

Report To: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 29th October 2013

Lead Member/Officer: Councillor Bobby Feeley
Lead Member for Social Care and Children's Services
Sally Ellis, Corporate Director of Modernisation and Wellbeing

Report Authors: Supporting People Planning & Service Development Officer

Title: GIFT Tender Exemption

1. What is the report about?

The Supporting People funded contract with the Wallich for the GIFT (Generic Intensive Floating support Team) project.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

A decision is required on the exemption of the GIFT contract from the requirement to tender.

3. What are the Recommendations?

To approve the GIFT tender exemption and to award the contract to the Wallich, the existing provider

4. Report details

- The project provides housing related support to a minimum of 62 vulnerable people who present as homeless or potentially homeless or who live in temporary accommodation.
- The Wallich has successfully provided this service since September 2010.
- The project was tendered in 2010. Three bids were received and evaluated. The contract was awarded to the Wallich.
- The Supporting People Team carried out a full service review in April & May 2013 which found that the project which found that the project has produced good outcomes, links well to local and national strategic aims and does well at ensuring participation, safeguarding and enabling service users.

The GIFT service is categorised as a Part B service in accordance with EU and UK procurement legislation. The proposed new contract represents a clear continuation of the services required under the existing contract.

The attached Part B Tender Exemption Framework (see Appendix 1) demonstrates that the exemption of these services from tendering and the award of a new contract to the Wallich **can** be justified as reasonable following a balanced consideration of the relevant criteria listed in Contract Procedure Rule 10.1(m):

- i. Tendering the contract is unlikely to secure significant improvements in value for money ✓
- ii. The specification for the new contract differs from the existing contract ✗
- iii. The contract terms and conditions do not differ substantially from the existing contract ✓
- iv. The equivalent annual value of the contract for the requirements differs ✗

- slightly from that of the existing contract
- v. This contract was previously tendered in 2010 ✓
 - vi. No previous contract for this service has been exempted from tendering ✓
 - vii. The Wallich's performance in delivering the GIFT project has been monitored and assessed as better than satisfactory. ✓
 - viii. The quality of the Wallich's services has been monitored and assessed as better than satisfactory. ✓
 - ix. Improved value for money in respect of the contract price has been agreed with the existing provider. ✓
 - x. The required services are not delivered in specific accommodation. ✗
 - xi. The Supporting People team are not aware of any indications that tendering the service or changing provider would cause significant distress to service users to the extent that successful outcomes would be reversed or undermined. ✗
 - xii. No other valid or relevant considerations have been identified as pertinent to this contract in this context.

The annual contract value is £238,828 and the maximum duration of the contract is 5 years, therefore the total maximum funding allocation will be £1,194,140 for the full contract.

In accordance with CPR 10.2, exemptions from tendering on the basis of one of the reasons listed in CPR 10.1 may be granted by Cabinet if the contract value is over £1,000,000.(1 million)

5. **How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**

This project will contribute to supporting Denbighshire's Corporate Plan 2012-2017 in the following areas:-

- Vulnerable people are protected and are able to live as independently as possible
- Ensuring access to good quality housing

This project plays a key role in contributing to the prevention of homelessness for vulnerable people.

6. **What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

Cost Implications: £238,828 per annum has been allocated to this project from Denbighshire's Supporting People Programme Grant funding.

7. **What consultations have been carried out?**

The project has been identified as strategically relevant and confirmed as a priority in the 2011-14 Supporting People Strategy and in the 2013-14 Supporting People Spend Plan.

8. **Chief Finance Officer Statement**

The proposals comply with Financial Regulations and the exemption sought is valid in this case. The cost of the project must be contained within the funding available.

9. **What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

- **Risks associated with not agreeing the recommendation/s:**
The contract will be put out to tender. This might represent an inefficient use of Council resources if no improvement in value for money is achieved in excess of that afforded by the proposed remodelling of the service.

- **Risks associated with agreeing the recommendation/s**

An exemption from tender would forego the opportunity to seek improved value for money from an alternative provider. However this should be considered against the cost to the Council of conducting the tender and the potential disruption to the service.

10. Power to make the Decision

Section 111 of the Local Government Act (1972); Financial Regulation 31 (Contract Procedure Rules); CPR 10.1