

Gloucester City Council

INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION RECORD FORM

Date of decision:	02 September 2021		
Title	Award of Contract for Delivery of the 'Enhanced Housing Service' for Rough Sleepers		
Decision Maker	Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy (Councillor Andrew Gravells MBE)		
Date published on Forward Plan	29 July 2021	Date report published	N/A
Wards Affected	All Wards	Key Decision	YES
<p>Decision: Agree to Gloucester City Council awarding a contract to People, Potential, Possibilities (P3) for delivery of an Enhanced Housing Service for rough sleepers, following a procurement process through the countywide Community and Accommodation Based Support (CABS) framework.</p>			
<p>Reason for decision: The Gloucestershire Strategic Housing Partnership has been awarded funding through the Ministry of Housing, Community and Local Government's (MHCLG) Next Steps Accommodation Programme (NSAP) for the provision of accommodation and associated support to rough sleepers. In addition, the Partnership has agreed to fund additional, intensive support for a cohort of rough sleepers with a very high level of support needs who are not suitable for accommodation in the properties supported through NSAP. The support team to cover both cohorts has been combined into a single service known as the "Enhanced Housing Support" service.</p> <p>Since February 2021 Gloucester City Council has been the host organisation for the countywide Housing Partnership Programme Team, and acts as lead contractor on behalf of the Partnership for countywide rough sleeping interventions.</p> <p>This decision follows an invitation to tender issued to the County Council's Community and Accommodation Based Services (CABS) framework, which is available for use by all Gloucestershire local authorities and public agencies. A total of five suppliers had an opportunity to respond to this tender having previously been accepted to the framework. Two suppliers submitted bids for the service. An evaluation panel including representatives from Gloucester City Council and the wider Partnership has concluded that the preferred bid was submitted by P3 and has recommended that an award be made to that supplier.</p> <p>The total value of the contract is £2,067,500 from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2026. This includes a break clause after 12 months and then every 12 months</p>			

thereafter, which is subject to confirmation of continued funding from the MHCLG; ongoing evidence of the need for and suitability of the service; and demonstration of satisfactory performance.

The Enhanced Housing Support service is intended to provide those who have slept rough in Gloucestershire with tailored support to enable them to sustain accommodation and to make progress towards independent living. The service provider is required to provide a core team who provide support to those accommodated in properties funded by the MHCLG's Next Steps Accommodation Programme (NSAP) with the objective of enabling them to sustain NSAP accommodation and identify an appropriate move-on option based on increasingly independent living. Restrictions on the use of the grant provided by the Ministry mean that this team is only able to support clients in NSAP-funded properties. In addition, the provider will be required to deliver a sub-team of more intensive support workers to work with the most complex clients in Gloucestershire. Many of these individuals are not accommodated in NSAP properties due to challenges of co-residing with others and/or risks posed to staff or other residents in these locations. As a result, Gloucestershire local authorities are providing a number of dispersed, self-contained "Housing-Led" properties across the county. The sub-team will work with clients allocated to one of these units whilst they are on the streets to prepare them to move-in, and then help them to develop the skills and stability required to sustain this accommodation longer-term. Both teams will include specialist workers related to addiction issues and challenging behaviours.

The service specification has been prepared by officers from Gloucester City Council and other partners and was scrutinised and endorsed by the countywide Partnership's Oversight Board, which includes representation from all Partner organisations. This contract would replace an initial Pilot Phase contract issued by direct award by Gloucester City for NSAP accommodation and incorporate elements of the existing Navigator Service held by Gloucestershire County Council. The Housing Partnership has agreed that the countywide Programme Team should manage these services going forward.

Alternative options considered:

A tender process has been completed according to procurement regulations and P3 have been identified as the preferred bidder following evaluation and moderation.

We could issue separate contracts for the locally funded Housing-Led team and for the NSAP accommodation team. This option was considered by the team tasked with designing the specification however they concluded that there were benefits to a combined service related to service resilience and management efficiency. A combined service should also enable greater lessons and intelligence sharing across the cohort of service users, as well as providing a degree of flexibility: particularly in terms of sharing specialist knowledge and enabling quick adaptation as the needs of service users are understood.

Representations received: N/A

Other relevant matters concerning the decision:

A Participation Agreement setting out the arrangements by which Gloucester City act as lead contractor for the Partnership is currently being finalised. Its terms have been agreed by legal advisors in all District authorities and at the County Council, and the full agreement is expected to be in place prior to the commencement date for these

services.

People Impact Assessment (PIA):

Screening Stage completed: Yes No

Full PIA required, completed and attached Yes No

Conflicts of interest (including any dispensations granted):

None

Officer/s consulted: Ben Challis (Partnership Programme Manager); Kathy Gibson (County Rough Sleeping Coordinator); Oonagh Laidler (Outcomes Manager, Gloucestershire County Council); Ellie Higgins (Housing Services, Gloucester City Council); Caroline Sutcliffe (Housing Strategy, Cheltenham Borough Council); Roland Halford (Procurement, Gloucester City); Linden Dunham (Legal Advisor, OneLegal).

Background documents: Specification for the Enhanced Housing Support service

Confidential or Exempt Information: Yes No

Name of document(s) which are confidential or exempt : N/A

Scrutiny (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

This decision will come into force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of the publication of the decision.

Call-in Deadline: 21 September 2021


CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD:

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 and is a true and accurate record of that decision:

Decision Maker:

Councillor Andrew Gravells MBE
Cabinet Member for Planning & Housing Strategy

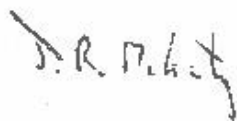
Date: 02 September 2021



Proper Officer:

Jon McGinty
Managing Director

Date: 02 September 2021



CALL-IN PROCEDURE

Call-in should only be used in exceptional circumstances, such as where Members have evidence which suggests that the Cabinet Member did not take the decision in accordance with the principles set out in Article 13 (Decision Making) of the Council's Constitution.

Call-in of a decision must be requested within five working days of the publication of an executive decision. The request must be communicated in writing to a Corporate Directors by at least five Members of the Council.

Implementation of a decision that has been called-in is suspended until such time as it has been considered by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and re-considered by the Cabinet in light of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's conclusions and any recommendations.

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If you have any queries about the content of Decision Records please contact:

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