

Report for: Cabinet Member Signing on 1 March 2016

Item number: 3

Title: Extension of Housing Related Support Contract – One Housing Group

Report authorised by: Lyn Garner, Director of Planning, Regeneration and Development

Lead Officer: Mustafa Ibrahim – Head of Commissioning, Investment & Sites

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

To extend the existing contract with One Housing Group for the provision of generic floating support to Haringey residents. The decision to award the contract was made by Cabinet on 16 April 2013. The contract award was for three years with an option to extend for a further year.

2. Recommendations

To extend the current contract at the annual contract value of £664,274 as allowed under Contract Standing Orders 10.02.2 and 16.02 for one year, from 1 August 2016 to 31 July 2017.

3. Reasons for decision

The current contract which expires on 31 July 2016 has the option to extend for one year. Under Contract Standing Orders 10.02.2 and 16.02, Cabinet or Cabinet Members have authority to approve any extensions valued at £500,000 or more.

This contract extension is required to ensure continued support to service users.

4. Alternative options considered

- 4.1** Procurement of a new contract was considered, however it is not expected to deliver any cost efficiencies as the current contract provides good value for money and falls within the regional benchmarked hourly range.

4.2 A further consideration is that the extension period will give the opportunity for the next tender to take into account the recommendations of the Supported Housing Review.

5. Background information

5.1 The current contract commenced on 1 August 2013 and will expire on 31 July 2016.

5.2 The annual contract capacity is 400 floating support units to single people and couples without children.

5.3 The service provides specialist advice on tenancy support, money management, advice on housing options, preventing evictions, benefits and incomes maximisation, council tax and signposting clients to other support agencies.

5.4 Performance has been evaluated as 'good' throughout the contract period; performance returns are completed and submitted on time and targets are met.

5.5 The decision to award the contract from 1 August 2013 was made by Cabinet on 16 April 2013. The contract award was for three years with an option to extend for a further year.

5.6 Re-commissioning of this service is planned, which may incorporate the outcomes of the Supported Housing Review, to ensure a continuation of provision at the end of this contract.

6. Contribution to strategic outcomes

6.1 This service supports Council Priority 5, Creating homes and communities where people choose to live and are able to thrive, and Objective 2, Prevent homelessness and support residents to lead fulfilling lives.

7 Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

7.1 Procurement

7.1.1 The recommendation is in line with the procurement code of Practice.

7.1.2 The Head of Procurement supports the recommendation.

7.2 Finance

7.2.1 The current contract expires on the 31 July 2016 and an extension of one year to 31st July 2017 is now being sought.

7.2.2 There is sufficient provision within the base budget for Housing Related Support to meet the costs of this contract of £664,274 per annum. The spend profile for this contract would be as follows:-

Financial Year	Commitment £
2016/17	442,850
2017/18	221,424
Total	<u>664,274</u>

7.2.3 If this contract extension is approved then it would act as a first call on General Fund resources for these years.

7.2.4 A retendering of these services will take place on expiry of the contract. Regular monitoring of the contract has proven that quality performance targets are being met.

7.3 Equality

7.3.1 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:

- a) Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
- b) Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
- c) Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

7.3.2 This report relates to the extension of a contract for housing related support which was awarded through a competitive tendering process. The service by its nature provides support to vulnerable people, including those with the protected characteristics.

7.3.3. The contract specification clearly sets out the supplier's responsibilities under equalities legislation, including a requirement to have in place up to date equalities policies and to ensure that the service is accessible to all sections of the community.

7.3.4 The contractor had to demonstrate compliance with relevant equalities legislation through a tendering process. The contractor's compliance with equalities legislation is quality assured through regular contract monitoring and service reviews. There is evidence to demonstrate that the contractor meets

the needs of different service users and ensures the service provided is accessible to all sections of the community.

7.4 Legal

7.4.1 Under Contract Standing Orders 10.02.2 and 16.02, Cabinet or Cabinet Members have authority to approve any extensions valued at £500,000 or more.

7.4.2 This is a key decision and the Service has confirmed this is on the Forward Plan.

7.4.3 The Assistant Director of Corporate Governance sees no legal reasons preventing the Cabinet Member from approving the recommendations in the report.

8 Use of Appendices

None

9 Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

a. No Background documents are provided