

Report for: Cabinet Member Signing 03 March – 31 July 2025

Item number: 8

Title: Award of Contracts for the provision of Housing Related Support -Young People Supported Housing Pathway

Report authorised by: Zahra Maye - Head of Housing-Related Support

Lead Officer: Lorraine Watson – Housing Related Support Commissioning Manager

Ward(s) affected: All

**Report for Key/
Non-Key Decision:** Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1. The Services within Young People's Supported Pathway aim to provide a pathway to independence for young people at risk of homelessness and care leavers, helping them build the skills necessary for independent living.
- 1.2. The Council has undertaken competitive procurement process for the recommissioning of Housing Related Support – Young People's Supported Pathway. The services were tendered into four separate lots: Lot 1 (Generic visiting support); Lot 2 (Unaccompanied Asylum- Seeking Children); Lot 3 (Young Women's Service) and Lot 4 (Housing First for Care leavers)
- 1.3. This report details the outcome of the procurement process and seeks approval to award contracts to the successful tenderers for Lot 1, 2 and 4. Details including names of suppliers and costs submitted by each tenderer are outlined under Appendix 1 – Part B (exempt information) of this report.
- 1.4. Subject to approval, the contracts shall be awarded for a period of four (4) years, commencing from 1st September 2025 with an option to extend for a further period, or periods, of up to a total of three (3) years in accordance with the terms of the contract.
- 1.5. The cost of the contracts for the initial term of 4 years is £ 865,714, and the total aggregated value over the full duration of 7 years is £ 1,515,000 (figures exclusive of VAT).

**2. Cabinet Member Introduction
Not applicable**

3. Recommendations

3.1. The Cabinet member for Housing and Planning to approve, in accordance with Contract Standing Orders, the award of contracts for the provision of Housing Related Support Services, Young People's Supported Housing Pathway to the successful tenderers as outlined in Appendix 1 - Part B (exempt information) of this report, for a period of 4 years commencing from 1st September 2025 with an option to extend for a further period/ periods of up to 3 years. The cost of contracts across the three Lots for the initial period of 4 years is £844,924 (exclusive of VAT) and the total aggregated total value for the full duration of 7 years is £1,478,617, if fully extended (exclusive of VAT)

3.2. The Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning to note that no suitable bids received for Lot 3 (Young Women's Service) and a separate procurement process may be carried out to recommission this service subject to availability of funding.

4. Reasons for decision

4.1. Changes to the Homelessness Reduction Act (2018) and the Children and Social Work Act (2017) which extended local authorities' duties to care leavers up to their 25th birthday subsequently placed greater pressure on the Council in respect of an increased duty toward accommodating Young People within the borough.

4.2. **Existing contract expiry and no extension available:** The existing contracts under Housing Related Support - Young People's Supported Housing expire on 31st August 2025 and there is no further provision to extend the contract.

4.3. **Procurement process carried out:** The Council has carried out a competitive procurement process and identified successful tenderers to be awarded contracts as outlined Appendix 1 Part B exempt information. Failure to award new contracts would lead to service disruption, putting vulnerable young people at risk of homelessness.

4.4. The tender process has ensured that the Council secures high-quality, cost-effective services that meet statutory obligations under the Housing Act 1996, Children Act 1989, and Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

4.5. Awarding these contracts will contribute to the Council's Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy and Corporate Delivery Plan objectives by preventing youth homelessness and promoting social inclusion and independence.

4.6. **Need for the service:** Given the rising levels of homelessness among young people and the multiple disadvantages they face, there is a critical need to maintain specialist Young People provision in Haringey. Young people are disproportionately affected by family rejection, mental health challenges, discrimination, and an increased risk of exploitation and abuse. Without dedicated accommodation and support, they face significantly poorer outcomes, including long-term homelessness, unemployment, and severe mental health crises.

5. Alternative options considered

5.1. **Do nothing** – The option to do nothing was considered and rejected as was found not to be viable due to following reasons:

- Discontinuing these services would lead to a Young Person losing their supported housing tenancy. In this event, in order to meet their statutory obligations, Young Adults Service would be required to provide placements to care leavers who are accommodated with the Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children and Housing First services. This is not cost effective as would cost the council an additional £50,928 per young person on average per annum.
- The Young Peoples Pathway of provision supports vulnerable Haringey residents some who require a high level of intensive support to sustain their tenancies. While delivering this service is not a statutory requirement for the Housing Related Support team, it relieves pressure on other departments in fulfilling their statutory duties.

5.2. **Deliver the services in-house** - Following an assessment of feasibility, it is recommended that an outsourced model would be most advantageous for the council. This is due to reasons outline below:

- a) The Council cannot meet the requirement for 46 units within the required timescales. Renovation of council buildings was explored but found unsuitable due to their potential use for other specialisms (e.g., Learning Disabilities, Older People). Additionally, renovation completion would not align with the tender process timeline. Future planning may explore this route for sourcing accommodation for the Young People's pathway.
- b) If this pathway provision were to be delivered by the council, the costs attributed to staffing, building lease agreements and housing management responsibilities for an additional 46 units of accommodation is more than the available Young People Pathway budget envelope.

6. Background information

6.1. The Council's Housing Related Support - Young People's Supported Housing Pathway is designed for Haringey's 18-25-year-olds, aiming to address inequalities that put them at risk of homelessness. Youth homelessness factors differ from adults, often leading to hidden homelessness among young people.

6.2. The existing Young Persons Supported Housing Pathway includes the following:

- Women Only
- LGBTQ+

- Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children
- Housing First for Care Leaver
- Complex Needs Worker
- General Support
- Family Mediation and Reunification Advice and Guidance

- 6.3. Changes to the Homelessness Reduction Act (2018) and the Children and Social Work Act (2017) which extended local authorities' duties to care leavers up to their 25th birthday subsequently placed greater pressure on the Council in respect of an increased duty toward accommodating Young People within the borough.
- 6.4. A Review of the 2016 Support Housing Review – Needs and Gap Analysis was conducted in 2024, focusing on the Young Peoples Pathway services. The initial review outcome highlighted that HRS's young people's supported housing pathway continued to meet the needs of the current cohort of Young People. Confirming that the diversity of specialist provision being delivered within the pathway continued to be required.
- 6.5. A Young People Pathway cost analysis was also undertaken in 2024, establishing Housing Related Support specialist supported accommodation services in particular Housing Needs for Care Leavers and the Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) Services offer a saving of circa 957,600K per annum to statutory services.
- 6.6. Our aim during the recommissioning process of the Young People's Supported Housing Pathway Services (through consultation and market engagement), was to obtain and utilise stakeholders and potential provider's feedback to assist in developing insight into any changes or emerging trends in local needs which had occurred since the last re-commissioning had taken place.
- 6.7. In addition, consultation was used as a means to understanding what outcomes are important to people using our services, and what kinds of support provision could achieve these outcomes.
- 6.8. Consultation was threaded into the period of contract delivery via surveys and one to one meeting with Service Users. Ultimately the commissioning team was able to use this to inform the reshaping of provision to better meet the current needs of young people accessing our services.
- 6.9. Consultation via task and finish groups, with key stakeholders i.e. Young Adults Service (YAS) established there is a distinct lack of specialist young people supported housing provision for care leavers to access. Thus, highlighting a continued need for a young person specific supported housing pathway which seen as beneficial to supporting statutory services such as theirs.

- 6.10. Services such as Housing First for Care Leavers support some of the most vulnerable care leavers who without the support would likely not be able to sustain their tenancies.
- 6.11. Two organisations submitted tenders for Lot 3, however, they did not meet the required threshold for the quality assessment and could not progress through the evaluation process. A separate procurement process may be carried out to recommission services under this Lot.
- 6.12. The recommendation to award contracts to successful bidders is made on the back of the completion of tender evaluations. Evaluations are based on criteria as set out within the tender documents.
- 6.13. **Procurement Process**
- 6.13.1. A pretender market engagement event was held on 23rd September 2024 and attended by representatives from 25 organisations. This event was intended to communicate and share information with potential providers to help them understand the commissioning intentions and offer potential suppliers the opportunity to raise any questions and present their views.
- 6.13.2. Tender exercise commenced publishing a Contract Notice on 14th October 2024 via Find a Tender Service and Contracts Finder. The Invitation to Tender (ITT) and supporting documents were published via the Council's e-sourcing portal, Haringey Procurement and Contract System (HPCS) to enable potential tenderers to access the tender and submit documents electronically.
- 6.13.3. The services were tendered into 4 separate lots: Lot 1 Generic visiting support; Lot 2 Unaccompanied Asylum- Seeking Children; Lot 3 Young Women's Service and Lot 4 Housing First for Care leavers.
- 6.13.4. Tenderers were permitted to submit tenders for one, or more Lots, however, the award of contracts was restricted to maximum of two (2) Lots to any single organisation.
- 6.13.5. By the closing deadline of 9th December 2024, 15 tenders were received from 7 organisations, across 4 lots. All tenders were checked for completeness and compliance with minimum requirements before evaluations for quality and price.
- 6.13.6. Evaluation was based upon an assessment of Quality (70%) and Cost (30%). Quality submissions were assessed by a panel of 3 officers from the Housing related Support team.
- 6.13.7. Tenderers were required to score 70% of the total marks allocated to Quality to pass the quality assessment. Five organisations did not pass the method statement stage, and therefore their pricing was not evaluated, and they were eliminated from the procurement process.

6.13.8. Tenderers who met the minimum quality threshold, their financial (Price) submission was evaluated by lead procurement officer from Strategic Procurement.

6.13.9. A summary of the scores obtained by each tenderer is show in the tables below:

LOT 1 - Generic Visiting Support

Tenderer	Method statement score (MS)	Social Value Score (SV)	Quality score (MS+SV)	Pricing score	Total Score (%)
A	47	6	53	30	83
B	26	6	32	Eliminated – Quality threshold not met	
C	18	3	21		
D	24	6	30		
E	22	6	28		

LOT 2 – Unaccompanied Asylum- Seeking Children

Tenderer	Method Statement score (MS)	Social Value score (SV)	Quality score (MS + SV)	Price Score	Total Score (%)
A	49	6	55	30	85
B	29	6	35	Eliminated – Quality threshold not met	
C	18	3	21		

LOT 3- Young Women's Service

Tenderer	Method Statement score (MS)	Social Value score (SV)	Quality score (MS + SV)	Price Score	Total Score (%)
B	26	6	32	Eliminated – Quality threshold not met	
C	17	4	21		

LOT 4 – Housing First for Care Leavers

Tenderer	Method statement score (MS)	Social Value Score (SV)	Quality score (MS+SV)	Pricing score	Total Score (%)
C	17	4	21	Eliminated – Quality threshold not met	
D	24	6	30		
E	22	6	28		
F	24	6	30		
G	46	6	52	30	82

- 6.13.10. Details of the submitted tenders, including price are included under Appendix 1 (Part B- Exempt information) of this report.
- 6.13.11. The contract award will contribute to the Council's commitment to generate social, economic, and environmental benefits to its residents due to the social value commitments of the winning bidder. Further information about the tender evaluation (such as name and contract value) is contained in Appendix 1 - Part B (exempt information) of the report.
- 6.13.12. In each lot, only organisations submitted the suitable and Most Economically Advantageous Tender, and we therefore propose to award the contracts to them.

6.14. **Contract Management**

- 6.14.1. Contract monitoring meetings will be held on a quarterly basis. The service will be monitored and evaluated on a range of agreed performance targets. These targets will be agreed with the provider on award of the contract and will be reviewed annually and in response to changing national and local priorities.

7. Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-26 High level Strategic outcomes

- 7.1. The Haringey Deal, Corporate Delivery Plan sets out Haringey's organisational delivery plans up until April 2026. The 2024/26 Plan continues Haringey's commitment to decrease rough sleeping in the borough.
- 7.2. The 2024/26 plan has 8 Themes The provision of housing-related support services for vulnerable and homeless young people contributes directly to the corporate delivery plan Theme 5. 'Homes for the future'. In particular a commitment to:
- A reduction in temporary accommodation.
 - Decrease the number of homeless households and households presenting as homeless, including those who sleep rough.
 - Commission a new strategy to guide the delivery of new supported housing.
- 7.2.1. Although HRS services are not mandated to be delivered, the council understands the importance of these types of services which relieve pressure on mandatory statutory services and their budgets.
- 7.2.2. Haringey's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategies (2018) describe the Council's aim to prevent, reduce and relieve homelessness at the earliest possible opportunity, and ensure that support is available to those people who are vulnerable to homelessness triggers due to issues such as their age, and lack of independent living skills. The provision of housing-related support

services for vulnerable and homeless young people contributes directly to the delivery of the Council's homelessness objectives.

- 7.2.3. The Young People at Risk Strategy (2019-2029) focuses on five key outcomes for young people at risk or experiencing violence and exploitation.
- 7.2.4. Housing-related support services for vulnerable and homeless young people contributes directly Outcome 5 Priority 2. Strong Families and Healthy Relationships – Youth Homelessness
- 7.2.5. The awarded contracts will contribute to Council's commitment to generate social economic and environmental benefits for Haringey residents. The successful organisations demonstrated strong commitments to delivering social value within their tenders including training and employment opportunities for young people, payment of London living wage and a range of fair work practice for their employees. Details of commitments for each organisation are included under Appendix 1 - Part B (exempt information)

8. Carbon and Climate Change

- 8.1. Haringey Climate Change Action Plan March 2021 outlines the council's route for net zero carbon in Haringey. All HRS services and provision contribute to the Community Actions Objective Com1 – To increase education and awareness raising across the borough to residents and businesses.
 - Raising awareness of the impacts of climate change, and steps to mitigate, can encourage residents and businesses to engage with the issue and to enable behavioural change.
- 8.2. Housing Related Support team commission a wide variety of services which support vulnerable Haringey residents who have experience homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.
- 8.3. As a team we are committed to embedding educational awareness into the fabric of commissioning from the tender process to contract monitoring. We seek to deliver carbon literacy awareness training to our providers and stakeholder relating to carbon footprint within their own organisations i.e.:
 - Ensuring providers have a carbon change policy
 - Including drafting a provider's self-assessment.
- 8.4. We also seek to consult with our stakeholders in relation to benchmarking best practice. This in-turn will be fed into our annual audit procedure where HRS Commissioning would be able to monitor and evaluate year on year whether organisations are actually reducing their carbon footprint.
- 8.5. HRS would also seek to co-produce our own carbon plan with service users by consulting with them on how climate change is affecting them i.e. Summer SWEP, Climate anxiety etc.

- 8.6. Finally, we seek to embed climate change into our service specification ensuring that providers we have, commit to addressing climate change on a wider strategic level with the Commissioning Team.

9. Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)

9.1. Finance

- 9.1.1. This report seeks the approval to award three contracts for a period of 4 years commencing from 1st September 2025 at a total cost of £865,714. There is an option to extend the contract for a further 3 years for an additional cost of £649,286; resulting in a total contract value of £1,515,000 for the 7-year period.
- 9.1.2. Additionally, a small savings will be achieved as demonstrated in Appendix 1 Part B. The savings amount to £20,790 over the course of the 4-year contract and to £36,383 if extended to 7 years.
- 9.1.3. Furthermore, there will be cost mitigations to the YAS service which would reduce overall pressure to the council. Based on the current units for Lots 2 and 4 and the average YAS placement costs, the council would incur £845,744 per annum if clients had no access to the provision proposed.
- 9.1.4. The General Fund Budget allocated to the Housing Related Services will be utilised to finance the contracts if approved. As these contracts are factored within the allocated budget, there is no financial implication to the council.

9.2. Strategic Procurement

- 9.2.1. Strategic Procurement lead on the procurement process and have been consulted in the preparation of this report.
- 9.2.2. The report concerns Health and Social Care services, which fall under the Light Touch Regime of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015). As such, these services must be publicly advertised and comply with the PCR procedures for tenders or contracts valued at or above £663,540.
- 9.2.3. To meet these requirements, a compliant 'Open' tender process has been conducted, with a contract notice published on Find the Tender Service and Contract Finder in accordance with PCR 2015 guidance.
- 9.2.4. The competitive procurement process adopted, and outcome is in line with Contract Standing Orders 12.3 (requirement to advertise tender opportunity), 13 (requirement to electronic communications, procurement documents, receipt and opening of Bids) and 16 (bid acceptance) as well as code of practise.
- 9.2.5. Contract monitoring will be undertaken by the Housing Related Support team throughout the duration of the contract. Key performance indicators and

outcomes are captured in the contract document to ensure contract performance targets are met, outcomes are realised, and service delivery risk mitigated as well as, foster partnership working and the sharing of expertise.

- 9.2.6. The recommendations in this report are based on the outcome of the procurement following a robust evaluation process therefore Strategic Procurement confirms there are no procurement related matters preventing Cabinet member approving the Recommendations stated in in paragraph 3 above

9.3. **Legal & Governance [Michael Papadakis]**

- 9.3.1. The **Assistant** Director for Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) has been consulted in the preparation of this report.
- 9.3.2. The report concerns Health and Social Care services, which fall under the Light Touch Regime of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (**PCR 2015**).
- 9.3.3. We note that in this instance a formal public procurement process (under the Light Touch Regime) was followed in accordance with PCR15 and CSO 12.03 because if the value of the Council's requirements and a Contract Notice was published on Find the Tender Service and Contract Finder. In that respect the Council acted in compliance with PCR15.
- 9.3.4. Pursuant to the Council's Contract Standing Order 2.01.c), the Cabinet may authorise the award of a contract the value of which is more than £500,000. I note that this contract has been included in the Council's Forward Plan, which has been approved by the Council's Leader. That approval then grants to the Cabinet Member the power to approve this report under CSO 0.08.
- 9.3.5. The Assistant Director for Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) sees no legal reasons preventing the Cabinet Member from approving the recommendation in the report under CSO 2.01c and 16.01.

9.4. **Equality**

- 9.4.1. The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act; Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 9.4.2. The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

- 9.4.3. The proposed decision is to award contracts for the Provision of Housing Related Single Homeless Pathway Support Services to the successful tenderers for 4 years. The primary beneficiaries of the decision are individuals with experiencing homeless with multiple and complex needs. The decision represents a measure to meet the needs of this group where they differ from the needs of others and therefore advances equality of opportunity. Among whom those from Black and Asian Minority and LGBTQ+ communities are overrepresented and possess the protected characteristics of race and sexual orientation.
- 9.4.4. Those most likely to be affected by the decision are single homeless adults and those at risk of homelessness aged 18+ in the borough. This cohort of people is broadly made up of men aged between 25-50 years old, with over-representation of people from BAME backgrounds, people with long-term mental health conditions, substance use needs, and physical health concerns related to prolonged periods of rough sleeping, drug use and self-neglect. Women represent around 23% of the cohort but are often disproportionately affected by issues of previous trauma and violence, as well as substance use and lack of engagement with services.
- 9.4.5. This measure aims to eliminate discrimination and advances equality of opportunity for the named above groups as well as for the wider community. This will lead to better recovery, tenancy sustainment and better outcomes for the future including job opportunities and education. This will also support people from the LGBTQ+ community who are overrepresented as service users.
- 9.4.6. The organisations for these contracts will be carrying out a public function on behalf of a public body and will be obliged to have due regard for the need to achieve the three aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty as stated above. Appropriate contract management arrangements will be established to ensure that the delivery of the Single Homeless Pathway services does not result in any preventable or disproportionate inequality. The Council will take steps to collect demographic data on service users to identify any inequalities in service provision that may arise and to inform future equalities analysis.
- 9.4.7. An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed for the proposed, Award of contracts for the Provision of The Council's Housing Related Young Peoples Homeless Pathway Support Services and is included as Appendix 2 to this report.
- 9.4.8. Awarding these contracts will contribute to the Council's Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy and Corporate Delivery Plan objectives by preventing youth homelessness and promoting social inclusion and independence.

10. Use of Appendices

- 13.1. Appendix 1 – Part B (Exempt information) of this report

13.2. Appendix 2 - Equality Impact Assessment

11. Background papers

11.1. Government (Access to Information) Act 198

11.1.1. This report contains exempt and non-exempt information. Exempt information is contained in the exempt report and is not for publication. The exempt information is identified in the amended schedule 12 A of the Local Government Act 1972 under the following category (3) information in relation to financial or the business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).