
Report To:	Policy & Resources Committee	Date:	22 March 2022
Report By:	Interim Director Environment & Regeneration	Report No:	PR/07/22/MM
Contact Officer:	Martin McNab	Contact No:	01475 714246
Subject:	Tender for a Delivery Partner for 2022/2023 Energy Efficiency Scotland: Area Based Schemes		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval to grant delegated authority to the Head of Legal & Democratic Services to accept a tender for a Delivery Partner for the 2022/23 Energy Efficiency Scotland, Area Based Schemes (ABS) Programme as per the Standing Orders for Contracts 20.3 (ii).

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The current Contract for the Delivery Partner for the 2020/2021 ABS Programme is now in the optional extension period and this will expire on 30 June 2022
- 2.2 The tender for the 2022/2023 ABS programme Delivery Partner is currently being prepared for advertising mid-April 2022. The Standing Orders relating to Contracts 20.3 (ii) stipulates that the Committee must approve acceptance of tenders that exceed £1M in value.
- 2.3 The Scottish Government has yet to confirm the exact value of the funding award for the 2022/23 ABS programme however it is expected to be approximately £1.4m in line with previous years. The funding award is expected to be announced by the 1st April 2022.
- 2.4 The current anticipated date of the award of contract is estimated to be 1st July 2022. It is requested that the Committee grants delegated approval to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to accept the most economically advantageous tender on behalf of the Council owing to the timescales around this tender.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee grants delegated authority to the Head of Legal & Democratic Services to accept the most economically advantageous tender for a Delivery Partner for the 2022/2023 ABS Programme, and also subject to further funding from the Scottish Government, accept the optional year extension to the Contract, as per the Standing Orders relating to Contracts 20.3 (ii).

Martin McNab
Interim Head of Covid Recovery & Public Protection

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Local Councils, COSLA and the Scottish Government are working hard to deal with fuel poverty, and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to tackle the threat of climate change. As part of a range of programmes aimed at achieving these objectives, the Scottish Government has developed and funded Energy Efficient Scotland: Area Based Scheme (ABS).
- 4.2 Scottish Ministers have approved the following key objectives for the area-based schemes – reduce fuel poverty; reduce carbon emissions; lever Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding and support the local economy and sustainable local economic development.
- 4.3 The Scottish Government’s two aims for the design of the schemes are to achieve the maximum impact across Scotland in terms of meeting ABS objectives, and within this to make it as fair, speedy and straightforward as it can be.
- 4.4 To achieve the above aims Local Authorities, in line with their Local Housing Strategy, should develop collaborative area based schemes which target the most fuel poor areas beginning with those in most need of assistance. The ABS programme should deliver annual fuel savings, reduce annual CO2 emissions and leverage utility company funding where possible.
- 4.5 From 2013 to date a total of £13,224,495 ABS funding has been awarded to Inverclyde from the Scottish Government, this includes £1,991,983 additional funding awarded due to timeous completion of programmes and ability to achieve spend.

During this time the Council have worked successfully on the following collaborative area based programmes, providing External Wall insulation to 2,381 properties in Inverclyde:

River Clyde Homes - Roxburgh/Wellington Street Greenock, John Street Greenock, Broomhill Greenock, Bardrainey Port Glasgow, Cowdenknowes Greenock and currently Park Farm Port Glasgow

Link Housing Association – Balfour Street Port Glasgow and Bardrainey Port Glasgow

Larkfield Housing Association – Larkfield, Greenock

Oak Tree Housing – Bow Road Greenock, Overton Greenock

5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 The tender for the Delivery Partner for the ABS 2022/2023 Programme will be advertised by April 2022.
- 5.2 It is proposed that, to proceed to award the Contract with an anticipated date of 1st July 2022 delegated authority for this is granted to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial

Effective, full and timely use of Scottish Government Funding is likely to be impacted if the Contract Award is delayed. Funding is external with a minimum of £20K per annum coming to the Council as admin fees.

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

6.2 Human Resources

There are no HR implications related to this proposal

6.3 Legal

There are no legal implications related to this proposal

6.4 Equalities

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

Yes See attached appendix

No This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Services to our customers, full cognisance is taken of equality and diversity processes and procedures, including

- The provision of free and easily accessible advice and information.
- Ensuring awareness of the availability of services.
- Regularly reviewing delivery methods to ensure inclusion.

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.

NO

(c) Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

NO

7.0 Consultations

7.1 None

8.0 Background Papers

8.1 None