

Leicester  
City Council

**WARDS AFFECTED: All Wards**

**FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:**

**Cabinet**

**17<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

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**eMarketplace – Procurement Requirements for Supporting Choice and Control  
for Vulnerable and Disabled Adults**

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**Report of the Strategic Director for Adults and Communities**

**1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to include eMarket Place as an addition to the Procurement Plan for 2010/2011 and to inform Cabinet of a funded regional project to procure an eMarketplace solution for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. The Council is required to deliver choice and control to vulnerable and disabled people and the eMarketplace is intended to provide a cost effective method of providing access and information on potential services to meet this requirement.
- 1.2 The Procurement Plan serves two purposes;
- (a) To inform the market of future procurement, to enable potential suppliers to prepare for a future procurement process, and
  - (b) To provide members with greater overview of procurement activity, as recommended by the District Auditor in his report on housing contracts.
- 1.3 The 2010/11 Procurement Plan was approved by Cabinet on 29th March 2010, and listed probable procurement exercises above the EU thresholds (currently, £156,442 for supplies and services and £3,927,260 for works).

**2 REPORT**

- 2.1 Working in partnership with the Leicestershire County Council and Rutland County Council, the City Council has received funding from the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Programme (RIEP) of £166K to procure an eMarketplace solution. This will assist the Council to meet its obligation to improve choice and control for vulnerable and disabled people and their carers prescribed by 'Putting People First' (DOH 2007). It contributes to the One Leicester themes of Improving Health and Well-Being, and Thriving and Safe Communities and impacts directly on NI 142, the numbers of vulnerable people who are supported to maintain independent living.

- 2.2 The City Council had intended to identify and procure an eMarketplace solution to support the Adult Social Care Transformation process and avoid future cost pressures. The regional funding reduces the financial impact to the Council and brings benefits from the use of a shared system across the 3 local authorities, thus creating a further incentive for potential providers of support to register their services on the eMarketplace.
- 2.3 The eMarketplace will support the further implementation of personalised services in a cost effective approach, such as those relating to Housing Related Support and Employment Support under the "Right to Control" Trailblazer that the Council has been awarded by the Office of Disability Issues.
- 2.4 It has been agreed by Divisional Directors, responsible for Adult Social Care Transformation, that Leicestershire County Council will lead a cross authority procurement exercise, using ESPO as an agent on behalf of the 3 councils. The regional project is required to deliver benefits starting from April 2011, with the project plan requiring the system coming on stream from December 2010.
- 2.5 In order for the Council to be able to take advantage of the regional funding for eMarketplace rather than utilise Council funding, urgent approval is sought from Cabinet to prevent any slippage to the project. It is imperative therefore that the procurement process starts imminently and officers are hoping with Cabinet Approval to place an OJEU notice for a target date of 18<sup>th</sup> May 2010. This is compliant with section 2, 10.5 of the Contract Procedure Rules that require cabinet approval for an exercise of such value.

### **3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **3.1 Cabinet is recommended to;**

- a) **Note the strategic dependency of this work to the achievement of improved outcomes for vulnerable and disabled people, and on avoiding the increase in costs to the Council in the future, and**
- b) **Approve the addition to the Corporate Procurement Plan as set out in the appendix of this report**

### **4 CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Paul Lynch, ICT Contracts Manager  
Steven Barber, Head of ICT Health, Wellbeing and Communities

### **5 FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

#### **5.1 Financial Implications**

(Rod Pearson, Head of Finance Adults and Communities ext 29 8800)

The capital implications from the procurement will be covered by the regional funding through the RIEP, and it is anticipated that the revenue consequences

will be offset against the additional costs the City Council will face. The joint procurement will reduce the costs to the City Council by approximately 30% over that the City Council would spend by procuring the system on its own. The City Council is represented on the multi-agency Project Board to ensure the Council's interests in this area are protected. Since this is a developing market nationally, whether Leicester City Council actually signs up to a contract will be subject to agreement by the three Councils that the final costs are reasonable and affordable, which will be evaluated once the procurement exercise is undertaken. Whilst the procurement may not reach the EU Public Contract thresholds, the Councils involved have determined with ESPO that it will be assumed that we are above these thresholds to avoid any issues later on.

## 5.2 Legal Implications

(Beena Adatia, Senior Solicitor/ Team Leader, ext 29 6378)

The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet's approval to add this procurement activity to the Procurement Plan. As such, the legal implications are that since all the procurement activities are above the EU Public Procurement thresholds, as well as compliance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, the relevant law is contained in the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 and the Commissions Interpretative Communication of July 2007. Each procurement will need to follow due process in accordance with our internal and legislative requirements, with advice from the Corporate Procurement Team and Legal Services.

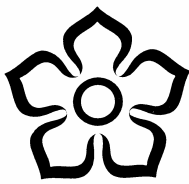
## 5.3 Other Implications

| Other Implications                    | Yes/No | Paragraph References within this Report                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Equal Opportunities                   | Yes    | The eMarketplace procurement is essentially a rights based agenda aimed at improving the lives of disabled and vulnerable people. The equality impact of personalisation to achieve Choice and Control is assessed under the Adult Social Care Transformation Programme. |
| Policy                                | Yes    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Sustainable and Environmental         | Yes    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Crime and Disorder                    | No     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Human Rights Act                      | Yes    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Elderly Persons/People on Low Incomes | Yes    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Corporate Parenting                   | No     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

## 6 REPORT AUTHOR

Kim Curry, Strategic Director Adults & Communities Ext 29 8300.

|                                      |                     |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Key Decision</b>                  | No                  |
| <b>Reason</b>                        | N/A                 |
| <b>Appeared in Forward Plan</b>      | N/A                 |
| <b>Executive or Council Decision</b> | Executive (Cabinet) |



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Appendix

**LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL PROCUREMENT PLAN 2010/2011  
FINANCIAL YEAR APRIL 2010 TO MARCH 2011**

**PORTFOLIO – ADULTS & COMMUNITIES**

**1**

|                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Division:                          | Personalisation and Business Support                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Section:                           | Finance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Name of Contract:                  | <b>eMarketplace – Procurement Requirements for Supporting Choice and Control for Vulnerable and Disabled Adult</b>                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Description of Contract:           | There is a requirement to provide Choice and Control to vulnerable and disabled people and their carers through 'Putting People First' (DOH 2007)', which involves providing information and access to a broad range of services and providers to meet individual support requirements via the web. |
| Expiry Date of existing Contract:  | New Contract                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Anticipated start of new Contract: | Oct 2010                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Duration of new Contract:          | 3 years (+ up to 2 further years)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Value of new Contract:             | Above EU Thresholds                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Lead Officer:                      | Raj Adatia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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