

REPORT FROM: CORPORATE DIRECTOR

TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: 17TH DECEMBER, 2020

Report Author: Lynne Rowland (Committee Administrator)

Tel. No: 01282 661648

E-mail: lynne.rowland@pendle.gov.uk

TENDERS AND OTHER CONTRACT RELATED MATTERS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report, for information, tenders which have been received and accepted and to report any exemptions from the requirements of the Contract Procedure Rules.

RECOMMENDATION

That the exemption granted to Contract Procedure Rules for the delivery of a Flexible Support Fund Partnership be noted.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

To agree acceptance of tenders/offers in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules.

ISSUE

Award of Contracts

Exemptions from Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs)

1. CPR 5 includes provision for exemption from the requirements to comply with CPRs in certain circumstances where it is considered justifiable, value for money is maintained and such action does not contravene EU and domestic legislation. Exemption from CPRs is, however, subject to the prior approval of the Corporate Director and Chief Financial Officer provided that details of such exemptions granted are reported to the next possible meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee.
2. Since the last meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee, the following exemption to CPRs has been granted:-

Flexible Support Fund (FSF) Partnership

The Council has worked in conjunction with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) over a number of months to put together a proposal for their Flexible Support Fund (FSF). On the 13th November, 2020 it was confirmed that the Council has been successful in bidding and will receive funding up to a maximum of £99,717.00 which will be paid monthly. The funding is to be used to deliver a FSF partnership in Pendle, within Cumbria and Lancashire DWP district by way of a Youth Employment Hub at Scotland Road, Nelson.

The DWP expect the funding to be used as soon as possible, ideally starting on 1st January, 2021, which is a very short timescale for funding to be spent. The Youth Hub will prove particularly timely in helping support young people who are in need of training, support and employment, particularly as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic which has already resulted in huge job losses, especially for young people.

A procurement exercise has not been undertaken as the time limits required for tendering cannot be met for reasons of extreme urgency. Long delays caused by a tender process risks many young people being left without training, support and employment which could potentially risk significant criticism of the Council/reputational harm.

It has therefore been agreed to waive the Council's Contract Procedure Rules in commissioning Active Lancashire to deliver a FSF partnership in Pendle. There are very few providers of such similar services in the local area and Active Lancashire are already delivering a very similar project in Rossendale. They are ideally situated to deliver this fund in light of their close proximity to the Pendle area and working relationship with the borough.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy:	None arising directly from the report.
Financial:	The financial implications are as provided in the report. Assessment of awarded tender against budget provision available is part of the budget tendering exercise.
Legal:	None arising directly from the report.
Risk Management:	None arising directly from the report.
Health and Safety:	None arising directly from the report.
Sustainability:	None arising directly from the report.
Community Safety:	None arising directly from the report.
Equality and Diversity:	None arising directly from the report.

APPENDICES: None