

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
CABINET – 6 JUNE 2017
REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES)

DISABLED FACILITY GRANT CONTRACT

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 On 1st September 2015, Cabinet agreed to award the contract for Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) to Mears Limited.
- 1.2 The contract was for two years, until 30th September 2017, with an optional one year extension

2 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That the Contract for Disabled Facilities Grants is extended by one year until 30th September 2018

3 Explanation

- 3.1 The key objective of the service is to facilitate applications for Disabled Facilities Grants and loans for essential repairs to the council. They also provide an advice service which ensures people have information about their housing options and where the choice is made, to enable older people, people with disabilities (including children) and those on low incomes to remain living in their homes safely, securely and independently via suitable adaptations.
- 3.2 Support provided will be delivered to people in their own home, regardless of tenure type (other than Council owned, which will be provided directly via the Housing Department)
- 3.3 The contract is demand led and primarily based on assessments by an Occupational Therapist.
- 3.4 Mears Limited have provided an acceptable service duration of the contract and it is considered that issuing tenders at this time when not offer better value to the Council.
- 3.5 There is no further provision to extend the contract (after September 2018), so, subject to agreement of this recommendation, a new tender process will commence in January 2018

Implications

4 Legal Implication(s)

4.1 There was provision for the extension in the original contract notice

5 Financial Implication(s)

5.1 No additional implications. The current contract spend is approximately £350,000 per annum

6 Risk Management Implications

6.1 No additional implications as a result of this recommendation.

7 Security & Terrorism Implication(s)

7.1 No additional implications as a result of this recommendation.

8 Procurement Implication(s)

8.1 As contained within this report.

9 Climate Change Implication(s)

9.1 No additional implications as a result of this recommendation.

10 Link to Corporate Priorities

10.1 I confirm that the subject of this report is directly linked to the Council's Corporate Priority of 'Our Places'.

11 Equality and Diversity

11.1 I confirm that an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) was reviewed prior to the procurement exercise, but that there is no change to the findings. The service is designed to assist disabled people and their carers and the design of the contract ensures that there is improved access to help and advice for this group, therefore there is a positive impact.

Name of author
Title
Date

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27th April 2017