

# Public Document Pack

## Officer Decisions

Friday, 25th June, 2021

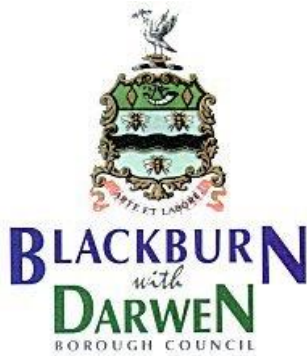
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### AGENDA

1. **RDP - Implementation of Liquidlogic's Group Work module**  
**RDP- Implementation of Liquidlogic's Group Work module** **2 - 3**
  
2. **Supply and installation of solar PV arrays on roofs of various sites**  
**RDP-Supply and installation of solar PV arrays on various sites** **4 - 6**

Date Published: 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021  
Denise Park, Chief Executive

## RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS OUTLINED IN THE CONSTITUTION – Part 3 Section 16



**DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION TAKEN BY:** Paul Fleming  
**PORTFOLIO AREA:** Digital and Customer Services

**SUBJECT: Implementation of Liquidlogic's Group Work module.**

### 1. DECISION

In consultation with the Director of Finance and Customer Services to reallocate £65,000 from the earmarked ICT Capital Reserve to replace the current E-Start and some of the IYSS system functionality with Liquidlogic's Group Work software system.

### 2. REASON FOR DECISION

Liquidlogic has developed new Group Work functionality within the Liquidlogic Children's Social Care System (LCS) and Early Help Module (EHM), which will enable local authorities to create and manage contracts with providers, set up projects linked to the contract and, within the projects, create activities with numbers of sessions allocated to them and issue invitations to activities. The software can be used to manage contracts in both universal and targeted services and provides functionality to track outcomes, milestones and needs against the service user. In this way the council can manage its Group Work in one place, eliminating the need for and saving the cost of a second system. This will also show a more holistic picture of the activities which people and families may be involved in as part of the overall plan they have.

By implementing Group Work this presents an opportunity to have a single-view of the child, better enabling the children's services workforce with the information that they require and overcoming some of the challenges today, such as staff having input into multiple systems and inconsistencies around recording and data.

The new system will reduce the annual maintenance costs paid on the existing systems by a minimum of £14k per annum rising to £18k per annum in year 2 depending on the ability to remove current contributions for one of the systems. The £65k capital costs include new software licences, supplier implementation and IT staff costs whilst working on the project.

Additional benefits include:

- Fully integrated within the Liquidlogic Children's Social Care System (LCS) and Early Help Module (EHM)
- Rationalisation of system usage
- Familiar look and feel for users of Liquidlogic systems
- Holistic and joined up data
- Holistic data reporting capability
- Drive decision making through the system
- Remove/reduce offline processes
- Remove/reduce duplication/rekeying of information

### 3. BACKGROUND

The Local Authority currently uses multiple social care, education and early years systems across its footprint, they are: Liquidlogic children's system (LCS) | Liquidlogic early help module (EHM) | Servelec Synergy education system | Capita One's E-Start early years system | IYSS (Youth System). E-Start is considered to be an inefficient system and unable to provide the business functionality required and as such, it tends to be a system used solely for data storage and cannot drive decisions as Group Work would be able to. In addition, in order to plug the system inefficiencies the business have created manual workarounds which are labour intensive. The new system will be able to replace E-Start and IYSS in part.

**4. KEY ISSUES AND RISKS**

- Operating costs for existing systems are high.
- As there are multiple systems there is no single view of a child.
- There are inefficiencies in the current solutions with manual processes in place.

**5. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

Remain with the current systems – This option was rejected due to the high costs of the current systems and the limited functionality.

Tender for a new system – This option was rejected as the department would lose the opportunity to have a single-view of the child, better enabling the children's services workforce with the information that they require and overcoming some of the challenges today, such as staff having input into multiple systems and inconsistencies around recording and data.

*Further information is available from the report author*

**6. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

All Declarations of Interest of the officer with delegation and the any Member who has been consulted, and note of any dispensation granted should be recorded below:

**VERSION:** 1

<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Peter Hughes</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	10/06/2021
<b>BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:</b>	None

Signed:



**Director Paul Fleming**

**Date: 23/06/2021**

## RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS OUTLINED IN THE CONSTITUTION – Part 3 Section 16



<b>DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION TAKEN BY:</b>	Strategic Director of Place
<b>PORTFOLIO AREA:</b>	Growth and Development

**SUBJECT:** Supply and installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays on the roofs of Blackburn Technology Management Centre, Blackburn Enterprise Centre, Darwen Leisure Centre, Blackburn Leisure Centre, Witton Park Arena and the Data Centre, as part of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Programme.

### 1. DECISION

To appoint U Energy (Yorkshire) Ltd to supply and install solar photovoltaic arrays at the above sites

### 2. REASON FOR DECISION

An invitation to supply and install solar PV arrays on the roofs of six buildings was advertised as an open tender on The Chest, the northwest procurement hub. Seven submissions were received, of which six were compliant bids.

The bids were evaluated on a 70% price and 30% quality basis, which included social value (5%).

Contractor	U Energy (Yorkshire) Ltd	Contractor 2	Contractor 3	Contractor 4	Contractor 5	Contractor 6
Total Score	94%	62%	62%	65%	60%	56%
Ranking	1	2	3	4	5	6

### 3. BACKGROUND

The project is part of a package of schemes funded by the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide from the public sector estate.

The installation of solar PV arrays enables the generation of electricity from sunlight, a renewable and free resource. This reduces the demand for grid electricity by the building, cutting bills and the amount of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emitted in connection with energy consumption. The arrays have been sized to meet building load and ensure that little, if any, electricity is exported to the grid. It is estimated that the arrays will, in total, generate 438,500 kWh (13% of requirement), saving around £60,000 in electricity bills and 92 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> per annum. The last is a small, but significant contribution towards the Council's goal of carbon neutrality by 2030. Payback is just over 5 years.

Roof survey reports indicate that the additional weight of the array can be accommodated at each site. This exercise is repeated by the contractor when the scheme design has been finalised and the reports submitted to the Council for approval.

Mounting is either a ballast system on flat roofs or a clamp system on metal seamed roofs. There should be no reason to compromise roof integrity.

Solar arrays are relatively trouble-free installations and the panels should remain operational for at least 25 years, albeit with a minor annual degradation year on year. Maximum warranties have been specified to reduce the maintenance burden of replacing elements, such as inverters, that have shorter lifespans. The selected contractor has offered the following:

Panels-product	15 years
Panels -power	25 years
Inverters	12 years
Optimiser	25 years
Mounting system(s)	10 years
Generation meter	20 years
Workmanship	5 years

Electrical equipment requires annual service checks. The cost is relatively low (£900 per site pa) and has been capitalised for the first two years after installation.

There are no issues from the Council's insurers in respect of installing solar panels as proposed to the Council owned buildings. Blackburn College has approved the installation on their site as building owners and has advised their insurers of the proposals. There will be a cost for Works In Progress cover, to be advised when the scheme has been finalised.

Applications for Prior Approval have been submitted for 5 sites and a full application for the sixth, the Data Centre.

#### **4. KEY ISSUES AND RISKS**

There key issues are delivery within the timescales set by the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme grant and securing planning permission. The deadline for completion of grant-funded projects is the end of September 2021. This risk will be managed through the contract specification. The contractor proposes to operate two teams, installing at multiple sites simultaneously to meet the programme timescales. The applications for planning permission and prior approval will be considered by the Planning Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> July. Three of the arrays will be visible only from above the building. The other three are on pitched roofs and will be visible from street-level. Every effort has been taken to minimise the impact and avoid directly facing on to the highway. It is hoped, however, that the visible arrays will demonstrate the Council's commitment to energy efficiency and renewable energy.

#### **5. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

The scheme is part of an approved grant application. There is no option for a change of approach without prior approval.

The decision to award the contract is based on the completed tender evaluation. The tender figure of £ £302,499 falls within the budget estimate for the Public Sector Decarbonisation Programme, for which a capital grant has been allocated and was approved by the Executive Board on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

#### **6. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

All Declarations of Interest of the officer with delegation and the any Member who has been consulted, and note of any dispensation granted should be recorded below:

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<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Gwen Kinloch</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2021
<b>BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:</b>	Tender Evaluation

Signed:



**Director: Simon Jones**

**Date: 24 June 2021**