
Report To:	Environment and Regeneration Committee	Date:	14 March 2024
Report By:	Director, Environment and Regeneration	Report No:	ENV014/24/SJ/MM
Contact Officer:	Martin McNab	Contact No:	01475 714246
Subject:	Tender for a Delivery Partner for 2024/2025 Energy Efficiency Scotland: Areas Based Schemes		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting
- 1.2 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 2024/2025 Energy Efficiency Scotland, Area Based Schemes (ABS) Programme as per the Standing Orders for Contracts 20.3 (ii).
- 1.3 The current Contract for the Delivery Partner for the 2022/2024 ABS Programme is now in the optional extension period and this will expire on 30 June 2024.
- 1.4 The tender for the 2024/2025 ABS Programme Delivery Partner is currently being prepared for advertising mid-March 2024. The Standing Orders relating to Contracts 20.3 (ii) stipulates that the Committee must approve acceptance of tenders that exceed £1M in value.
- 1.5 The Scottish Government has yet to confirm the exact value of the funding award for the 2024/2025 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 end of March 2024.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee grants delegated authority to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services to accept the most economically advantageous tender for a Delivery Partner for the 2024/2025 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
Public Protection Manager

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 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).
- 3.2 Scottish Ministers have approved the following key objectives for the area-based schemes – support delivery of both the Fuel Poverty and Heat in Buildings Strategies; reduce energy costs; reduce carbon emissions and lever Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 From 2013 to date a total of £16,986,984 ABS funding has been awarded to Inverclyde from the Scottish Government, this includes £2,840,901 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 ABS programmes, providing External Wall insulation to 2,757 properties in Inverclyde:
 - River Clyde Homes - Roxburgh/Wellington Street Greenock, John Street Greenock, Broomhill Greenock, Bardrainney Port Glasgow, Cowdenknowes Greenock and currently Park Farm Port Glasgow;
 - Link Housing Association – Balfour Street Port Glasgow and Bardrainney Port Glasgow;
 - Larkfield Housing Association – Larkfield;
 - Greenock Oak Tree Housing – Bow Road Greenock, Overton Greenock;
 - Park Farm, Port Glasgow (owners only).

4.0 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The tender for the Delivery Partner for the ABS 2024/2025 Programme will be advertised in March 2024.
- 4.2 It is proposed that, to proceed to award the Contract with an anticipated date of 01 July 2024 delegated authority for this is granted to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial	x	
Legal/Risk		x
Human Resources		x
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)		x
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		x
Environmental & Sustainability		x
Data Protection		x

5.2 Finance

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 Years	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					

5.3 Legal/Risk

There are no implications arising as a result of this report.

5.4 Human Resources

There are no direct human resources implications arising as a result of this report.

5.5 Strategic

None.

5.6 Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty

(a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required.

X	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, assessed as not relevant and no EqlA is required. Provide any other relevant reasons why an EqlA is not necessary/screening statement.
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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.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty for the following reasons: Provide reasons why the report has been assessed as not relevant.

(c) Children and Young People

Has a Children’s Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – Assessed as relevant and a CRWIA is required.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve a new policy, function or strategy or recommends a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy which will have an impact on children’s rights.

5.7 Environmental/Sustainability

Public procurement is expected to contribute to climate change targets in compliance with the sustainable procurement duty including annual reporting on how policies and activities contribute to compliance with Public Body duties required by the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

Has a Strategic Environmental Assessment been carried out?

	YES – assessed as relevant and a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.
X	NO – This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme, strategy or document which is like to have significant environmental effects, if implemented.

5.8 Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

X

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

NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 None.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.