

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:

1883

Author:

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Department:

Children and Families

Contact:

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Subject:

Continuation of No Second Night Out service for fixed period of two years

Total Value:

£100,000 over two years (Type: Revenue)

Decision Being Taken:

1. Approval to dispense with Contract Procedure Rule 5.1.2 in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.29 (Operational Issues) to directly award a contract to Framework Housing Association (HA) to deliver the No Second Night Out service for a period of two years commencing 1st April 2015.
2. Approval for the Director of Early Intervention to directly award the contract and to delegate signing of the contract to Head of Quality & Efficiency.

Reasons for the Decision(s)

No Second Night Out (NSNO) forms part of central government's national strategy to tackle rough sleeping. Initially piloted in London the programme was rolled out nationally in 2013. Nottingham (in partnership with Framework HA) was successful in securing an allocation through the Homelessness Transition Fund to fund an NSNO service for eighteen months and was able to declare itself a NSNO city. The service targeted those new to rough sleeping to prevent individuals from becoming entrenched in rough sleeping lifestyles and associated crime and anti-social behaviour. This contract terminated in August 2014.

Approval is sought to make a direct award of a contract to Framework HA to deliver the NSNO service within the existing Rough Sleeper Enablement service (this is the team that delivered NSNO under the original Central Government funding) for a period of two years. The Rough Sleeper Enablement Service has the required knowledge, skills, local sector connections, management and team structure to deliver the service with very little time needed to re-establish the NSNO service and delivery team. The Rough Sleeper Enablement Service contract is due to end on 30th September 2016 so it is proposed that the NSNO element of that service will have a separate contract for a period of 2 years commencing 1st April 2015 and this contract will continue past the date on which the Rough Sleeper Enablement Service contract expires.

The service will be required to work closely with the Nottingham City Homelessness Prevention Gateway, the Police, Community Protection and other voluntary agencies engaged with rough sleepers e.g. the Street Pastors. The service will be available seven days a week and operate until midnight and will guarantee a response within 24 hours.

Funding of £50,000 per annum would be provided by NCC (allocated from budget N-N-5905-000-475-0), with Framework HA to source a separate £20,000 per annum through fundraising to provide the total finances required to deliver the service.

Other Options Considered:

Do nothing: Funding via the Homeless Transition Fund (central government) has ceased so to do nothing is to lose the NSNO element of the Rough Sleeper Enablement team which proved itself successful, and supported 141 people into accommodation, during the period of funding for NSNO.

Tender the service: As NCC funding for this is not sufficient to cover the whole cost of service delivery, a partner would need to be sought that would be willing, and able, to commit to delivering the service on a tight budget and to cover some of the necessary costs themselves. This is unlikely to be achieved in the context of a two year timescale and the annual budget proposed by NCC.

Background Papers:

Published Works:

Affected Wards:

Citywide

**Colleague / Councillor
Interests:**

**Dispensation from Financial
Regulations:**

Yes

Consultations:

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

**Crime and Disorder
Implications:**

The service, by targeting those new to rough sleeping, will prevent individuals from becoming entrenched in rough sleeping lifestyles and associated crime and anti-social behaviour.

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: The service seeks to work with every single individual in the very specific cohort of new rough sleepers. This may include people who represent any protected characteristics, or none.

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

Yes

Call In Expiry date:

19/03/2015

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance, Procurement

Legal Advice:

There are no significant legal concerns arising from the decision.

The Council may dispense from its need to follow its procurement procedures for operational reasons where the value of the contract is below the EU procurement threshold. The reasons for the dispensation have been set out in the report.

Advice should be sought from Legal Services with regard to the suitability of contract terms to govern this relationship and to clearly set out the contract period.

Although a dispensation can be supported on this occasion legal advice is that clear market testing should take place if this type of service is to continue after the completion of this proposed contract.

Advice provided by Naomi Vass (Senior Solicitor) on 13/02/2015.

Finance Advice:

The cost of the NSNO initiative to Nottingham City Council is £100,000 which will be funded £50,000 per annum in 2015-16 and 2016-17. This will be funded from a budget for homelessness within Housing Options. The balance will be made up by Framework Housing Association which will contribute £20,000 p.a. from government funding in 2015-16 and fundraising in 2016-17. NCC are not liable for providing any additional funding should Framework be unable to provide their contribution.

Advice provided by Julie Dorrington (Finance Analyst (Housing)) on 27/02/2015.

Procurement Advice:

The Rough Sleeper Enablement Service Delivered by Framework Housing Association is able to deliver the service with very little time needed to re-establish the No Second Night Out service delivery team. In addition to the £50,000 per annum funding from NCC, Framework Housing will source a further £20,000 per annum to provide the total finances required to deliver the service.

There are therefore no significant procurement concerns in relation to this decision. I advise that the contract for this service be produced in liaison with the City Council's Legal Team and that it include appropriate contract monitoring and management systems.

Advice provided by Nicola Harrison (Procurement Lead Officer) on 29/01/2015.

Signatures

Dave Liversidge (PH Community Safety, Housing and Voluntary Sector)
SIGNED and Dated: 17/02/2015
David Bishop (Deputy CE, CD for Development and Growth)
SIGNED and Dated: 03/03/2015
Theresa Channell (Head of Corporate and Strategic Finance) - Dispensation from Financial Regulations
SIGNED and Dated: 11/03/2015
Chief Financial Officer's Comments: