
**TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF ACCOMMODATION BASED AND FLOATING
HOUSING RELATED SUPPORT FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE, THOSE AT RISK OF
HOMELESSNESS – LOTS 2 TO 4**

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Bill Dixon,
Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio**

Responsible Director - Cliff Brown, Director of Community Services

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek approval for the award of contacts for the provision of accommodation based housing related support services for homeless people and those at risk of homelessness.

Summary

2. At the December meeting of Cabinet agreement was given to re-tender the following Lots from the previous housing related support tender for services for homeless people/people at risk of homelessness.
 - (a) The provision of hostel accommodation for people 18+ (Lot 2).
 - (b) The Provision of Accommodation Based Services for People who are Homeless, or at Risk of Homelessness (Lot 5).
3. The re-tendering of Lot 2 included an increased annual lot value of £30,000, to enable costs to be more appropriately apportioned to Supporting People for service governance and management.
4. Lot 5 was disaggregated for the re-tender into two separate services; 8 units of accommodation incorporating two emergency rooms (Lot 3) and self contained accommodation (Lot 4).
5. The individual tender submissions for each Lot were evaluated by a panel consisting of; the Supporting People Manager, Supporting People Contract Officers, Procurement Project Officer, Project Manager First Stop and the Executive Director eVolution.
6. In accordance with the Procurement Strategy for this tender, submissions were evaluated on a price (30%) / quality (70%) ratio.

7. The evaluation panel recommends the award of contract to the highest scoring tenderer for the following lots:-
- (a) Lot 2 – The provision of a homeless hostel for people aged 18+
 - (b) Lot 4 – The provision of self contained accommodation for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness

Cliff Brown
Director of Community Services

Background Papers

No Background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

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S17 Crime and Disorder	The procurement of housing related support for homeless people/ people at risk of homelessness will ensure that vulnerable adults with complex needs receive support services focused upon achieving individualised positive outcomes
Health and Well Being	Housing related support services are holistic and outcome focused on achieving health and wellbeing, including economic wellbeing and making a positive contribution
Sustainability	The provision of housing related support for homeless people/ people at risk of homelessness will contribute to continued and diverse sustainability of local communities by supporting people in their neighbourhood. There are no environmental impacts associated with the commissioning of these services
Diversity	The Council's duties arising from its statutory obligations, under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the Race Relations and Sex Discriminations Acts have been complied with
Wards Affected	The provision of housing related support for homeless people/ people at risk of homelessness is across the Borough of Darlington
Groups Affected	Homeless people/ people at risk of homelessness. Vulnerable parents
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not recommend changes to the Budget and Policy Framework
Key Decision	This is a key decision
Urgent Decision	This is an urgent decision, because contracts need to be awarded to commence on 1st July 2010
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The award of contract for the specified lots links to the Healthier and Safer Darlington Themes
Efficiency	The appointment of contractors to the specified lots will ensure there are effective and efficient housing related support services, which achieve positive outcomes for clients. The specified lots are effective preventative services, which reduces cost for statutory services

MAIN REPORT

Background to the Strategic Review

8. The Supporting People Team has undertaken a strategic review of housing related support services for homeless people/people at risk of homelessness and vulnerable parents. Previously these service provisions were delivered through a mixture of hostel accommodation, limited self-contained accommodation and floating support. The total annual expenditure was approximately £1.2 million.
9. The strategic review had significant involvement from service providers, statutory stakeholders, voluntary sector organisations, and service users to identify gaps in existing provision and service remodelling priorities. The findings from the strategic review were used to develop new service delivery models and service specifications, which included; an increase in the number of units of floating support, preventative services, and a more diverse range of accommodation based services.
10. The strategic review findings and revised service models were circulated to the respective strategic review working groups. They were also presented to the Supporting People Commissioning Body, (which included specific representation from eVolution and First Stop), Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee and the September Cabinet meeting for endorsement.
11. The Procurement Strategy for the revised service models was approved at the September meeting of Cabinet.
12. The tender was advertised, on the National Supporting People K-web and Darlington Borough Council's website.

Evaluation of Tenders

13. An open tender exercise was undertaken with one stage evaluation process. An initial evaluation process was undertaken on the Business Questionnaire, where tenderers were required to score a minimum of 50%. All tenderers were successful in the initial Business Questionnaire Evaluation.
14. Each of the lots had its own individual lot value, and tenderers were required to bid at or below the lot value.
15. Tenderers were asked to submit a methodology statement, for the 70% quality score in respect of the following areas:-
 - (a) How the contractor will deliver the aims and objectives of the service, incorporating needs and risk assessment, equality and diversity.
 - (b) Quality Assurance
 - (c) Complaints
 - (d) Safeguarding

- (e) Added Value and Innovation, including opportunities for achieving efficiencies over the lifetime of the contract at no additional cost to the authority.
 - (f) Community Engagement and Inclusion
 - (g) Training Education and Workforce
 - (h) Service User Involvement
16. In addition to the methodology statement, references were sought for all tenderers which formed part of the quality score. A financial audit was undertaken for each tenderer, all tenderers were required to sign a Health and Safety declaration and successful contractors receive an audit from Corporate Health and Safety Officers upon award of contract.