

## Record of operational decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	Award of Housing Related Floating Support Service contract
<b>Date of decision:</b>	29/11/2023
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Corporate Director Community Wellbeing
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	<p>The key decision made by Cabinet on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023 authorised the Director to award a contract for a Housing Related Floating Support Service for a period of up to 53 months from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2028 with a maximum total cost of £675,008.</p> <p><a href="#">Decision - Accommodation based and floating support services - Herefordshire Council</a></p>
<b>Ward:</b>	Countywide
<b>Consultation:</b>	Engagement has taken place with current users of the Housing Related Floating Support Service along with internal and external stakeholders, this supported and informed the development of the service.
<b>Decision made:</b>	To award a contract to Connexus for the provision of a Housing Related Floating Support Service for a period of up to 53 months. The maximum full term cost of the service for the period is £668,387.42
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	<p>The procurement was conducted in line with the above threshold process as set out in the council's Contracts Procedure Rules, the specification of requirements was issued via the council e tendering portal. 9 bids were deemed compliant and these were evaluated in line with the criteria set out within the tender documentation.</p> <p>Following confirmation of the evaluators' scores and completion of the due diligence checks the council will now enter into a contract with Connexus to deliver a Housing Related Support Service. The service is commissioned as part of the council's approach to preventing and relieving homelessness and supports the council to fulfil its duties under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 and the council's commitment to its care leavers as Corporate Parent.</p>
<b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b>	<p><b>Health and Safety</b> The commissioned provider will be expected to work to the same health and safety standards and codes of practice as the council, as far as is reasonably practicable.</p> <p><b>Finance</b> Funding for the commissioning of the service has been approved as part of the governance process.</p> <p><b>Equality</b> The provision of a commissioned Housing Related Floating Support service specifically benefits those who are vulnerable and in housing crisis. There is no specific indication that any group with protected characteristics is negatively impacted in the service provision. The effect of not</p>

	<p>commissioning this service would result in an increase in homelessness applications and a decline in the health and wellbeing of the vulnerable who access the floating support service.</p> <p><b>Legal</b> The council has conducted a compliant procurement process and an outcome has been identified based on the results of the evaluation carried out by the Evaluation Panel.</p>
<p><b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b></p>	<p>The service is not re-commissioned. This option is not recommended as the contract forms part of the council’s approach to preventing and relieving homelessness and supports the council to fulfil its duties under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 and the council’s commitment to its care leavers as Corporate Parent. The impact of not providing the service would result in an increase in homelessness applications to the council. Not recommissioning the service would also be a lost opportunity to improve outcomes for very vulnerable individuals and would be detrimental to the council’s ability to comply with its duties under homelessness legislation.</p> <p>The contracts with the existing providers are extended. This option is not practicable as the existing contract does not contains an option to extend. This option would also not enable the council to bring together two separately commissioned services that provide Housing Related Floating Support service and Outreach enabling efficiencies to be made, the development of the delivery model and maximising usage throughout the county.</p>
<p><b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b></p>	<p>No Declarations of Interest made.</p>

Signed..... Date:

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