

Classification:
Part 1 – Public

Key Decision:
Yes

Gravesham Borough Council

Report to: Leader of the Executive
Date: 6 February 2015
Reporting officer: Assistant Director - Housing
Subject: Gas Partnering Contract Extension

Purpose and summary of report:

To appraise the Leader of the Executive of the need to approve the extension of the gas partnering contract. Cabinet previously approved entering into the 10 year contract (9 March 2009) for an initial 3 year period followed by seven 1 year periods renewed annually. The initial award of this contract was delayed by a challenge from an unsuccessful tenderer.

Recommendations:

That the Leader of the Executive formally approves the contract renewal and gives delegated authority for the Director of Housing and Regeneration in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing to approve future extensions of this contract.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Term contractors work directly for Gravesham's Operational Services team in providing specialist works not covered by our in-house operations or providing additional resources to carry out day to day works when work loads exceed the in-house capacity. The Gas contract in particular provides for the important Landlord gas checking, servicing and energy efficient boiler replacements.
- 1.2 The preparation of the gas contract was lengthy and incorporated many changes in format and contract details. The procurement of this contract was also undertaken through the OJEU process.
- 1.3 This report seeks authority to allow the process to continue in providing a daily service.
- 1.4 The OJEU process delivers clear tender results. The failure to renew the annual extension without justification could lead to a legal challenge

- 1.5 The council has to have good grounds for not extending the partnering contract as allowed for under the 10 year contract and there is no cost advantage or loss to reviewing this contract earlier.
- 1.6 The Cabinet Member for Housing has been kept informed on performance and is aware of the appropriateness of extending the contract.
- 1.7 Officers regularly monitor the performance of the contractor and support the extension of the contract.

2. Implications

- 2.1 The implications are summarised in Appendix 1 to the report.

3. Background Papers

- 3.1 There are no background papers

Anyone wishing to inspect background papers should, in the first place, be directed to Committee & Electoral Services who will make the necessary arrangements.

Legal	There is landlord's statutory duty to provide annual gas safety checks		
Finance and Value for Money	<p>The Gas Contract Ten year period started on 16 September 2009.</p> <p>The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is the budget for works required under this contract. Energy efficient boiler replacements are budgeted for in Capital works section of the HRA.</p> <p>The tender process was competitive with a measure of quality ensuring value for money.</p>		
Risk Assessment	There is a risk that contracts would not be in place to provide continuity of an essential service.		
Equality Impact Assessment	Screening for Equality Impacts		
	Question	Answer	Explanation
	a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community?	N/A	N/A
	b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper make a positive contribution to promoting equality?	N/A	N/A
	c. What steps are you taking to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		
	<i>In submitting this report, the Chief Officer doing so is confirming that they have given due regard to the equality impacts of the decision being considered, as noted in the table above</i>		
Corporate Business Plan	<p>Housing repairs maintains the quality of homes and supplements the high quality housing service as Area of Focus 7 of the Corporate Business Plan.</p> <p>Area of Focus 9 meeting the housing needs of vulnerable people within Gravesham.</p>		

Crime and Disorder	There are no implications for Crime and Disorder.
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