

WEST, DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**Report by Strategic Lead – Resources****Tendering Committee: 26 June 2019**

Subject: Contract Authorisation Report – West Bridgend Warden Call System

1. Purpose

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the Tendering Committee to authorise the Strategic Lead - Regulatory to conclude the award of the contract for West Bridgend Warden Call System.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1** It is recommended that the Tendering Committee:

- a) Authorise the Strategic Lead Regulatory to conclude on behalf of West Dunbartonshire Council, the award of the contract for West Bridgend Warden Call System to Tunstall Healthcare (UK) Limited; and
- b) Note that the contract shall be for a period of 12 weeks and at a value of £96,946 excluding VAT.

3. Background

- 3.1** West Dunbartonshire Council (the Council) requires a new warden call system to support the provision of the sheltered housing service to eighty properties within the three high rise buildings at West Bridgend, Dumbarton. Although the current system is still operational, it can't be supported on an ongoing basis as spares parts and replacement units are not available.
- 3.2** The budget for the replacement of West Bridgend Warden Call System was approved at Council on 5 March 2018. This procurement exercise has been conducted in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and *The Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2016* for Works. A Contract Strategy document was also approved by the Business Partner, Strategic Procurement (Corporate Indirects) on 5 February 2019.

4. Main Issues

- 4.1** As part of the Contract Strategy development two technical options were considered: mobile technology solution (Global System for Mobile (GSM)); and a hard-wired solution. The options appraisal which was done on these technical options identified the Tunstall Hard Wired System as the preferred option at this site. The main reasons for this can be summarised as follows:

- On-site trials of the GSM communication system, found that the signal was intermittent and unreliable when tested from various parts of the site. This was attributed to the metal cage structure of the building which is not compatible with this type of technology. This would present a significant risk to residents who require the security of having a reliable signal at all times in the event of an incident.
- Other suppliers can provide hard-wired technology but peripherals would require testing to ensure they would operate within the constraints of the metal cage within the buildings. There would be costs associated with re-training of staff and the need for staff to carry peripherals for two systems at all times as wardens cover sites across the Council and all other sites currently have the Tunstall technology.
- Any new installation must be compatible with the equipment at East Dunbartonshire Council's (EDC) ARC; which uses Tunstall Healthcare (UK) Limited equipment. EDC have no plans to change from Tunstall Healthcare (UK) Limited and Tunstall Healthcare (UK) Limited are in the process of upgrading the ARC installation. The ARC automatically detects the peripherals, making the connection quick and reliable and removing the need for manual input of data. By having Tunstall Healthcare (UK) Limited as the end to end provider it ensures that the Council has a seamless system that increases efficiency and reduces any conflict when faults occur.

4.2 Tunstall Healthcare (UK) Limited was invited to submit a full tender which has been evaluated by representatives from West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership (WD HSCP), Housing Asset & Investment Team, Consultancy Services, Corporate Procurement Unit (CPU) and Finance Services against pre-determined selection criteria forming part of the published direct award documents which assessed competence, experience, and capacity. The procurement documentation also included questions on the delivery of the contract. Tunstall Healthcare (UK) Limited's submission passed the selection criteria.

4.3 It is recommended that the contract is awarded to Tunstall Healthcare (UK) Limited of Whitley, Yorkshire. The contract shall be for a period of 12 weeks at a value of £96,946, ex VAT. The value of the contract will be met by funding available in the Special Needs Adaptations Budget.

4.4 Tunstall Healthcare (UK) Limited has committed to follow Fair Working practices and pay all of their employees the UK Living Wage or above.

4.5 Tunstall Healthcare (UK) limited has committed to delivery of the following social benefits as a result of delivery of this contract:

- Uplift the same amount of plastic from the Council as delivered and recycle the plastic in a sustainable way.

5. Options Appraisal

5.1 As advised in section 4.1 above,

6. People Implications

6.1 There are no people implications.

7. Financial and Procurement Implications

7.1 Financial costs in respect of this contract will be met from the Housing Revenue Account Special Needs Adaptations Capital Budget. It is expected that the new solution would generate cost reductions of around £3,000 per year compared to current provision.

7.2 This procurement exercise was conducted in accordance with the agreed contract strategy produced by the CPU in close consultation with WD HSCP officers and the provisions of Contract Standing Orders, the Financial Codes and relevant procurement legislation.

8. Risk Analysis

8.1 The recommended supplier has no known links to Serious and Organised Crime which would have significant political and reputational ramifications for the Council.

8.2 Should the Tendering Committee decide not to proceed as recommended then this will delay the project, may have financial implications and may result in legal challenge.

9. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

9.1 An equalities screening was undertaken for this reports to determine if there is an equalities impact. The results were that there is no equalities impact.

10. Strategic Assessment

10.1 The provision of the West Bridgend Warden Call System will contribute to delivery of the following Council strategic priorities:

- Efficient and effective frontline services that improve the everyday lives of residents - best use of technology, resources, assets and our estate to support service delivery; and
- Supported individuals, families and carers living independently and with dignity:
 - increased investment in our housing stock to create sustainable and flexibility for residents and tenants;
 - our communities have improved health outcomes

- unpaid carers' needs are supported.

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Date: 5 June 2019

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Background Papers: The Contract Strategy
EIA Screening
Options Appraisal

Wards Affected: Dumbarton