

Officer Non Key Executive Decision

Relevant Chief Officer (Decision Maker):	Karen Smith, Director of Adult Services
Relevant Cabinet Member (for consultation purposes):	Councillor Amy Cross, Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Health
Report Author (Officer name and title):	Jenna Douthwaite, Contracts Officer
Implementation Date of Decision:	29 January 2018

CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF BACKGROUND CARE AND SUPPORT WITHIN EXTRA CARE HOUSING SCHEMES

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To approve the appointment of I Care (GB) Ltd as the contractor for the provision of background care and support within Elk and Tulloch extra care housing schemes, following completion of an OJEU (Official Journal of the European Union) tendering exercise.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To approve the appointment of I Care (GB) Ltd of Kincaig Road, Blackpool, FY2 0PJ as the contractor for the provision of background care and support within extra care housing schemes. The contract is for a period of 2 years with the option to extend for a further 3 years subject to budget and satisfactory review.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 I Care (GB) Ltd provided the most economically advantageous tender and demonstrated how they will deliver the requirements of the service in line with the specification.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is:

“Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Blackpool Council works in partnership with Great Places Housing Association to provide two Extra Care Housing Schemes in Blackpool: Tulloch Court, Cherry Tree Road and Elk View Court, Ashfield Road. Great Places is the Landlord and Blackpool Council commissions the care provision within these schemes.

5.2 Both schemes have self-contained rental apartments and communal facilities. The contract with the current provider is coming to an end and we wish to appoint a care provider to provide 150 hours of care per week at each scheme and a nightly sleep in at each scheme.

5.3 Background care and support staff will be on site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in case of an emergency and to supply ongoing background care such as welfare checks.

5.4 A 4-week enhanced service will also be delivered as part of background support for residents who require an enhanced level of support over the short-term e.g. returning to the scheme following a hospital admission.

5.5 A formal OJEU tendering exercise was undertaken during December 2017 to select a contractor to provide background care and support. The Council invited tenders through its e-tendering portal (The Chest), in a single stage process (Open Tender).

5.6 A total of 46 suppliers registered an interest and 7 submitted a tender response. After the evaluation I Care (GB) Ltd provided the best overall tender for the requirement and it is the Council's intention to enter into a formal agreement.

5.7 Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

5.8 List of Appendices:

None.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 The procurement exercise has been carried out in line with the Contract Procedure Rules and Public Contract Regulations 2015 and authority has been sought from the Head of Procurement. The Council will enter into a formal contract with the successful supplier.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 TUPE information was published as part of the tender documentation and the change of provider may give rise to a transfer of staff.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 A credit report has been obtained from Mint UK and the resulting supplier's credit rating was secure.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 The Contractor has signed Blackpool Council's Supplier Charter which includes a commitment to consider how they can make a positive contribution to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of Blackpool in order to help achieve Blackpool Council's priorities.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Key internal stakeholders were engaged on the evaluation panel.

12.2 The Portfolio Holder for Adults is Councillor Cross who will be consulted as necessary by the Commissioner.

13.0 Decision of Chief Officer

13.1 To approve the appointment of I Care (GB) Ltd.

14.0 Reasons for the Decision of the Chief Officer

14.1 I Care (GB) Ltd provided the most economically advantageous tender and demonstrated how they will deliver the requirements of the service in line with the specification.