



Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED
ALL

FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:

Cabinet

01.09.2008

SUPPORTING PEOPLE CONTRACTS

Report of the Interim corporate Director of Resources and the Acting Corporate Director of Adults and Housing

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report is about the arrangements for extending the “grant aid contracts” steady state contracts due to expire on 31 March, to enable reprovision to take place in accordance with the decisions of the Commissioning Body.

2. Recommendations (or OPTIONS)

- 2.1 That Contract Procedure Rules as to competition be waived and that the relevant Corporate Director be authorised to offer extended contracts to the providers concerned in the case of the contracts identified in the table in this report.
- 2.2 That extensions be for up to 6 months from 1 April 2009.

3. Report

- 3.1 A large number of “Supporting People” contracts are due to expire on 31 March 2009.
- 3.2 The contracts cover the provision of housing accommodation related support services. The commissioning of these services is, under the rules relating to Supporting People funding, subject to the strategic decisions of a Commissioning Body made up of representatives from the City Council, the PCT and the Probation Service.
- 3.3 The contracts described in the table of this report are to be the subject of a strategic review which will then need to be considered by the Commissioning Board. This will not be possible before January/February of next year.
- 3.4 Realistic procurement processes cannot therefore be materially undertaken until that time.

- 3.5 Although it is inevitable that there will be changes in the scope and quality of services to be procured following the strategic review, it is essential that this is managed and that those services which will not be changed (or will not be significantly changed) should be continuous.
- 3.6 It is therefore proposed to extend these contracts by negotiation direct with the current provider for a period of 6 months from 1 April 2009.
- 3.7 It is proposed that there be a block “waiver” of contract procedure rules to extend these contracts for up to 6 months where necessary. The procurement process will run alongside this extension so that reprovision is in place where necessary when the extension expires.
- 3.8 The proposal is on the basis that an invitation to potential providers to express an interest in the contracts resulting from the strategic review will be issued in January 2009 as the types of service required will be known by then.
- 3.9 This mitigates the risk of challenge in that potential providers will not suffer a loss of a chance to compete, the extension is short enough to render any legal challenge not only very expensive relative to the value but also of no practical point.
- 3.10 The Supporting People Contracts concerned are summarised below:

Type of Service	Commissioning Section	2008/09 Value
Supported Housing	Planning and Commissioning (Housing Related)	£932,376
Hostel	Planning and Commissioning (Housing Related)	£2,587,506
Floating Support	Planning and Commissioning (Housing Related)	£167,852

A detailed breakdown of these contracts is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

4. FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1. Financial Implications

The Supporting People Programme Grant is being reduced over three years, so long term savings must be realised on these contracts. Delays in contracting will delay in making these savings however the Service has reserves, which can accommodate the proposed short-term delay in contracting these services.

Danny McGrath, Principal Accountant, 29 6822

4.2 Legal Implications

These are contained in the report.

5. Other Implications

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph References Within the report
Equal Opportunities	Yes	3
Policy	Yes	3
Sustainable and Environmental	No	
Crime and Disorder	Yes	3
Human Rights Act	No	
Elderly/People on Low Income	Yes	3

6. Risk Assessment Matrix

Risk		Likelihood L/M/H	Severity Impact L/M/H	Control Actions (if necessary/ appropriate)
1	Contracts not being in place if extensions not offered	H	H	Action extensions
2	Legal Challenge on procurement grounds	L	M	Follow procurement strategy

7. Consultations

Relevant officers in Adult and Housing

8. Not for Publication

- 8.1 This report is not for publication as it contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) – information relating to the business affairs of a person and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

9. Report Author

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Key Decision	No
Reason	N/A
Appeared in Forward Plan	N/A
Executive or Council Decision	Executive (Cabinet)