



Report to:

Northwards Housing Board

11th April 2006

Item No:

9

Title:	Procurement Update		
Date:	11 th April 2006		
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Confidential:	No		
For: (Please tick action required)	NOTING √	DISCUSSION √	APPROVAL

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Board on the current stage of our two procurement exercises and outline the key dates for the next stages of the two procurement exercises.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board agree to a special Board meeting between 26th and 29th April to approve the preferred bidder for the Framework Contract procurement.

IMPLICATIONS

Equality & Diversity:	None directly
Financial:	None directly
Staffing:	None directly
Decency Target:	None directly
Governance:	None directly

Equality & Diversity Implications (Please tick where relevant):

BME	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elderly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Parents	<input type="checkbox"/>
Young	<input type="checkbox"/>	Domestic Violence	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alcohol / Drug Mis-users	<input type="checkbox"/>

Consultation/Consideration:

	Yes, No or N/A:	Name:	Date:
Sub-Committee:	N/A		
Area Panel:	N/A		
Ward Councillors:	N/A		

PROCUREMENT UPDATE

1. Introduction

This report follows on from the last procurement report made to the Board on 17th January 2006.

2. Framework Contract Option

2.1 This is the JVC procurement. Three bids were received on the 16th March 2006.

2.2 The evaluation of these bids is underway and will continue until 19th April 2006.

2.3 We have a number of people involved in assessment:-

- a) Financial – Alison Foster, Head of Finance
- b) Partnership Working – Robin Lawler, Chief Executive
Larry Patrick, Director of Property Services
- c) Responsive Maintenance- Joan Fitzgerald, Board Member
Sue Sanderson, Principal Surveying Services
Manager
Steve Gill, Principal Surveyor
- d) Decent Homes Plus - Richard Lockwood, Board Member & Vice Chair
Matt Roberts, Asset & Procurement Manager
David Heys, Technical Services Manager

2.4 The next steps timetable is then:

- Boards agreement on preferred bidder 29th April 2006-03-29
- Alcatel cool off period 1st - 15th May 2006
- Appointment of preferred bidder 16th May 2006
- Negotiations 16th May – 28th July 2006
- Commercial and Financial Close 29th July 2006
- Followed by agreed start on site End of August

2.5 The timescales for this decision are incredibly tight. The assessment and evaluation of the three bids will continue up to and including 19th April 2006. There is then the decision to make, a report to be written, the Board need to see the papers in advance and we need to tell the three bidders the outcome before the cool off period begins on 1st May 2006.

This means that allowing 20th for the decision, the 21st to write the report and seven days advance notice, that the Board need to meet to make the appointment on the 28th or 29th April, allowing the bidders to be informed on 30th April. As this would be a one item special meeting then the window could be extended to 26th and 27th if the papers could go out five days in advance rather than the normal seven.

3. Framework Agreement Option

- 3.1 This is the joint procurement, initially with Parkway Green Housing Trust.
- 3.2 Twelve bids were received on 7th March 2006.
- 3.3 The evaluation of these bids is well underway and will continue until 28th April 2006.
- 3.4 We have a number of people involved in assessment:

- Richard Lockwood – Board member and Vice Chair
- Joan Fitzgerald – Board Member
- David Heys – Technical Services Manager
- Matt Roberts – Asset and Procurement Manager

- 3.5 The next steps timetable is then:

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|---|--|
| • Site Visits / reality checks | 1 st May to 12 th May 2006 |
| • Notify bidders | 15 th May to 19 th May 2006 |
| • Cool off period | 22 nd May to 5 th June 2006 |
| • Exchange Partnering Contract | 7 th August to 18 th August 2006 |
| • Allocate 1 st Work Package | 21 st August to 15 th September 2006 |

- 3.6 In addition, there will be a need to appoint a Chair of the Framework Management Board (12th May 2006) and agree terms of reference for the Framework Management Group (29th May 2006).
- 3.7 Northwards Housing Board needs to approve the successful bidders and also needs to approve their involvement within the Framework Management Board. This will be done at the May Board meeting.

4. Recommendation

It is recommended that a special meeting of the Northwards Housing Board is convened between 26th and 29th April, 2006 to approve the preferred bidder for the Framework Contract procurement.