

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE - 4 APRIL 2017

Title:

HOUSING MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS RENEWAL

[Portfolio Holder: Cllr Carole King]

[Wards Affected: All]

Note pursuant to Section 100B(5) of the Local Government Act 1972

Annexe 1 to this report contains information by virtue of which the public is likely to be excluded during the item to which the report relates, as specified in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, namely:

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Summary and purpose:

This report presents the findings of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Housing Maintenance Contracts Renewal Sub-Committee which has carried out a review into the nine housing maintenance contracts held by Waverley Borough Council and considered whether they either need to be extended or terminated in early 2019. The proposed approach to be taken regarding the procurement and on-going monitoring of the process is set out within the report.

How this report relates to the Council's Corporate Priorities:

The timely review of the arrangements to deliver housing maintenance services beyond early 2019 supports the Council's priorities to continue to invest in Waverley's housing stock to maintain decent homes; to take a sustainable and robust approach to financial planning in order to continue to deliver excellent services and to live within our means; and maximising commissioning opportunities associated with new and renewed contracts to improve working relationships and thus improve services.

Financial Implications:

There are no immediate financial implications. Each re-procurement option will have a financial implication, however will be procured with value for money as a priority and be assessed on a case by case basis.

Costs incurred in the re-procurement will be contained in previously approved budgets.

Legal Implications:

The contracts will be procured in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the Scheme of Delegation.

Introduction

1. Nine housing maintenance contracts held by Waverley Borough Council reach the point where they either need to be extended or terminated in early 2019. Officers from Waverley's Housing Service have been formulating their approach to the management of these contract renewal decisions since 2015, prompted by the long lead times to procure new contracts, operational experience of the current contracts, and anticipated reductions in Waverley's future service demand levels as a consequence of Government imposed budget challenges.
2. In September 2016, Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee identified the need for the procurement planning to be carefully scrutinised, and established a Sub-Committee to undertake this work, chaired by Cllr Richard Seaborne.
3. The Sub-Committee presented their report and recommendations on the procurement approach to be taken in respect of the nine housing maintenance contracts to Corporate Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 20 March 2017. That report is attached as (Exempt) Annexe 1, and sets out in detail the options considered for the future delivery of the Council's housing maintenance responsibilities and the justification for the recommended approach.
4. The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Sub-Committee in relation to the approach to be taken in respect of the nine housing maintenance contracts, and agreed that the new Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee should monitor the progress against the project plan for the procurement of the contracts, and the project risk register.

Conclusion

5. The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee has carried out a robust challenge of the options available to the Council in delivering its housing maintenance services beyond 2019, and (Exempt) Annexe 1 sets out detailed recommendations in relation to the procurement approach.
6. The Executive is asked to endorse the recommended approach to procuring contracts to deliver housing maintenance services beyond 2019, and to agree delegated authority to the Head of Housing Operations to progress the actions necessary to carry out the procurement exercise.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Executive, after considering the report and recommendations of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Housing Maintenance Contracts Renewal Sub-Committee,

1. agrees the recommended approach to the future delivery of Waverley's housing maintenance services, as set out in Section 6 of (Exempt) Annexe 1;
2. recommends that authority be delegated to the Head of Housing Operations to
 - appoint consultants to provide advice and undertake such work as required to achieve the recommendations set out in the (Exempt) Annexe, within

agreed budgets and in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules;

- procure and appoint contractors for those services identified in the (Exempt) Annexe as requiring re-procurement, within agreed budgets and in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing and the Strategic Director for Finance and Resources;
- extend the contracts for those services identified in the (Exempt) Annexe as requiring extension; and
- take all other reasonable actions in order to facilitate the recommendations identified within the (Exempt) Annexe; and

3. asks the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Board to add the on-going monitoring of the procurement process to the Overview and Scrutiny work programme.

Background Papers

There are no background papers (as defined by Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) relating to this report.

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