

Minutes of the meeting of PROCUREMENT AND COMMISSIONING held on TUESDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2015 at 5.33 pm

Present: Councillor Middleton (Chair)
Councillors Clifton, Legg and Miles.

Officers: S Gerrard (Interim Service Director [Legal & Democratic Services]), R Peck (Head of Customer Service), C Southern (Head of Strategic Procurement), J Draper (Senior Practitioner), J Geary (Case Manager [Procurement Team, Legal Services]), R Sharma (ICT Programme Manager), R Trowse (Programme Manager) and T Milner (Committee Manager).

Apologies: Councillors E Gifford, Long, Marland and O'Neill.

Also Present: Councillors D Hopkins and P Geary, and 1 Member of the public.

PC60 MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting of Procurement and Commissioning held on 3 November 2015 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

PC61 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

None declared.

PC62 BENEFITS REALISATION PLAN FOR PROCUREMENT 2015-16

The Committee considered the Benefits Realisation Plan for Procurement 2015/16.

The Committee heard from Councillor Middleton, who indicated that 85 procurement and commissioning contracts had been transacted at a total value of more than £530m during the last 2 years. A new process was in place to scrutinise and monitor contracts more effectively in respect of the benefits realised by the Council.

The Committee heard that a small number of contracts would be reviewed from November 2015 to March 2016 by the Corporate Procurement Team. It was anticipated that a further report would be provided to this Committee in June 2016 by the Head of Strategic Procurement, which included coverage of the 3 contracts selected for review. In particular, she would liaise with Public Health in respect of the Drug and Alcohol Services contract, about the information captured and the possible measures and outcomes that would follow.

RESOLVED -

That the contracts selected in the plan be reviewed to determine whether they have delivered the benefits anticipated at the time the contract was awarded.

PC63 INVITATION TO TENDER – INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC ARRAY ON CIVIC OFFICES AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPOT (REF: CU2508)

The Committee considered inviting tenders for the installation of Solar Photovoltaic Array on Civic Offices and the Environmental Services Depot.

The Committee heard from Councillor Legg, the responsible Cabinet member for Public Realm, who indicated that whilst the installation of the solar panels would contribute to the electricity consumption, it would also generate income and contribute towards the Council's carbon reduction targets over the next 20 years. The Committee recognised that it was both important to look to reduce the overheads of the Council's buildings, and also to meet the requirements of the Climate Change Act 2008

It was reported that tenderers on the ESPO framework would be asked to submit details of what benefits could be provided as part of meeting the requirements of the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

RESOLVED -

That the commencement of a mini competition from the ESPO Framework for the procurement of the supply and installation of Solar Photovoltaic array on the Civic Offices and the Environmental Services Depot, Old Wolverton be approved.

PC64 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting by virtue of Paragraph 3 (Information Relating to the Financial or Business Affairs of the Authority) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, in order that the Committee may consider the Annex to the following report:

Award of Contract – Digital Platform for Online Services (Ref: CU2494)

PC65 AWARD OF CONTRACT – DIGITAL PLATFORM FOR ONLINE SERVICES (REF: CU2494)

The Committee considered awarding the contract for the Digital Platform for Online Services.

The Committee heard from Councillor Middleton, the responsible Cabinet member for Resources and Commercialism, who indicated that the new contract would be procured through the G-Cloud

framework, which would enable the Council to deliver a broader range of online services, than previously provided, whilst also delivering savings estimated at £100,900. It was reported that the proposed contract term was for 2 years, which would expire on 30 November 2017.

The Committee heard that lessons learnt from the previous contract had been built into the new contract, along with soft market testing, supplier engagement. The Council had also worked collaboratively with other local authorities prior to launching the tender. The various outcomes provided the project team with a clearer understanding of the range of products available, software enhancements and the costs involved, together with the opportunity to share future development costs with other local authorities.

The Head of Customer Service reported that the preferred tenderer was fully Public Service Network compliant, and has the appropriate security accreditation. The new technology will be fully integrated with the Council's current business systems. Integration with the digital platform will be a requirement for any future system changes. The Committee was reassured to hear that the Council was serious about its data security and the risks involved.

It was reported that tenderers were asked to submit details of the creative ways that could facilitate and enhance digital inclusion to the Borough as part of meeting the requirements of the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

RESOLVED -

That the contract for the digital platform for online services be awarded to the tenderer who has scored the highest in accordance with the Most Economically Advantageous Tender evaluation.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 6.14 PM