

**Report To:** Education & Communities Committee **Date:** 3 May 2016

**Report By:** John Arthur  
Head of Service  
Safer & Inclusive Communities **Report No:** EDUCOM/31/16/JA

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**Subject:** Tender for a Delivery Partner for 2016/2017 HEEPS:ABS Programme

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## 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval to grant delegated authority to the Head of Legal and Property Services to accept a tender for a Delivery Partner for the 2016/2017 HEEPS:ABS Programme.

## 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Contract for the Delivery Partner for the 2014/2016 HEEPS: ABS Programme is due to expire on 31 August 2016.
- 2.2 The Tender for the 2016/2017 HEEPS: ABS Delivery Partner is being prepared for publishing in early April 2016.
- 2.3 The value of the Scottish Government Funding for the HEEPS: ABS 2016/2017 programme is £1,071,261. This funding will be available to the Council in April 2016. The Tender will be advertised as a Works Contract and will state the available funding. Contract Standing Order 9.2 (ii) stipulates that the Committee must approve acceptance of tenders that exceed £500,000.
- 2.3 The current estimated date of the award of contract is June 2016 when Committee is in recess. The next Education & Communities Committee (after the 3 May Committee) is likely to be in early September 2016, subject to agreement by the Council on 2 June. This date is beyond the expiry date of the current contract and would result in insufficient time available to award and mobilise the new contract. It is therefore requested that the committee approve that the Head of Legal and Property Services accept the tender on behalf of the Council.

## 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee grant delegated authority to the Head of Legal and Property Services to accept the most economically advantageous tender for a Delivery Partner for the 2016/2017 HEEPS: ABS Programme and also, subject to further funding from the Scottish Government, accept the optional year extension to the contract for the 2017/18 programme.

**John Arthur**  
Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities

## **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 the Home Energy Efficiency Programme: Area Based Scheme (HEEPS: 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 HEEPS 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 HEEPS: ABS programme should deliver annual fuel savings, reduce annual CO2 emissions and leverage utility company funding where possible.
- 4.5 Inverclyde Council has worked successfully on the following collaborative programmes, providing External Wall insulation to over 1300 properties in Inverclyde between 2013 and current time :

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

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

Larkfield Housing Association – Auchmead Road Greenock

Oak Tree Housing – Bow Road Greenock

## **5.0 PROPOSALS**

- 5.1 The tender for the Delivery Partner will be advertised in April 2016.
- 5.2 It is proposed that, to proceed to award the Contract with an estimated date of June 2016, delegated authority for this be granted to the Head of Legal and Property Services.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS**

### **6.1 Finance**

Effective, full and timely use of Scottish Government Funding is likely to be impacted if the Contract Award is delayed until September 2016.

### **6.2 Legal**

None

### **6.3 Human Resources**

None

### **6.4 Equalities**

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.

## **6.5 Repopulation**

None

## **7.0 CONSULTATIONS**

None

## **8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None