



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

DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION TAKEN BY: Strategic Director - Place
PORTFOLIO AREA: Growth and Development

SUBJECT: Security Services to Blackburn Bus Terminal, Market and Darwen Market

1. DECISION

To approve the contract award of the Security Services for the Bus Terminal and Market Sites via the North of England (NOE) framework (OJEU Reference Number 2018/ OJS199-451963, Lot 1 Security Services - Manned guarding, mobile patrols, key holding and alarm response, reception duties and CCTV monitoring services) for a period of up to 4 years

2. REASON FOR DECISION

Blackburn with Darwen's current contract has now expired and a new, compliant contract is required.

Having considered a variety of options the most effective mechanism to efficiently procure this service is via an existing accredited framework. The two respective service leads have confirmed that they are very happy with current supplier, more importantly with the staff providing the service to the three sites due to their respective experience having been in situ since the latter part of 2012. This route affords a well-established method of procurement which is further detailed below, enabling the Council to call-off the continued service required, ensure continuity of service through the same personnel and that all levels of service are met and continue to a high standard.

Advantages of using the NOE framework are:

- **No access fees** – The framework is free for the Council to use
- **Provides a compliant route** – This framework has undergone a tendering process in compliance with Public Contract Regulations 2015; this removes the need for the Council to undertake a full tendering process, therefore reducing the timescales to put the service in place.
- Suppliers approved on to the framework were assessed during the procurement process for their financial stability, track record, experience, and technical and professional ability (SIA and ISO9001), before being awarded a place on the framework.
- As part of the tendered framework, NOE have analysed the rates being paid to staff to ensure they are in line with legislation. The NOE Category Team continue to monitor and check the suppliers on the framework.
- **Direct Award** – the Council can make a direct award based on the framework Award Criteria and Price Schedule
- Pre-agreed conditions – The suppliers appointed on the framework have agreed to NHS Terms and Conditions.
- **Flexibility** – the Council is not tied to the framework for the 4year period. Should our requirements change, with a reasonable notice period, arrangements can cease.

The notice period of 3 months will be specified within the call off agreement between the Council and Supplier in accordance with the North of England Terms and Conditions set out (ref 15 – Term and Termination - pages 17-20) with no financial penalty to the Council.

- **Costs remain static** - consistent with the rates currently being paid to the supplier

Duration of this Framework Contract is 01/03/2019 – 28/02/2022 (with option to extend for a further 1 x 12 month period) and so Blackburn with Darwen BC can compliantly contract with the Supplier, on this framework for a period of up to 4 years from this point in time.

3. BACKGROUND

A full OJEU tender was completed in 2012, via the Procurement Section for this supply area with Profile Security being the highest scoring bidder and have provided the Authority with a consistent good standard of service since award. The Security Officers in particular are a valuable asset to the effective delivery of the service operationally.

The service requirements at all 3 sites is for a visible Security Officer Patrol and presence (on foot) during operating hours to give both customers / service users, market traders and bus terminal staff the necessary re-assurance, security and loss prevention needed to combat / mitigate a number of frequent issues at the sites with regard to assaults, thefts, anti-social behaviour, drug dealing / substance misuse, rough sleepers, begging, mental health issues and first aid requirements as part of wider Town Centre issues / initiatives to reduce / manage and to link in with the wider Town Centre security / monitoring and support agencies.

Current expenditure for the twelve month period February 2020–March 2021 inclusive being £192,253 (although this had increased by approximately £53k from the previous 12month period due to additional hours required as a result of the Covid19 pandemic).

There has been a small increase in rates from April 2021 in response to legislative changes.

4. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Other frameworks were considered (Eastern Shires Procurement Organisation and Crown Commercial Services) –but were rejected as the NOE framework offers approved suppliers to both frameworks the lowest levy, which in turn supports ongoing cost effectiveness to the Authority and has the ability to direct award to the current supplier ensuring business continuity.

Tendering our own contract was also considered – cost to undertake is estimated at circa £30k for a tender of this value in officer time and resource. There would be a risk of losing the expertise and experience of existing security officers should a new contractor be awarded the framework – and the risk of service disruption through the transition period.

Further information is available via the following link [] or from the report author

5. 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
-----------------	---

CONTACT OFFICER:	Maxine Edwards – Contracts and Procurement Officer
-------------------------	--

DATE:	9 th July 2021
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:	

Signed:



Strategic Director

Date: 12/7/2021