

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Commissioning of professional advice to complete development, technical and valuation services via a call off contract. The cost of the contract is up to £150,000
Date of decision:	9 November 2021
Decision maker:	Chief Finance Officer
Authority for delegated decision:	<p>Cabinet decision on 5 May 2021 approved the creation of a Housing Pipeline Investigation Account with a budget of up to £350,000 which could be utilised to procure technical services to undertake initial site studies for sites in third party ownership to advance the creation of a pipeline of developable sites.</p> <p>Link to decision: http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50037287</p>
Ward:	All Wards
Consultation:	The Cabinet Member Housing, regulatory services and community safety, Commercial Services and Legal Services have been consulted and confirmed that the decision may be taken
Decision made:	That the work required on the development, technical and valuation service is commissioned from Avison Young. They were selected following an ITT process via the Homes England Framework. The work will be undertaken via a call off contract up to a value of £150,000.
Reasons for decision:	<p>The council is keen to progress the investigation of delivering affordable housing as quickly as possible. Expert advice is required to inform decisions regarding potential sites ahead of any decision to purchase any third party owned sites for housing schemes across Herefordshire.</p> <p>Avison Young have the expertise in this area and are able to complete a Red Book Valuation and initial assessment of the site.</p> <p>The council has opted to use an ITT via the Homes England Framework to assess the value for money of this contract. The procurement process complied with the council's contract procedure rules for a contract of this value.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	Not awarding this work to Avison Young would compromise the council's ability to deliver on time, utilising the services of a procured partner is considered value for money.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Commission this work in house. This option has been rejected as the council does not have sufficient capacity or expertise in house and this approach would potentially put the council at risk with any site purchase due to the lack of expertise and knowledge.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed:

Andrew Lovegrove
Section 151 Officer

Date: 9 November 2021