



Report to:

Northwards Housing Board
15th August 2006

Item No:

9c

Title:	Procurement of Energy Partner		
Date:	26 th July 2006		
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Confidential:	No		
For: (Please tick action required)	NOTING √	DISCUSSION	APPROVAL
PURPOSE OF REPORT			
The report set out the criteria used to select a partner to deliver Northwards Housing energy requirements in meeting Decent Homes, improving the awareness of energy usage for Northwards Housing residents and reducing fuel poverty.			
RECOMMENDATION			
That the Board approve Northwards Housing entering into the proposed partnership with British Gas.			
If accepted by the Board it is requested that the partnership be accepted on behalf of Northwards Housing by the Chief Executive or the Director of Property Services.			
IMPLICATIONS			
Equality & Diversity:	There are no implications		
Financial:	There are financial to Northwards Housing as grant will be procured through the partnership.		
Staffing:	There are no implication on staffing		
Decency Target:	This will assist in reaching Northwards Housing Decency Target for 2010		
Governance:	There are no implications		
Risk Assessment:	This is not a primary risk area.		

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:	Yes	Procurement & Property	26 July 2006
Area Panel:	No		
Ward Councillors:	N/A		

1. Introduction

1.1 Northwards Housing Property Services Procurement Section has worked with Manchester Housing Energy Group. After initial consultation an invitation to negotiate was issued to eight energy companies. Following the initial invitation six companies responded three declined the offer and gave their apologies. Three replied requesting to be considered as partners.

1.2 Northwards Housing interviewed the three Specialists in the energy field;

EAGA Partnership
Powergen
British Gas

After the interviews all three were asked to submit detailed proposals for further evaluation.

1.3 Three members of Northwards Housing evaluated the proposals against a set criteria and scored each section;

Available Grant, score 1 to 5
Delivery Capability, score 1 to 5
Additional Services, score 1 to 5
Customer Focus, score 1 to 5

See Appendix 1;

1.4 The partnership will enable Northwards Housing to access benefits and improve the energy efficiency of resident's homes. Works proposed include;

Cavity Wall Insulation
Loft Insulation
Benefit Health Checks

These works were identified in Northwards Housing business plan and required to meet the Decent Homes Standard. The works will also assist in relieving fuel poverty.

Northwards Housing has programmed funding identified in the five year business plan to deliver these works. However, by working in partnership the costs of these works will be reduced by maximising the grants available.

2. Proposals

2.1 During the selection process EAGA Partnership came out very high in the evaluation. The grant funding submitted in the EAGA Partnership proposal was the highest of any of the three proposals. However, the grant submitted by EAGA Partnership was only anticipated and without guarantee. The other grant funding submissions were actual and at this point in time guaranteed.

2.2 Two out of the three evaluations scored British Gas as the preferred option with one scoring the EAGA Partnership as the preferred option.

Taking into account the funding issue it is recommended that British Gas be selected as the energy partner of Northwards Housing.

3. Conclusion

3.1 Northwards Housing should enter into partnership with British Gas and develop a programme of works, outlining what is required in priority order.

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 That the Board approve Northwards Housing entering into the proposed partnership with British Gas.

4.2 On acceptance by the Board it is requested that the partnership be accepted on behalf of Northwards Housing by the Chief Executive or the Director of Property Services.

Paul Maidment
Asset & Procurement Manager