

Part A or Part B

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: Monday, 6 July 2020

Report author: Head of Housing

Title: Procurement Exemption - Medium Complex Needs Intensive Support Service

1.0 Summary

1.1 The government's "Everyone In" campaign required all local authorities to provide safe and self-contained accommodation to rough sleepers in order to mitigate a public health risk due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The council was able to secure rooms in hotel accommodation in Watford from the last week of March to date. The arrangement in one hotel comes to an end on 30 June 2020. Alternative accommodation provision is being sought for the rough sleepers currently accommodated. Many of this cohort need support with complex needs. The council does not wish to see any of the individuals accommodated return to rough sleeping.

1.2 In early June 2020, One YMCA proposed a 12 month pilot Medium Complex Intensive Support Service (MCISS) aimed at rough sleepers comprising 22 bed spaces located at their Charter House facility in central Watford which could be mobilised and ready for occupation by 30 June 2020. A contract price was agreed which would cover the support and mobilisation costs of the scheme.

1.3 Because of the very short timeframe available (30 June) it was not possible to go out to tender for this project. In addition, One YMCA is the only local provider with suitable, available accommodation and support resources within Watford to assist with the target cohort.

1.4 A Procurement Exemption to the Council's Procurement Procedures was agreed on 11 June 2020 for the council to procure the MCISS.

2.0 Risks

2.1

Nature of risk	Consequence	Suggested Control Measures	Response (treat, tolerate, terminate or transfer)	Risk Rating (combination of severity and likelihood)
The MCISS is not delivered by 30 June	Rough sleepers with complex needs currently in hotels	The council to continue paying for hotel accommodation	Treat	4 (4*1)

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	may return to the streets			

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 That Cabinet notes the Approved Exemption to the Council's Procurement Procedures in relation to the Medium Complex Intensive Support Service set out in Appendix A.

Further information:

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Report approved by: Tom Dobrashian, Group Head of Placeshaping

4.0 Detailed proposal

4.1 Details of the Exemption can be found in Appendix A to this report along with an extract of the council's Contract Procedure Rules as they relate to Exemptions.

5.0 Implications

5.1 Financial

5.1.1 The Shared Director of Finance comments that the support and mobilisation costs are fully covered through existing budgets.

5.2 Legal Issues (Monitoring Officer)

5.2.1 The Group Head of Democracy and Governance comments that that under the Council's contract procedure rules exemptions can be agreed in exceptional circumstances and where there is a limited market. The rules require that all exemptions are reported to Cabinet and recorded in a central register held by the Corporate Procurement Manager.

5.3 Equalities, Human Rights and Data Protection

5.3.1 Under s149 (1) of the Equality Act the council must have due regard, in the exercise of its functions, to the need to –

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act

- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share them
- foster good relations between persons who share relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share them.

As part of the review of this 12 month pilot MCISS, and equalities impact assessment will be undertaken.

Having had regard to the council's obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018, it is considered that officers are not required to undertake a Data Processing Impact Assessment (DPIA) for this report. The contract between the council and One YMCA will include that both organisations are joint data controllers for the MCISS.

5.4 Staffing

5.4.1 There are no staffing implications from this report.

5.5 Accommodation

5.5.1 There are no accommodation implications from this report.

5.6 Community Safety/Crime and Disorder

5.6.1 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the council to give due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of its functions on crime and disorder in its area and to do all it reasonably can to prevent these. The provision of the MCISS will be a valuable contribution towards reducing rough sleeping in Watford and any associated anti-social behaviour and crime.

5.7 Sustainability

5.7.1 There are no sustainability implications from this report.

Appendices

- Appendix A – Procurement Exemption – One YMCA – Medium Complex Intensive Support Service

Background papers

No papers were used in the preparation of this report.