

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:

3233

Author:

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Department:

Strategy and Resources

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Subject:

Supported Accommodation for Adult Offenders

Total Value:

£372,992 (Type: Revenue)

Decision Being Taken:

1. To approve dispensation from Contract Procedure Rule 5.1.2 under the Council's Financial Regulations (3.29 Operational Issues) in order to make a direct award of contract to Nacro for the provision of the Supported Accommodation for Adult Offenders service for an initial term of 5 years (commencing 1st July 2018) with the provision to extend for a further 3 years.
2. To approve funding of £46,624 per annum (up to a maximum of £372,992) for the delivery of the service from 1st July 2018.

Reasons for the Decision(s)

Nottingham City Council has recently appointed providers to deliver new services as part of the implementation of a new arrangements for responding to homelessness in Nottingham approved by Leader's Key Decision (ref: 3017) on 1st December 2017. This decision seeks approval for the direct award of contract to Nacro for the provision of a new Supported Accommodation for Adult Offenders service in order to complement these other arrangements. This new service will replace the existing Offender Accommodation for Adults service contracted to Nacro to deliver on behalf of the Council due to expire on 30th June 2018.

The Offender Accommodation for Adults service is a specialist service providing temporary accommodation and support to ex-offenders to alleviate homelessness and to support a return to settled accommodation within the community. The service provides 30 spaces in supported accommodation for this purpose. The approval of this decision will allow for a new contact to be established with Nacro for the provision of an equivalent service at the current service capacity and contract value. Other requirements of the service will be updated in line with similar provision recently commissioned by the Council and will also ensure that access to the service managed is exclusively via referral from the City's Homelessness Prevention Gateway.

A direct award of contract is sought on the basis that premises available for the provision of the new service are currently in use to support adults with offending histories, including those under Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA).

Other Options Considered:

Not to commission a new service to support homeless adults with offending histories. This option is not recommended on the basis that it would reduce accommodation options for homeless adults with offending histories (including those under MAPPA) within the City, risking further homelessness in the City. Ensuring access to this accommodation via the Homelessness Prevention Gateway will also ensure the accommodation is available to people with a local connection to Nottingham.

To run a competitive tender to appoint a provider to deliver the new Supported Accommodation for Homeless Adults service. This option is not recommended on the basis that it is unlikely to provide a better outcome given the potential disruption to accommodation currently in use to support adults with offending histories (including those under MAPPA) and the sensitivities in regard to using alternative premises. The ongoing provision of this service within the current contract value has also been assessed as offering good value for money.

Background Papers:

None.

Published Works:

Delegated Decision 3017 - Social Inclusion Homelessness (December 2017)

Affected Wards:

Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests:

None.

Dispensation from Financial Regulations: Yes

Consultations: Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications: The implementation of this decision ensures the ongoing provision of supported accommodation to help to prevent homelessness amongst prison leavers and adults with histories of offending (including those under MAPPA). The provision of this service is expected to help to reduce crime and support safer communities.

Equality: EIA not required. Reasons: This decision marks the continuation of similar arrangements to provide accommodation and support to homeless adults with histories of offending.

Social Value Considerations: The implementation of this decision will provide social value by providing employment to local residents, and by supporting safer communities by ensuring that appropriate accommodation and support is provided to adults with offending histories.

Decision Type: Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In: No
The call-in procedure does not apply to the proposed decision because the delay likely to be caused by the call in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (or Vice-Chair) in his/her absence has been consulted and agreed both that the decision proposed is reasonable in all circumstances and that it should be treated as a matter of urgency.

Person Consulted: Not applicable
Consultation Date: 14/08/2018
This decision is not subject to call-in as it has already been implemented.

Advice Sought: Legal, Finance, Procurement

Legal Advice: This report seeks authority to make a direct award to Nacro. This type of support service with accommodation is governed by the 'light touch' procurement regime which has a financial threshold of £615K. Services below this value are not caught by the requirement for an advertised tender. Taken in aggregate with the value of services provided since the introduction of the light touch regime in 2015 the value of the contract is below that financial threshold and therefore a direct award can be supported.

Advice provided by Andrew James (Team Leader Contracts and Commercial) on 21/06/2018.

Finance Advice:

This decision seeks approval to extend the current contract for supported accommodation for adult offenders with the current contract provider for a period of 5 years (with the option of +3 years) from 01 July 2018.

The total cost of this decision is £46,624 per annum, up to a maximum of £372,992 (for the 8 year period if the +3 years is pursued).

There is revenue budget provision for this spend within the overall Housing Related Support budgets as incorporated within the Medium Term Financial Plan. The extension of these contracts will not impact the delivery of the required 2018-19 budget savings.

This decision seeks dispensation from Contract Procedure Rules 5.1.2 in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.29 and given the reasons detailed by the report author, it is deemed appropriate in this instance.

Value for money has been secured through the proposed contract extension. Consideration will need to be given towards the end of the 5 year period to ensure that the contract still provides value for money for the organisation and to ensure that an informed decision is made re any contract extension/procurement exercise.

Advice provided by Hayley Mason (Strategic Finance Business Partner) on 21/06/2018.

Procurement Advice:

The value of the award is below the EU procurement threshold (Light Touch Regime). Sensitivities around where this accommodation is located is a key consideration for this service. Therefore, the proposal to dispense with Contract Procedure Rule 5.1.2 in accordance with Financial Regulation (3.29) (Operational Issues) to allow for a direct award to Nacro for the provision of Supported Accommodation for Adult Offenders service for 5 years (and a potential further 3 years) is supported from a procurement perspective.

Advice provided by Julie Herrod (Procurement Officer) on 21/06/2018.

Signatures

Jane Urquhart (PH for Housing and Planning)
SIGNED and Dated: 13/08/2018
Candida Brudenell (Corporate Director for Strategy and Resources)
SIGNED and Dated: 10/08/2018
Theresa Channell (Head of Corporate and Strategic Finance) - Dispensation from Financial Regulations
SIGNED and Dated: 17/07/2018
Chief Finance Officer's Comments: