

AGENDA ITEM 7

| | AGENDA ITEM 7 | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| TITLE OF REPORT | | | |
| Extension of Temporary Accommodation Dynamic Purchasing System | | | |
| BUSINESS CASE / CONTRACT | AWARD | | |
| Key Decision No FCR R.23 | | | |
| CPC MEETING DATE (2020/21) | CLASSIFICATION: | | |
| 7th December 2020 | Open | | |
| | If exempt, the reason will be listed in the main body of this report. | | |
| WARD(S) AFFECTED | | | |
| ALL | | | |
| CABINET MEMBER | | | |
| Cllr Rebecca Rennison | | | |
| | | | |
| KEY DECISION | | | |
| Yes | | | |
| REASON | | | |
| Affects two or more wards | | | |
| GROUP DIRECTOR | | | |

Ian Williams - Group Director, Finance and Resources

1. CABINET MEMBER'S INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The report provides a business case for the extension of the current Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) used to procure temporary accommodation for homeless residents. The extension will enable the Benefits & Housing Needs Service to fulfill its statutory duty to house homeless households.
- 1.2 Hackney finds itself on the frontline of the housing crisis, with over 3,000 households currently in temporary accommodation. The DPS is essential in ensuring that we have the accommodation needed on any given day for those residents that approach us as homeless.
- 1.3 At the same time, we acknowledge the challenges of the DPS and the desire to move to a more effective, integrated system. This report seeks an extension of up to three years, but if the necessary internal work on systems can be completed before that date work will commence to bring forward a replacement.

2. GROUP DIRECTOR'S INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The DPS is used to procure temporary accommodation (stage 1 emergency, and stage 2 private sector leased accommodation) for the homeless residents that the Council has a statutory duty to house. The current DPS has been running for almost 4 years and is due to expire on 27th January 2021. This report addresses what action needs to be taken prior to the end of the current DPS term.
- 2.2 The DPS system was recommended as the most effective way of enabling all types of temporary accommodation to be procured within one system on a continuous basis. See Key Decision No. FCR N19 Cabinet Procurement Committee Meeting 23rd January 2017.
- 2.3 The system involves suppliers completing a series of online questions about the provision and management of properties they wish to provide for temporary accommodation. These responses are then evaluated by a panel of up to four officers from the Benefits and Housing Needs Service supported by Procurement.
- 2.4 The DPS, which is always open to bids, allows suppliers to apply to join throughout its duration. Unsuccessful suppliers can reapply to join at any time, and are provided feedback to support their applications. The open nature of the DPS is a significant advantage as it allows new suppliers to join and properties to be provided on a continuous basis.
- 2.5 Currently there are 23 suppliers on the DPS. In the financial year 19/20 a total of £18,090,087 was paid to these suppliers for temporary accommodation.
- 2.6 The DPS is a stand alone system with no contract management module.

2.7 Although the DPS has limitations, currently it is the best option for the B&HNS to continue with business as usual. The complexity of the current legacy systems and manual processes that surround the DPS mean that we can not effectively implement an alternative system at present.

3. RECOMMENDATION(S)

3.1 Cabinet Procurement Committee is recommended to agree to extend the current Temporary Accommodation DPS for a period of up to 36 months, from January 2021 to January 2024.

4. RELATED DECISIONS

4.1 The current Dynamic Purchasing System was procured in 2016 with the Contract Award Report agreed at Cabinet Procurement Committee in January 2017.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL AND BUSINESS CASE (REASONS FOR DECISION)

5.1 Context

- 5.1.1 The DPS was procured in 2016, to replace two framework agreements (one each for stage 1 and stage 2 accommodation) which had been the source of temporary accommodation suppliers for the Council. This model offered an ineffective solution, as Frameworks are closed after the tender process, restricting the service to only those providers appointed to the Framework. The nature of the accommodation needs in Hackney meant that suppliers were required urgently and this resulted in a large amount of off contract spend as officers used non Framework providers to meet urgent need, which was either non compliant (under Council Contract Standing Orders [CSOs], which state spend must be covered by a contract or a STA), or covered by a large number of Single Tender Actions (STAs).
- 5.1.2 The Dynamic Purchasing System model offered a resolution to this issue, as suppliers can join a DPS at any stage of its duration, and can try again if their application fails. This allows for the service to encourage more suppliers to join the DPS, offering a wider variety of accommodation options, giving a more compliant solution and reducing off contract spend and STAs. There have been issues with the successful execution of the DPS model, which are set out in the lessons learned section of this report.

5.2 Options Appraisal

5.2.1 The imminent end of the current DPS term in January 2021 drove the service to review how the DPS had worked and to consider alternative options. Information was requested from other Councils on how they manage the process. This mainly highlighted the use of bespoke in house systems. The only product on the open market identified was ADAM Temporary

- Accommodation Solution. These options are explored in detail in section 9 of this report.
- 5.2.2 The outcome of the appraisal concluded that the use of a system such as ADAM, which offers access to, and online booking of, properties from a large number of suppliers (supported to join the system), coordination of certification and other checks, performance management and integration of payments, would be the preferred option over the long term. However, it was noted in the research carried out into ADAM that the manual processes (bookings, checks, payments) and legacy systems used by the Benefits and Housing Needs Service are numerous and complex, and ADAM could not be integrated with those systems without causing significant work and complication.
- 5.2.3 A comprehensive review of these systems was scheduled to take place this year, however this is now on hold due to resource issues relating to the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic.
- 5.2.4 It was concluded that extension of the DPS would offer the most compliant and effective solution to the procurement of temporary accommodation, and that the three year duration would hopefully allow the research and review work on the legacy systems to be undertaken.

6. BENEFITS REALISATION / LESSONS LEARNED

- 6.1 The DPS has been in operation since January 2017 and there are currently 23 suppliers on the system.
- 6.2 The process suppliers undertake to join the DPS, in line with EU regulations, includes completion of a UK Government mandated Selection Questionnaire (SQ) which has had a number of scored project specific questions added by the Council. Suppliers must pass all mandated questions and achieve a minimum score of 50% on the project specific questions. The supplier also completes a Tender Response Form for each Lot that they wish to provide. This form is scored if the bidder has successfully passed the SQ.
- 6.3 One of the key lessons learned has been the level of support some suppliers require in completing the SQ section of the application process. Many organisations struggle with the complexity of the statutory questions, and have submitted unsuccessful bids, sometimes on several occasions.
- 6.4 Some suppliers have also experienced difficulties in the use of the eprocurement system and there has been a lack of knowledge of the procurement and DPS processes.
- 6.5 A further lesson learned has been that the nature of the market for temporary accommodation has affected the level of spend compliance (in line with Council CSOs, spend must be covered by a contract or STA) that can be achieved via the DPS model. The level of demand (in particular for emergency on the day accommodation) outstrips supply so when a suitable property

- becomes available it is necessary to use it straight away. This means suppliers that we utilise are sometimes outside of the DPS.
- 6.6 The level of non DPS spend for the period 2019/20 was £15.28m spread across 65 suppliers, via Spot Purchase, Single Tender and Non-preferred arrangements.
- 6.6 This 'sellers market', which affects all London Boroughs resulting in the development of a Pan London price cap system to prevent Councils out bidding each other, has created a scenario where suppliers being used outside the DPS do not have a real incentive to submit an application to join it.
- 6.7 A proactive, 'carrot and stick' approach of suspending use of / payment to a supplier until they successfully join the DPS has been considered. However, this is high risk as the demand for properties is very high across London and a supplier may then demand their properties back, knowing that they will easily get a commission from another Council. This risks leaving the service in a situation where we have to rehouse families quickly in a market with very little supply.
- 6.8 In recognition of the issues set out above, the Housing Supply contract manager, with support from Procurement has provided suppliers with support on their applications, through workshops providing advice on the eprocurement system, and responding to queries from bidders, as well as providing feedback and guidance to unsuccessful bidders, encouraging them to reapply. The DPS process has also been promoted and explained to suppliers at landlord forums and via contract review meetings.
- During the extension period, if granted, clearer guidance on the SQ questions and how the complete the process will be produced and added to ProContract. urther workshops for suppliers will be arranged and the Housing Supply team will continue to provide support to providers.

7. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

7.1 Tackling homelessness is one of the nine cross cutting challenges identified in the Corporate Plan. The Council also has a statutory duty to house homeless residents. A major part of this is providing temporary accommodation for homeless households on the day.

8. PREFERRED OPTION

- 8.1 Is to extend the current Dynamic Purchasing System by up to 36 months, for the following reasons:
- 8.1.1 The extension would allow the Benefits & Housing Needs Service time to explore alternatives to its current legacy systems. This would then enable a

- more informed decision to be made about temporary accommodation procurement going forward.
- 8.1.2 The extension would allow the Benefits & Housing Needs Service to continue to function with business as usual and ensure greater compliance of spend than if the DPS were not in place.
- 8.1.3 This option wouldn't require any additional cost as the system is already fully operational and supported in house.
- 8.1.4 The DPS offers a compliant solution, under EU regulations, to the procurement of temporary accommodation suppliers.

9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS (CONSIDERED AND REJECTED)

9.1. Build A Bespoke Management System In House

9.1.1 This option was rejected for two reasons, firstly the significant cost and resources required from the Council to develop and build a bespoke in house system. Secondly, any management system would need to integrate with the plethora of legacy systems that the service currently uses making any development extremely complex. As the systems currently used within the service are due to be subject to review it would not be an effective solution to develop a system to fit within them.

9.2 Purchase ADAM Or Another Temporary Accommodation Property Management Software Solution.

- 9.2.1 The ADAM product can either be purchased and utilised as a direct replacement for the DPS or can be joined as part of the WREN Group (Waltham Forest, Redbridge, Ealing and Newham).
- 9.2.2 Utilising the ADAM solution through the WREN Group has the following advantages:
 - Councils use many common suppliers and 49 of our suppliers are already on the ADAM system. Our total spend with these suppliers was £22,847,882 in 19/20. This is more than the 23 that are currently on our own DPS with whom we spent £18,090,087 in 19/20.
 - ADAM supports suppliers through the application process. Removing the need for the time consuming chasing, evaluating and scoring.
 - Once a supplier is approved available properties are loaded onto the system for Councils to book. Currently this is all done manually via emails between various officers and suppliers.

- All the relevant safety certificates are also uploaded with the property and the system provides prompts for when these are due to expire. Again these are currently provided manually via email exchange with the supplier. Documents are being stored on google drives and logged on a spreadsheet to track expiry dates.
- Payments are automatically adjusted for overpayments utilising the booking dates entered. Payments currently have to be manually adjusted.
- 9.2.3 The main issue regarding potential use of ADAM is the combination of legacy systems and manual processes that are currently used within the Benefits & Housing Needs Service.
- 9.2.4 The Service currently has an inhouse (unsupported) legacy system known as Temporary Accommodation Payment to Landlord System (TAPL). This is a hybrid booking and payment system. The system was designed to make payments and the booking part was tagged on afterwards. This has resulted in a situation where the booking element is not designed to deal with the current workload of the Temporary Accommodation Team.
- 9.2.5 TAPL is used as the most accurate source of temporary accommodation information for reporting and reconciliation. As ADAM doesn't carry out all the functions that TAPL does, introducing this would lead to double handling, with data needing to be entered twice, into the two separate systems.
- 9.2.6 ADAM is designed purely to procure, book and make payments for temporary accommodation from private providers whereas TAPL is utilised to make payments for void Council properties used for temporary accommodation and leased properties.
- 9.2.7 This option was rejected as the research carried out into using ADAM (or an alternative system, if available as the market is extremely small) highlighted the need for clear, effective integrations between ADAM / the system and other Hackney systems, such as payments and housing allocations, in order to achieve the best results. As set out above, there are a large number of legacy systems, undertaking different functions which would all need to be integrated with ADAM in order to make the system viable. However these integrations would not in some cases be possible, or cost effective, and a major review is due to take place on all systems, in order to find the best and most effective solution for the service area. Following the outcome of the review and any changes implemented, a clearer route regarding integrating with a management system such as ADAM will become clear.

9.3 Procure a new Dynamic Purchasing System

9.3.1 This option was rejected for three reasons. Firstly, the time required to complete the full OJEU process needed to set up a new Dynamic Purchasing System would be significant, a minimum of six to nine months. The process would not be complete prior to the end of the current DPS and short / medium

- term Single Tender Actions would need to be put in place for all DPS suppliers.
- 9.3.2 Secondly, the period given in which to complete the service and system review discussed above, up to three years, would result in a very short contract for a DPS. The time and resources required, from both the Council in setting it up and the suppliers in applying to join (current DPS providers would have to reapply to join the new system) would be significant and suppliers may not wish to invest that much work for such a short period of potential return.
- 9.3.3 Thirdly, the procurement of a new DPS would not resolve the wider issues, discussed in this report, regarding the plethora of systems involved in providing and managing accommodation. A four year (minimum, in order to justify time and resources) commitment to a DPS would not fit into the long term strategic goals of the service area, and may add further complication.

10. SUCCESS CRITERIA/KEY DRIVERS/INDICATORS

- 10.1. The key driver for the procurement of temporary accommodation is the Council's statutory duty to house residents that are homeless on the day.
- 10.2. Success will be a regular provision of a variety of types of temporary accommodation.

11. WHOLE LIFE COSTING/BUDGETS

- 11.1. The provision of temporary accommodation for homeless residents is a statutory duty and therefore financing for procurement of accommodation is available. This is provided via Government grants, Housing Benefit subsidy and Council funding.
- 11.2. The estimated spend through the DPS over the next three years is £60 million.

- 11.3. The management of the DPS contract is incorporated into existing posts. In particular there is currently a contract management officer on the Housing Supply Team.
- 11.4. The scoring and evaluation of tenders submitted via the DPS is again incorporated into existing posts in the Procurement, Housing Supply Team and Temporary Accommodation Team.

12. POLICY CONTEXT

- 12.1. The Benefits & Housing Needs Service has a statutory duty to provide emergency and temporary accommodation to homeless residents. The introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act in 2017 reinforced this and placed greater emphasis on the level of support that Council's have to provide particularly in relation to single people.
- 12.2. We have already seen an increase in homelessness due to the COVID19 pandemic meaning that the demand for emergency accommodation is increasing. This can be expected to increase further as the ban on evictions is lifted and when the furlough scheme comes to an end.
- 12.3. In August 2019 there were 3215 households in temporary accommodation. In August 2020 there were 3352 households in temporary accommodation. This is an increase of 137 households.

13. CONSULTATION/STAKEHOLDERS

- 13.1. The internal stakeholders are Procurement, Temporary Accommodation Team and Housing Supply Team. Members of these teams are already aware of the DPS and the variety of systems within the service and the linked procedures that impact them.
- 13.2. Members of these teams have been involved in the discussions and evaluation of the options detailed in this report. For example staff attended a demo and discussion with the suppliers of ADAM and other Councils that currently utilise the solution.
- 13.3. Internal stakeholders are in agreement with the proposal put forward in this report.
- 13.4. The main external stakeholders are our suppliers. We engage our suppliers through quarterly landlord forums and regular contract meetings.
- 13.5. The feedback on the DPS has been provided by suppliers who have gone through the process.
- 13.6. The proposal in this report will have no impact on suppliers who are currently on the DPS.
- 13.7. We will continue to work with suppliers who aren't on the DPS to encourage them to tender. Again the proposal in this report will have no impact on them.

14. RISK ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT

| Risk | Likelihood | Impact | I I IV/AF9II | Action mitigate | to risk | avoid | or |
|------|------------|--------|--------------|-----------------|------------|-------|----|
|------|------------|--------|--------------|-----------------|------------|-------|----|

| | L - Low; M - Medium; H - High | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---|---|---|
| No DPS in place - no compliant contracts / spend | L | Н | Н | Extend current DPS. Encourage, and provide support for non-DPS suppliers to join. |
| Loss of suppliers due to extending DPS | L | Н | L | Support suppliers through the process to join the DPS. |
| Non compliance with OJEU procurement regulations | | Н | Н | See comments below |

- 14.1. Currently we have 65 suppliers that are outside the DPS. 59 of these are non-compliant under the Council CSOs as the spend is not covered by a contract or STA. Extending the DPS as proposed in this report will not necessarily rectify this situation, however the contract management officer will be continuing to work with suppliers to move them on to the DPS and the process will be supported with further guidance and information.
- 14.2. Purchasing ADAM would reduce the number of non-compliant suppliers to 33 as more of our suppliers are on the WREN group DPS (see also 5.2.1). ADAM would work with the remainder of our suppliers to support them to join the WREN group DPS.
- 14.3. If a new DPS was procured all suppliers would need to reapply. This would be an opportunity to ensure that all became compliant. However a new DPD would not be available by January 2021 and so non compliant spend would take place or numerous Single Tender Actions would be required. Further, supporting all suppliers through this process would require a team of officers being employed solely for this purpose.

15. MARKET TESTING (LESSONS LEARNT / BENCHMARKING)

- 15.1 We met with the software providers ADAM and were given a demo of their temporary accommodation solution. Also we discussed the solution with the Councils who are part of the WREN group (Waltham Forest, Redbridge, Enfield and Newham) in detail. As a follow up to this we also had a scoping meeting with ADAM.
- 15.2 What became clear from the meetings is the Councils using ADAM have one Housing system that they utilise for the majority of their processes and ADAM is able to integrate with that system.
- 15.3 This isn't the case in our Benefits and Housing Needs Service, several systems and manual processes are utilised. ADAM would need to integrate

- with at least two systems increasing the complexity of it being utilised. See also section 9.2
- 15.4 The market testing therefore further highlighted the need for review of the current processes and systems before trying to integrate other software.

16. SAVINGS

16.1. The proposed extension of the DPS will not lead to any savings. However it will also not result in any additional cost. It will allow the service to continue with business as usual.

17. SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

17.1. Procuring Green

17.1.1.Included in the DPS are questions relating to the environmental sustainability of the properties the suppliers will be providing.

17.2. Procuring for a Better Society

- 17.2.1.Procuring temporary accommodation helps provide assistance to some of the most economically disadvantaged residents in Hackney.
- 17.2.2.We work with other London boroughs by utilising the pan London rates to ensure that we don't overpay for accommodation.

17.3. Procuring Fair Delivery

- 17.3.1.Procuring temporary accommodation is the first step to helping support some of the most vulnerable residents in Hackney into a settled home.
- 17.3.2.As much as possible we procure temporary accommodation within Hackney so that residents can remain local.
- 17.3.3.Procuring locally also allows families to maintain continuity with schools and contribute to the local economy.

18. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND EQUALITY ISSUES

18.1. The procurement of temporary accommodation is part of the Homelessness Strategy. Attached at Appendix 1 is the equality impact assessment that supports the strategy.

19. PROPOSED PROCUREMENT ARRANGEMENTS

- 19.1 Procurement Route and EU Implications
- 19.1.1.The current Dynamic Purchasing System was procured via a full OJEU process using the Restricted procedure for the first round, and Open procedure for all proceeding rounds. An OJEU notice was published in April 2016 advertising the opportunity and giving the contract duration as 4 years.
- 19.1.2. The proposal to extend the DPS by up to 36 months has been discussed with the Legal team who have confirmed that the Public Contract Regulations (PCR) 2015 allows for such extensions under Regulation 34(28)(a). An OJEU notice will be published, updating the original OJEU notice published in 2016, setting out the period of extension, in order to meet the requirements of the PCR.
- 19.1.3.As set out in section 9 above, the other options considered for the provision of temporary accommodation services are not viable. The procurement of a new Dynamic Purchasing System would require a full OJEU process which would not be completed prior to the end of the current arrangement. A new 4 year DPS may also not offer a good investment of resources as the service area is considering significant long term changes to its management system, and the DPS may be replaced by a more integrated system.

20. RESOURCES, PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND KEY MILESTONES

20.1 The key milestones and dates are listed below:

| Key Milestones | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Report to CPC | 7th December 2020 |
| OJEU Advert Modified | January 2021 |
| Extension Period Begins | 28th January 2021 |

21. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS: ANTICIPATED CONTRACT TYPE

21.1 The service area will work with Legal Services to update and where possible streamline the current DPS contract documents and issue them to all new and existing suppliers.

22. SUB-DIVISION OF CONTRACTS INTO LOTS

22.1. The DPS is currently divided into 4 categories based on the types of properties required by the Council. These categories are Bed and Breakfast, Hostels, Annexes and Private Sector Leased accommodation. During the 4 years of operation, the current DPS has seen bids from a wide variety of

providers, including local small and medium enterprises and larger, national companies.

- 22.2. This model will continue during the extension period. The volume of work under each category is reliant upon the requirements of residents being placed into temporary accommodation.
- 22.3. Currently the Council is reducing its use of bed and breakfast accommodation as it is only suitable for a limited cohort of residents. The focus is on procuring annexes, in particular self-contained. The amount of Private Sector Leased accommodation being procured is reducing as procurement in the Private Rented Sector increases. Utilising Private Rented Sector accommodation allows the Council to discharge it's housing duty to the resident.

23. CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

- 23.1. The management of the current DPS contracts is incorporated into roles in the Housing Supply Team, in particular the Contract Management Officer and the Housing Supply Team Manager. This will continue going forward.
- 23.2. Also intrinsically linked to the management of the DPS contracts are the Temporary Accommodation Team. They have the majority of day to day dealings with suppliers and tenants so will highlight issues that need to be discussed with suppliers at contract meetings e.g. speed of repairs and level of cleanliness.
- As none of our current systems have any kind of contract management module we have to manually monitor and request all the appropriate health and safety documentation that relates to the properties we procure e.g. EPC, gas and electric. This is again incorporated into roles within the Housing Supply Team and the Temporary Accommodation Team.
- 23.4. One of the options that we will be exploring going forward is inclusion / involvement in the intended procurement of a Council wide contract management system, possibly in the form of the contract monitoring module available as an additional resource within Procontract.

24. Key Performance Indicators

- 24.1. Speed of incident resolution in particular repairs and maintenance, as set out in the Repairs Priority Schedule, appended to the DPS Specification document. Please see Appendix 2 of this report.
- 24.2. Provision of satisfactory certificates at the point of offering available properties.
- 24.3. Regular contract review meetings, usually quarterly but more frequent if there are specific issues that need addressing.

24.4. Full details can be found in the DPS contract which includes the specification and key requirements.

25. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES

- 25.1 This report requests an extension to the use of the Dynamic Purchasing System, used to procure temporary accommodation, for a period of up to 3 years.
- 25.2 Despite its name, the DPS is not a piece of software, but a methodology of enabling the council to set up contracts with landlords to supply temporary accommodation in a way that complies with OJEU. The 'system' is part of Procontract which is used by Procurement and enables landlords to submit information which can then be scored and the supplier can be approved if appropriate. The alternative would be to do multiple STA's which would be much more resource intensive.
- 25.3 The system isn't ideal, for reasons outlined in this report as not all landlords are procured through it due to the urgency of some accommodation needs. A significant number of landlords still operate as suppliers outside of this, but such is the demand for temporary accommodation, we are often not in a position to refuse to deal with landlords in this category.
- 25.4 The Council expects to spend up to £35m on temporary accommodation in the year 2020/21 through multiple suppliers. There is no additional cost to continuing with the current system, as it is not a piece of software attracting maintenance charges, and will not have any impact on the amount of TA procured which is driven by demand and statutory duty. Any resource required to operate the system is already in place.
- 25.5 As outlined in this report, there are some issues with the DPS and there are potentially better alternatives, but they are not compliant with the other systems used by the service. If a better alternative is identified in the 3 year period, there will be no penalty for adopting that at an earlier date.

26. VAT Implications on Land & Property Transactions

- 26.1 The Council does, where appropriate and necessary, sign up to short term (usually 3 years) leases with some providers.
- 26.2 Where a Landlord is granting the Council a lease on a building the VAT liability of that supply would rest with the Landlord, unless there is room for challenge if they are charging VAT where it is a normal residential accommodation. Once the buildings are leased to the Council, if the accommodation is then rented out to residents under a statutory obligation then it may be classed as Non-business and outside the scope of VAT.

26.3 In order to determine the VAT status of each leased property, the Council will ask the Landlord to provide copies of their VAT registration certificate and any option to tax that they have in place on the said building. This documentation will be confirmed with Finance and Legal.

27. COMMENTS OF THE ACTING DIRECTOR, LEGAL & GOVERNANCE

- 27.1 The proposed extension of contract under paragraph 3.1 of this Report would constitute a variation of contract under paragraph 4 of Contract Standing Orders. Pursuant to paragraph 4.8 of Contract Standing Orders this Report is being presented to Cabinet Procurement Committee for approval as the value of the contract extension exceeds the sum of £2m.
- 27.2 Contract Standing Order 5.1.4 provides: "Where a Framework Agreement or DPS has been established by the Council for the supply of goods, works or services, Officers shall only procure those goods, works or services regardless of value, through this route unless the written consent of the Group Director, Finance and Corporate Resources, or their designated deputy is obtained. Such procurements shall be carried out in accordance with these Contract Standing Orders having regard to the Directorate's Procurement Plan and to the need to achieve value for money". Accordingly the continued, proposed (mixed) procurement route over the requested 36 month extension period will require the express written consent referred to.
- 27.3 Public Contract Regulations 2015 allows for such a 36 month DPS extension under Regulation 34(28)(a). An OJEU notice will need to be published, updating the original OJEU notice published in 2016, setting out the period of extension.
- 27.4 The Council's Audit Division should be informed of the outcome of this proposed extension to the DPS as the Audit Division have asked to be updated as to contract execution by DPS members.

28. COMMENTS OF THE PROCUREMENT CATEGORY LEAD

28.1 This business case is to extend the current Temporary Accommodation DPS for a period of up to 36 months, from January 2021 to January 2024. The extension would allow the Benefits & Housing Needs Service to continue to function with business as usual. The extension would allow the Benefits & Housing Needs Service time to explore alternatives to its current legacy systems. This would then enable a more informed decision to be made about temporary accommodation procurement going forward.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Equalities Impact Assessment - Homelessness Strategy

EXEMPT

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIAL

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND PAPERS

In accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) England Regulations 2012 publication of Background Papers used in the preparation of reports is required

Description of document (or None)

None

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