

DECISION RECORD ¹

Officer Key Decisions are subject to the Council's Call-In Procedure (Annex 9 of the Council's Constitution). **Council's Constitution**

Subject: Contract for provision of Personal Protective Equipment for Fire and Rescue. National Collaborative Project, Kent Fire and Rescue Service Framework.

(Please use the same title as provided in the Forward Plan)

Staff Contact: Assistant Chief Fire Officer
Steve Tant

Executive Member: Terry Hone

Tel: 01992 507530

Portfolio: Community Safety and Waste
Management

1. **Decision** ²

The National Collaborative Project for Personal Protective Equipment has identified a successful supplier following a tender and evaluation process. The Call off Contract is available through the Kent Fire and Rescue Service Framework. Fire and Rescue Services wishing to utilise this framework are required to sign an access agreement.

2. **Reasons for the decision** ³

The Framework is the result of a National Collaboration involving 29 Fire and Rescue Services. The project included extensive trials and a robust evaluation of all the bidders. The successful supplier is able to offer the equipment at significant cost savings through economy of scale. Having compared the options available under the new contract, it has been identified that individuals will receive a greater range of garments that conform to the latest standards for wearer safety and comfort, with more practical applications suited to the changing nature of the role. Use of this contract is expected to deliver a minimum of 15% saving compared to existing personal protective equipment annual costs.

3. **Alternative options considered and rejected** ⁴

The Collaboration Project Group considered a variety of options from a number of suppliers. The successful bidder fulfilled the specification to a standard agreed by all participating Fire and Rescue Services. The option not to participate in the call off contract was considered however the advantages of utilising an existing framework far outweigh the financial and resource requirements of Hertfordshire initiating their own tender process. Also the economy of scale through use of a Framework should realise significant financial savings over the lifetime of the contract. The option of extending the lifespan of existing workwear was also considered, however this was rejected as technology has moved on significantly from the start of the current contract and the new workwear will ensure conformity with the latest in protective standards for the next 8 years.

4. **Consultation**

(a) **Comments of Executive Member** ^{5 6}

Terry Hone contacted, response received 8th February 2018, no additional comments.

(b) **Comments of other consultees** ⁷

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5. **Following consultation with, and the concurrence of the Executive Member, I am proceeding with the proposed decision.**

Signed 

Title: Assistant Chief Fire Officer – Service Support

Date: 8th February 2018

6. Copies of agreed document to:

- All consultees
- All members of the County Council (Democratic Services to send)
- Hard & electronic copy (for public inspection both at County Hall and on hertfordshire.gov.uk) to the Democratic Services Manager - Room 213 County Hall; democratic.services@hertfordshire.gov.uk

¹ Please refer to the Call-in and Contract Award Process for officers to determine if notice on this decision record for successful and unsuccessful bidders is exempt information and is therefore subject to inclusion in Annex 'A'

² If this decision relates to the award of contract, please provide a summary of the evaluation process and reasons for the award of contract to the successful bidder.

³ for guidance see Chief Legal Officer's note "Taking Decisions"

⁴ details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer at the time the decision was made

⁵ record any conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member consulted. If an Executive Member declares a conflict of interest DO NOT PROCEED without taking advice from the Chief Legal Officer

⁶ If the matter has general significance for the Council and/or is, or is likely to be, controversial, then the officer shall consult the appropriate Executive Member before proceeding. In some cases it will be necessary to consult more than one Executive Member, and in some cases the Leader of The Council will need to be consulted

⁷ If the matter has local significance, but no general significance for the Council and no controversial aspects, the officer shall consult or inform the local member in writing (or by email) and proceed. It is essential that all officers responsible for delivering services ensure that local members are kept well briefed on issues affecting their areas.