicket/ and see if the page opens up!
- If it doesn't work, add: 443 at the then to access port 443

Try it out on your own system. To double confirm.

# SUPPORT CENTER Support Ticket System

Guest User | Sign In



In order to streamline support requests and better serve you, we utilize a support ticket system. Every support request is assigned a unique ticket number which you can use to track the progress and responses online. For your reference we provide complete archives and history of all your support requests. A valid email address is required to submit a ticket.

You may get a warning, but just visit the link anyways and it should work!

## 1.4. Getting your own Domain and SSL Certificate

## 1.4.1. Domain Setup

For this, I won't be going through the step by step guide on getting your own domain and setting it up, but I'll provide YouTube video links to help guide you.

I use namecheap.com for purchasing my own domain for pretty cheap. You can then use this YouTube video to setup your domain:

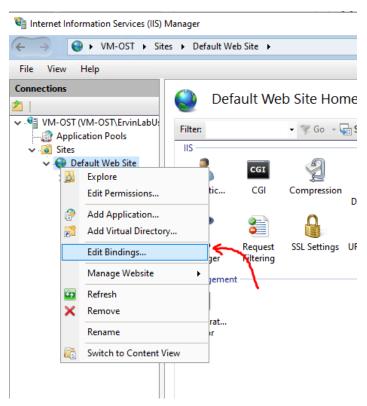
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=851lbWp7aEw

## 1.4.2. SSL Certificate Setup

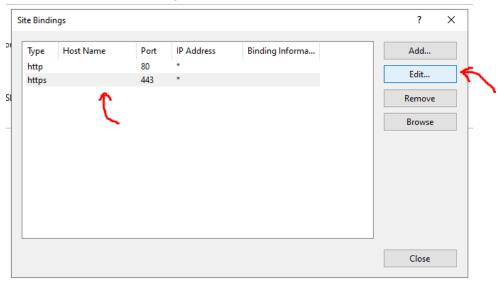
### 1.4.2.1. Configure Host Bindings in IIS

To set up an SSL, it does take a number of steps to do it for free.

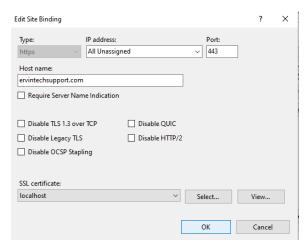
First we'll have to set up our IIS to have the current bindings to work with win-ACME. Remote Access your Virtual Machine and search for IIS Manager there.



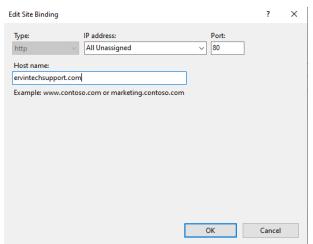
• Select "Edit Bindings..."



### Select "Edit..."



 You'll then fill out the Host name, keep the SSL certificate to localhost for now. That'll be rebinded later



You'll also have to fill out the host name for port 80 (HTTP) as well.



- I've also included the (www.) separately. Do this same to avoid potential future problems
- You'll now have Port 443 and Port 80 (HTTPS and HTTP) both with the hostname of your domain.
- Close the IIS Manager

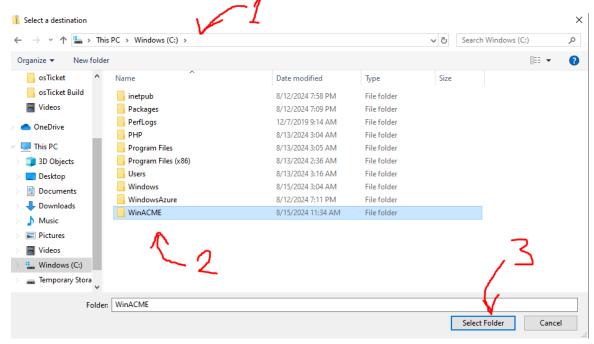
### 1.4.2.2. Install Win-ACME and Generate an SSL Certificate

### Secondly we'll install Win-ACME for Let's Encrpyt:

Go to: Releases · win-acme/win-acme · GitHub

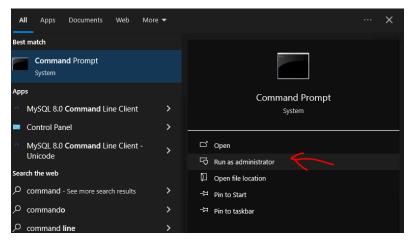
♥plugin.validation.dns.tencent.v2.2.9.1701.zip	285 KB	May 25
♥plugin.validation.dns.transip.v2.2.9.1701.zip	286 KB	May 25
♦ plugin.validation.http.rest.v2.2.9.1701.zip	12.6 KB	May 25
<b>∳</b> win-acme.2.2.9.1701.nupkg	10.4 MB	May 25
₩in-acme.v2.2.9.1701.arm64.pluggable.zip	34.6 MB	May 25
₩in-acme.v2.2.9.1701.arm64.trimmed.zip	13.3 MB	May 25
⊕win-acme.v2.2.9.1701.x64.pluggable.zip	35.6 MB	May 25
₩in-acme.v2.2.9.1701.x64.trimmed.zip	13.6 MB	May 25
₩in-acme.v2.2.9.1701.x86.pluggable.zip	33.3 MB	May 25
₩in-acme.v2.2.9.1701.x86.trimmed.zip	13 MB	May 25

- Scroll down to Assets
- Look for the latest win-acme version that is "pluggable" this means it includes all plugins.
- Make sure it's x64 too, that's for 64 bit. (86x refers to 32 bit)
- Make sure it's NOT arm64 either. arm64 is designed for ARM-based processors typically found in some laptops, tablets, and certain types of servers.



Go to C:/ and create a folder called WinACME

Extract the zipped file into the C:/WinACME



Open a Command Prompt with Administrator Privileges

win-acme 2.2.9.1701

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19045.4780]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
C:\Users\ErvinLabUser1>iisreset /restart
Attempting stop...
Internet services successfully stopped
Attempting start...
Internet services successfully restarted
C:\Users\ErvinLabUser1>cd c:\winACME
c:\WinACME>wacs.exe
A simple Windows ACMEv2 client (WACS)
Software version 2.2.9.1701 (release, pluggable, standalone, 64-bit)
Connecting to https://acme-v02.api.letsencrypt.org/...
Connection OK!
Scheduled task not configured yet
Please report issues at https://github.com/win-acme/win-acme
N: Create certificate (default settings)
M: Create certificate (full options)
A: Manage renewals (0 total)
O: More options...
Q: Quit
 Please choose from the menu: n
```

- Make sure your IIS Manager is closed
- Type "iisreset /restart" this will reset your IIS so the new bindings have been applied
- Navigate to the directory where you extracted WinACME

- So type "cd C:\winACME"
- Run this command, "wacs.exe"
- Type N for creating a new certificate with the default settings

#### Select win-acme 2.2.9.1701

```
:\WinACME>wacs.exe
A simple Windows ACMEv2 client (WACS)
Software version 2.2.9.1701 (release, pluggable, standalone, 64-bit)
Connecting to https://acme-v02.api.letsencrypt.org/...
Connection OK!
Scheduled task not configured yet
Please report issues at https://github.com/win-acme/win-acme
N: Create certificate (default settings)
M: Create certificate (full options)
R: Run renewals (0 currently due)
A: Manage renewals (0 total)
O: More options...
Q: Quit
Please choose from the menu: n
Running in mode: Interactive, Simple
Please select which website(s) should be scanned for host names. You may
input one or more site identifiers (comma-separated) to filter by those
sites, or alternatively leave the input empty to scan *all* websites.
1: Default Web Site (2 bindings)
Site identifier(s) or <Enter> to choose all: <Enter>
1: ervintechsupport.com (Site 1)
Listed above are the bindings found on the selected site(s). By default all
of them will be included, but you may either pick specific ones by typing the
host names or identifiers (comma-separated) or filter them using one of the
options from the menu.
P: Pick bindings based on a search pattern
A: Pick *all* bindings
Binding identifiers(s) or menu option: a
1: ervintechsupport.com
2: www.ervintechsupport.com
Please pick the main host, which will be presented as the subject of the certificate: 1
1: ervintechsupport.com (Site 1)
Continue with this selection? (y*/n) - yes
```

- First press "Enter" to see all the bindings
- The press "A" as you want to pick all the bindings
- Then type "1" to assign a certificate to the first domain
- Then type "y" as yes to continue with this selection

```
Please select which website(s) should be scanned for host names. You may input one or more site identifiers (comma-separated) to filter by those sites, or alternatively leave the input empty to scan *all* websites.

1: Default Web Site (1 binding)

Site identifier(s) or <Enter> to choose all: <Enter>

1: ervintechsupport.com (Site 1)

Listed above are the bindings found on the selected site(s). By default all of them will be included, but you may either pick specific ones by typing the host names or identifiers (comma-separated) or filter them using one of the options from the menu.

P: Pick bindings based on a search pattern
A: Pick *all* bindings

Binding identifiers(s) or menu option: 1

1: ervintechsupport.com (Site 1)

Continue with this selection? (y*/n) - yes

Source generated using plugin IIS: ervintechsupport.com

Terms of service: C:\ProgramData\win-acme\acme-v02.api.letsencrypt.org\LE-SA-v1.4-April-3-2024.pdf

Open in default application? (y/n*) _
```

- Prior to this, you may be asked to see the subscriber agreement
- Type "y" for continuing with the select
- Then type "y" to open the terms and services

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### LET'S ENCRYPT

### Subscriber Agreement

This Subscriber Agreement ("Agreement") is a legally binding contract between you and, if applicable, the company, organization or other entity on behalf of which you are acting (collectively, "You" or "Your") and Internet Security Research Group ("ISRG," "We," or "Our") regarding Your and Our rights and duties relating to Your acquisition and use of SSL/TLS digital certificates issued by ISRG.

If you are acting on behalf of a company, organization or other entity, You represent that you have the authority to bind such entity to this Agreement.

#### 1. Definitions and Terms

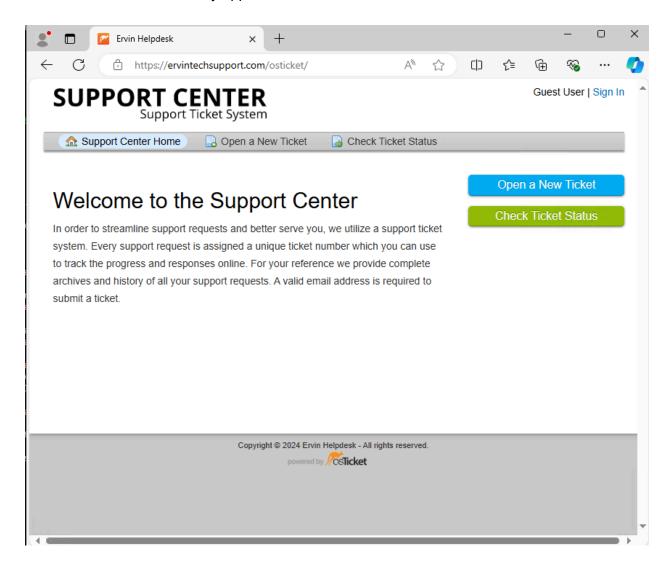
Feel free to read through this

```
Adding renewal for [IIS] (any site), (any host)
Next renewal due after 2024/10/9
Certificate [IIS] (any site), (any host) created

N: Create certificate (default settings)
M: Create certificate (full options)
R: Run renewals (6 currently due)
A: Manage renewals (1 total)
O: More options...
Q: Quit

Please choose from the menu: ___
```

• After all that, it should be complete. We don't need to worry about a certificate for option 2, as it is automatically applied to it.



Your IT Helpdesk is now set up with your SSL certificate and a domain name!  $\stackrel{\square}{=}$ 

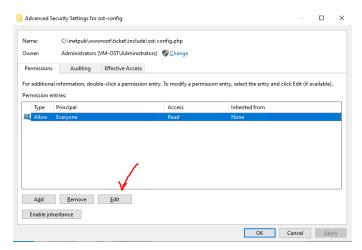
## 2 Setting up Incoming and Outcoming Email

For this section, you'll need to use an email by whichever domain it's from. In this case, I'll be using namecheap and a custom email I bought from there. This uses <a href="www.privateemail.com">www.privateemail.com</a> as the host. This is important for this section and will make sense later on. For now, we'll need to set up our web server to ensure it's ready for use.

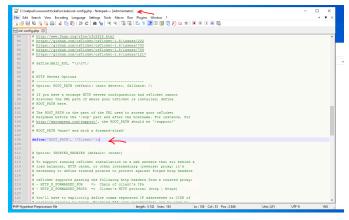
## 2.1 Setup config

Here we have to set up the config, this way we can have people register onto the website. Otherwise, they won't be able to register and make an account.

Go to c:\inetpub\wwwroot\ticket\include\ost-config.php



Right click this, go to properties>security>advanced>edit and make sure you give all
users full permissions. This way we can modify it. YOU MUST CHANGE IT AFTER AND
MAKE IT TO READ ONLY.



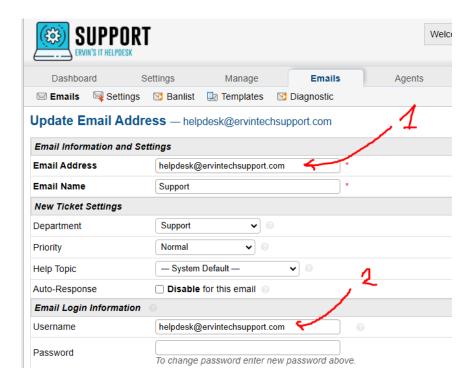
- Next open the file
- Edit the line above and set it to whatever the root path of the website is. For me it's www.ervintechsupport.com/ticket, so it's a sub-domain so the root path I want is '/Ticket/'.

## 2.2 Setting up Default Email Configurations

Here we'll be focusing on setting up our default email address for our helpdesk. This will be the email address that will produce inbound and outbound email addresses.

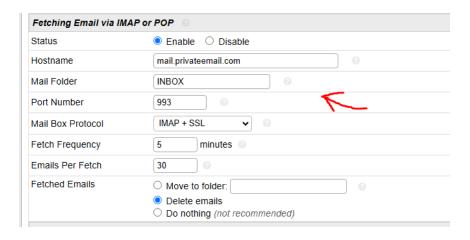
## 2.2.1 Setting up Inbound and Outbound email

First you'll want to log into your Agent account. Then go to Emails>Emails>Select the default email and update it.



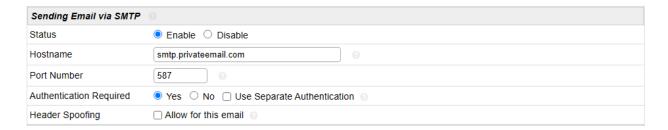
There's a number of steps required here.

- 1. You'll need to type in the email address you want to have inbound & outbound email requests.
- 2. You'll want to put in your email login information this is your email address and the password. This way the server can be linked to your email inbox.



Next will be setting up the inbound email requests.

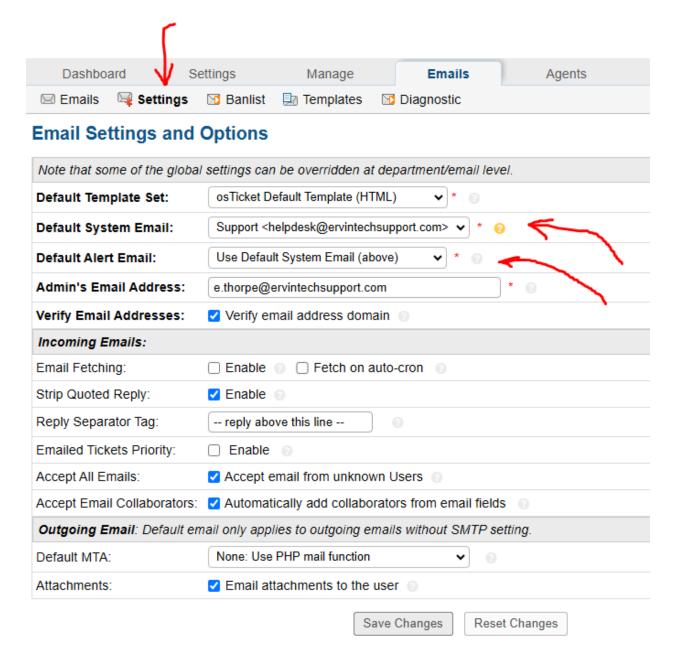
- Select Enable
- Hostname will be the hostname of wherever your email is hosted
- Mail Folder will be INBOX for me. This will be different depending on the mail server you're using. For mine, the inbox is the main incoming storage.
- Port number will be 993 for IMAP using SSL/TLS. For POP3, it's port 995 using SSL/TLS (POP3 deletes emails). This is solely up to preference as to which method you want to use.
- Fetch Frequency will be 5 minutes
- Emails per Fetch 30
- Fetched Emails, I select Delete emails. This is up to you.



- Next is outbound
- Enable
- Hostname again dependent on your email server
- Port number will be 587 for TLS, for my email server I have to do this. SSL will not work.

### 2.2.2 Email Settings and Options

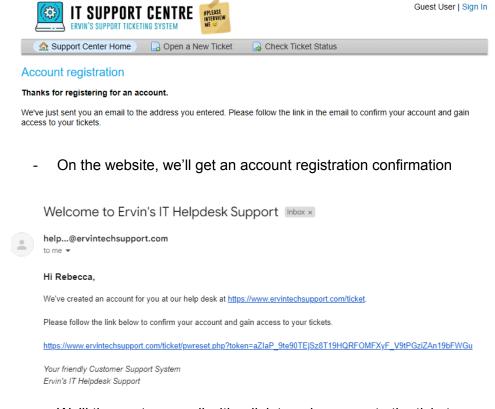
Here we'll be setting up our Email Settings and Options



- First you'll go to Emails > Settings
- Select the default system email as the one we just set up
- Then have the default alert email be the same one as we set up.

## 3 Allowing for Registration and Use of Website

If we were to run the website, we would have no problem logging in ourselves. But having a new user register will unfortunately cause problems. Fortunately, our email inbound and outbounds are working as intended, when a new user registers they get this.



- We'll then get an email with a link to gain access to the tickets.

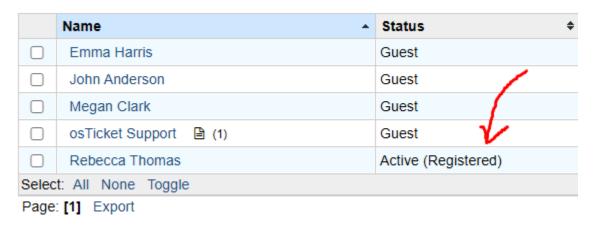
#### Unfortunately...



Clicking on this link simply sends us to the homepage. And nothing seems to happen.
 Let's fix this.

## 3.1 Fixing Login Issues

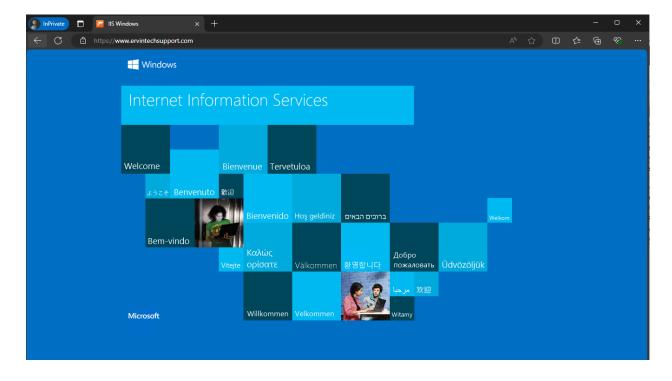
### USEI DITECTORY



- As we can see here, the account has been registered. The only issue is, we cannot log in as a normal user or a non-agent.

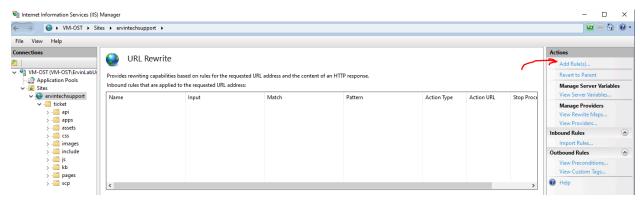
## 3.1.1 Setup URL Rewrites

Before fixing any login issues, we need to assure that the URL rewrites are done correctly. If we go on our domain, we'll be taken to this:

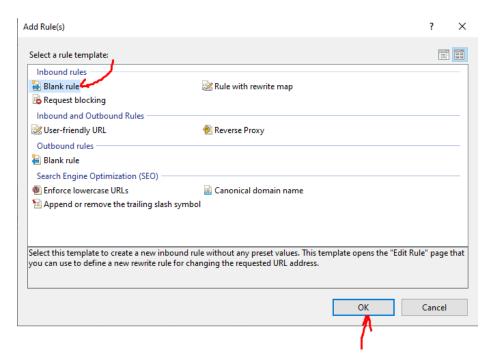


... not what we intend

### To resolve this, we'll have to go to IIS Manager > our Domain > URL Rewrite



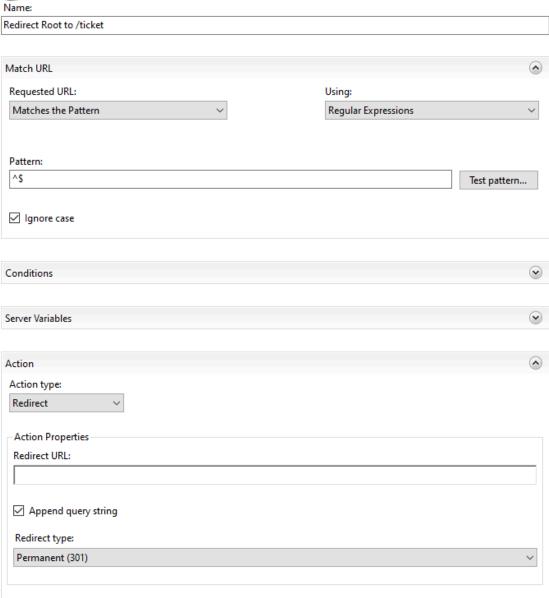
- Select Inbound Rules: "Add Rule(s)..."



- Select Blank Rule
- Press OK



### **Edit Inbound Rule**



- Name: Redirect Root to /ticket

- Requested URL: Matches the Pattern

Using: Regular Expressions

- Pattern: ^\$

- Action: Redirect

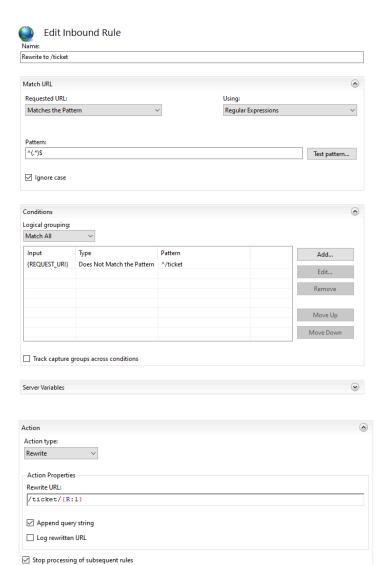
- Redirect URL: /ticket

- Redirect type: Permanent (301)

- Then click Apply.

- Add a new Rule

- Blank Rule



Name: Rewrite to /ticket

Requested URL: Matches the Pattern

Using: Regular Expressions

Pattern: ^(.\*)\$ Conditions:

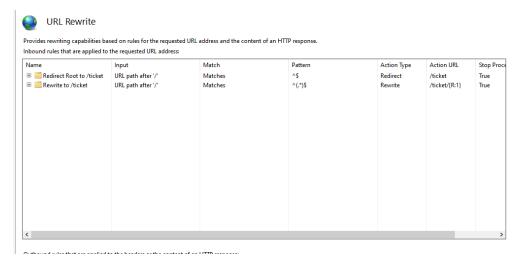
Condition input: {REQUEST\_URI}

- Check if input string: Does Not Match the Pattern

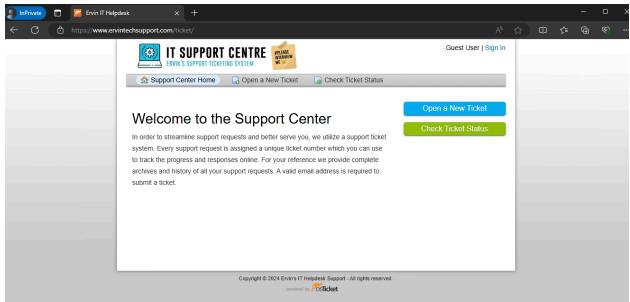
Pattern: ^/ticket

Action: Rewrite

Rewrite URL: /ticket/{R:1} Stop Processing: True



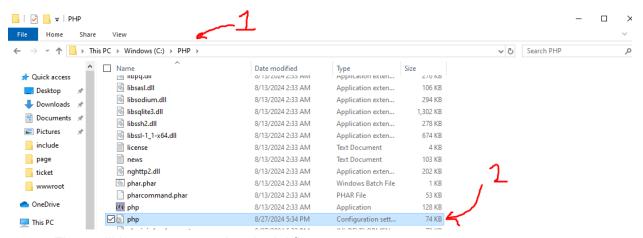
- After this, your URL Rewrite rules should be set



Now when we go on the domain, we're redirected to /ticket/

## 3.1.2 Login Fix

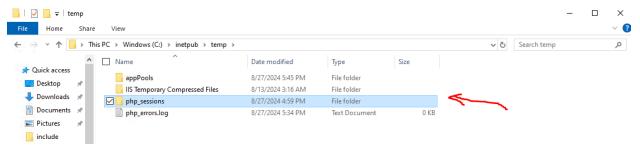
For this section, we'll focus on fixing the login issue so the accounts can log in, submit tickets and access the website.



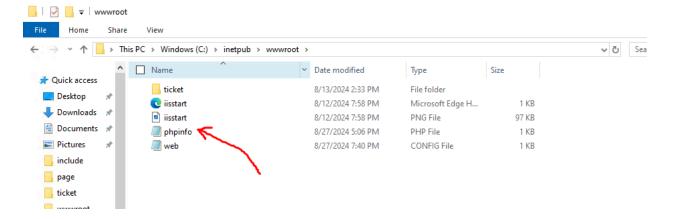
- First we'll have to access the php.ini file
- Go to c:\PHP > php.ini
- Right click the file and open it. If you have notepad++, it'll simply structure it better.

```
; Number of decimal digits for all bcmath functions.
          ; http://php.net/bcmath.scale
1313
1314
           http://php.net/browscap
          ;browscap = extra/browscap.ini
1317
1318
1319
          ; Handler used to store/retrieve data.
1320
1321
1322
          ; http://php.net/session.save-handler
          session.save handler = files
1323
1324
          ; Argument passed to save handler. In the case of files, this is the path
          ; where data files are stored. Note: Windows users have to change this
1325
           variable in order to use PHP's session functions.
1326
1327
          ; The path can be defined as:
1328
1329
              session.save_path = "C:\inetpub\temp\php_sessions"
1330
1331
1332
          ; where N is an integer. Instead of storing all the session files in
          ; /path, what this will do is use subdirectories N-levels deep, and
1333
1334
1335
           store the session data in those directories. This is useful if
          ; your OS has problems with many files in one directory, and is
            a more efficient layout for servers that handle many sessions.
```

- Search for "session.save\_path" and remove the semi-colon on the left. This will remove
  it from being commented
- Then rename it all to "session.save path = "C:\inetpub\temp\php sessions"



- After that, create that folder in that location
- Go to Windows C > inetpub > temp and create the folder "php\_session"



- To test it, create a phpinfo file with this as the information in the file:

```
phpinfo - Notepad

File Edit Format View He

k?php
phpinfo();
?>
```

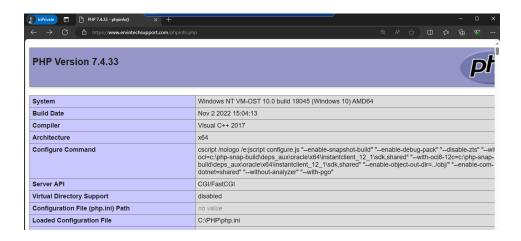
- Save that. Make sure it's a .php file. Not a .txt file OR phpinfo.php.txt
- If it is, you can change it through the command

```
C:\Users\ErvinLabUser1>cd C:\inetpub\wwwroot
C:\inetpub\wwwroot>rename phpinfo.php.txt phpinfo.php
C:\inetpub\wwwroot>rename phpinfo.php.txt phpinfo.php
The system cannot find the file specified.
```

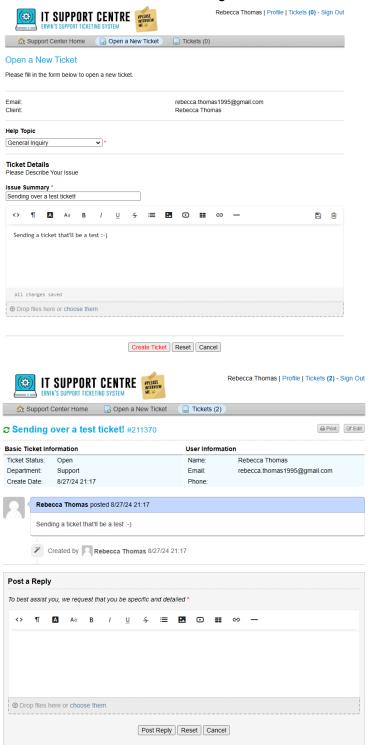
- You can do it twice to confirm it works.

### Next we test it all

### Check to see if we can access phpinfo.php



### We can! Now let's see if we can sign in:





- Success! We can now sign in and create a ticket

## 4 Conclusion

Setting up and securing your IT Helpdesk on a Windows 10 Virtual Machine in Azure involves several critical steps, from configuring a self-signed SSL certificate for initial HTTPS access to setting up an official SSL certificate using Win-ACME and Let's Encrypt for a custom domain. By carefully configuring IIS bindings, managing firewall rules both in Azure and on the VM itself, and verifying web server access, you've successfully deployed a live, secure osTicket environment.

This process not only enhances the security of your helpdesk but also prepares your system for real-world scenarios, ensuring reliable and secure service for users. Congratulations on completing the setup!