


London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham CABINET 5 MARCH 2018		
YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACCOMMODATION SERVICES DIRECT CONTRACT AWARD		
Report of the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care: Councillor Ben Coleman		
Open report A separate report on the exempt part of the Cabinet agenda provides financial information		
Classification - For Decision Key Decision: YES		
Wards Affected: ALL		
Accountable Director: Lisa Redfern Director of Adult Social Care		
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for a waiver of the Contract Standing Orders requirement to seek competitive tenders prior to contract award to directly award three contracts (the Contracts) to the incumbent providers of supported accommodation services for young people. It is proposed to award one year contracts from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 with the option to extend for up to a further 12 months from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.
- 1.2 As a socially responsible and compassionate council, LBHF is committed to reducing rough sleeping to zero in Hammersmith & Fulham and to reducing the harm to individuals and communities caused by homelessness. The Contracts in Table 1 provide safe accommodation and practical and emotional support to vulnerable young homeless people and directly contribute to the reduction of homelessness and prevent young people from going into care. The current contracts expire on 31 March 2018.
- 1.3 Proposals regarding the future commissioning intentions have been delayed for the reasons set out in the report. The direct award of three contracts to the incumbent providers will align the end dates with similar services for care

leavers; enable continuity of service while the new Public Services Reform department reviews the Council's future requirements for young people's accommodation services across the whole council and develops the future procurement strategy as well as understand the impact of the Government's future funding proposals for rent and service charges in supported housing.

1.4 The services are well-utilised and achieve good outcomes.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 To approve a waiver of the Contract Standing Orders requirement to seek competitive tenders prior to contract award to enable the Council to directly award three contracts for the provision of supported accommodation services to young people to the incumbent providers for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 with the option to extend for up to an additional 12 months.

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

3.1 A direct award of contracts to the incumbent providers will enable the Council's new Public Services Reform department to review the services alongside other services for young people services funded by the Council, while maintaining service continuity to vulnerable residents. It is not considered that there is likely to be any cross border interest in these contracts.

3.2 The direct award of contracts up to 31 March 2020 will align the contract end dates with similar services for care leavers and enable the Council to have the option of jointly commissioning all these services, if viable. A strategic review is more likely to achieve better outcomes for residents and value for money in the longer term.

4. PROPOSALS AND ISSUES

Background

4.1 In 2003, the introduction of the national Supporting People programme gave local authorities the responsibility for commissioning and contracting supported housing services in their areas. In 2003, LBHF assumed responsibility for over 150 contracts and more than 220 services and was allocated an annual budget of £14.5m, ring-fenced for supported housing services. The type of services was tightly prescribed and a national framework for the review and management of these services was implemented. In 2009, the ring-fence was removed and local authorities could determine how to spend or not to spend supported housing budgets.

4.2 Following a departmental restructure in 2007-08, the LBH&F Supporting People budget and team was moved from Housing to Adult Social Care; this included services for people not normally eligible for adult social care services, for example; young homeless people; teenage parents and care leavers. Some other councils also moved the budget and responsibilities into adult social care while many kept the responsibility in housing.

Current Services

4.3 The primary objectives of the services are:

- To prevent homelessness of people aged 16-24 years.
- To prevent vulnerable 16 & 17 year olds going into care.
- To enable vulnerable young people to develop the skills and resilience to be independent in adulthood.
- To increase the number of young people in employment, training, or education.

Outcomes

4.4 One of the main objectives of the services is to enable residents to move on successfully and rebuild their lives; the contracts' KPI target for planned moves is 78%. In the last 2 ½ years, all three providers have exceeded their contractual target.

4.5 All contracts are required to produce and implement an annual service development plan to ensure continuous improvement. Progress is monitored through a robust contract management framework.

5.0 OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

Waive the Contract Sanding Orders and Directly Award 12-month contracts with the Option to Extend for an Additional 12 months to the incumbent providers

5.1 This will enable the Council sufficient time to consult with residents and other stakeholders to determine the future commissioning and procurement strategy and ensure new services are in place to improve outcomes and value for money by April 2020. As the timetable in 4.14 sets out, this option will take more than 12 months to achieve but the full second 12-month period may not be required. For these reasons, this option is recommended.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 All three incumbent providers have confirmed their willingness to continue to provide services as set out above. Further engagement with residents, suppliers and other stakeholders will be undertaken as part of the service review and the development of the procurement strategy.

7.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There will be no adverse equality implications for protected groups because of the extension of these contracts. Overall the impact on young people is adjudged as neutral or positive as service continuity will be secured. Service improvements will be achieved through robust monitoring of delivery plans; improved outcomes for residents will have a positive impact on young people.

7.2 Implications verified by Peter Smith, Head of Policy and Strategy, tel. 020 8753 2206.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 These are set out in the exempt part of the Cabinet agenda.

9.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 These are set out in the exempt part of the Cabinet agenda.

10.0 RISK MANAGEMENT

10.1 These are set out in the exempt part of the Cabinet agenda.

11.0 COMMERCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 These are set out in the exempt part of the Cabinet agenda.

12.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESS - LOCAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL VALUE

12.1 These are set out in the exempt part of the Cabinet agenda.

13.0 IT IMPLICATIONS

13.1 There are no direct technical implications for the council, as the providers will be using their own IT systems, platforms, hardware and software, and will not interact directly with the council's IT infrastructure. However, there may be information implications. IT advise that the mandatory privacy impact assessments are undertaken by the department to accurately assess whether information sharing agreements and privacy notices need to be implemented or revised, and whether security checklists need to be completed for the three organisations awarded the contracts outlined in the report and Procurement Strategy. This will ensure compliance with current data protection legislation and the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation).

13.2 Implications verified by: Veronica Barella, interim Chief Information Officer, 020 8753 2927.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT**

No.	Description of Background Papers	Name/Ext of holder of file/copy	Department/ Location
	None		

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