

## Record of officer decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	Direct award of contract to Herefordshire Vennture to deliver a street based link work service to rough sleepers and other vulnerable people in Herefordshire.
<b>Date of decision:</b>	05.06.2020
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Director for Adults and Communities
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	The chief executive's scheme of delegation, SA08 Housing and homelessness support and solutions
<b>Ward:</b>	County wide
<b>Consultation:</b>	None
<b>Decision made:</b>	To make a direct award of contract to Herefordshire Vennture to provide support using a link worker approach to facilitate finding long term solutions for rough sleepers and others at risk for a maximum period of 30 months and maximum value of £92,800.
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	As part of Herefordshire Council's response to the COVID 19 crisis, temporary accommodation and support has been arranged for rough sleepers in Herefordshire. The recovery aspect of this response requires a model of support to provide long term, permanent solutions. As part of a multi-agency response Herefordshire Vennture have been providing support and is able to mobilise promptly to ensure continuity of this provision in the recovery phase.
<b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b>	<p>The government's Rough Sleeping Strategy sets out its plans to half rough sleeping by 2022 and eradicate it by 2027 through three key themes: Prevention, Intervention and Recovery. This service will support progress towards realisation of this ambition in Herefordshire by seeking to find medium term and then permanent, safe and secure housing for those currently housed during the COVID 19 crisis.</p> <p>The service commissioned from Herefordshire Vennture complements the statutory provision of the council and other key partners by developing trusted relationships and then linking individuals to the appropriate statutory service. The Local Government Association document "Adult Safeguarding and Homelessness: a briefing on positive practice" provides a broad spread of examples regarding the positive outcomes from a multi-agency partnership working in action to support homeless individuals. (page 21 - <a href="https://www.local.gov.uk/adult-safeguarding-and-homelessness-briefing-positive-practice">https://www.local.gov.uk/adult-safeguarding-and-homelessness-briefing-positive-practice</a>)</p> <p>A direct award to Herefordshire Vennture for the delivery of this service is to be made as this service forms part of the</p>

	<p>council's recovery aspect of the COVID 19 response. Therefore the use of the CPR Waiver: 03/20, is utilised to ensure that urgent needs of the rough sleeping community are met as part of the local COVID 19 emergency response.</p> <p>The service will be funded from part of the Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) grant awarded to the council by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for tackling rough sleeping. Of the total £353,440 revenue aspect of the grant, £92,800 will be allocated to fund the street based link work service.</p>
<p><b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b></p>	<p><b>1.</b> To do nothing. This option is not recommended as it would contribute to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) making individuals homeless at the conclusion of the emergency period; or</li> <li>b) the continuing cost of accommodating homeless people in bed and breakfast or hotel facilities, which is not sustainable beyond the immediate Covid19 emergency.</li> </ul> <p>This could place the individuals concerned at risk and expose the council to potential financial, legal and reputational damage should the health of these people deteriorate significantly as a result.</p> <p><b>2.</b> To deliver the service in house. This is not recommended as the specific service complements and links individuals to statutory services, including Herefordshire Council's Housing Solutions Team. This service will form relationships and support homeless people in a way that is more credible if provided by the voluntary sector. This multi-agency response is recognised as good practice, as referenced above.</p> <p><b>3.</b> To procure by means of full open tender process. The CPR Waiver 03/20 is being applied as a quick resolution is required to respond to the current emergency and the specific impact to those in homeless and housing need. It is apparent that Herefordshire Vennture are the only organisation in a position to immediately mobilise and deliver this particular service to complement statutory provision for this vulnerable group. They are currently working in this way with Herefordshire Council's Housing Solutions Team.</p>
<p><b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b></p>	<p>None</p>

Signed..... Date: 12 / 06 / 2020