

**Council Meeting
31 March 2014**

**Report of the
Dearne Area Council Manager**

Agenda Item: 4

Dearne Area Council Dearne Procurement Update

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The report updates Members on the procurement progress for a service to provide additional local Training for Employment Project for the Dearne area.
- 1.2 It also describes the process of procurement in relation to the provision of additional private sector housing and environmental enforcement for Goldthorpe (1 new post) and the provision of an additional generic environmental enforcement service (1 new post) which would cover the Dearne wide area.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 **Members approve that the Training for Employment Project go out to tender in line with the attached specification requirements and procurement strategy.**
- 2.1 **Members also approve the price/quality split (70/30 in favour of quality) upon which the returned tenders will be evaluated.**
- 2.2 **Members consider the two additional enforcement proposals and agree that a specification of requirements for procuring additional enforcement personnel and/or service level agreement for personnel be brought to a special Dearne Area Council Meeting to be scheduled towards the end of April/early May 2014.**

3.0 Training for Employment Project

- 3.1 At the Dearne Area Council Meeting held on 3 February members agreed the draft specification of requirements be worked up to a full specification/procurement strategy to be brought to a subsequent Dearne Area Council Meeting for consideration and if agreed to go out to tender for a provider to deliver the project early in the new financial year. It was not possible to fit in a special meeting before the scheduled Area Council Meeting on 31 March. The attached specification of requirements is therefore brought before members for their consideration at this meeting.

3.2 At the above meeting it was also agreed Cllr Brooke (with Cllr Sixsmith as deputy) and Cllr Worton to join the evaluation panel for the Training for Employment Project alongside K Temple NPS Procurement and the Area Manager.

4.0 **Additional Enforcement for Dearne North and Dearne South Wards**

4.1 Litter and fly tipping is constantly raised as an issue by local people in the Dearne area and the problem is intensified in Goldthorpe especially around the areas where there is a high concentration of private rental accommodation. The local problems were so severe that they were recently highlighted by local and national news networks. Over a number of years the Dearne elected members have funded clean ups, skips, and bulky rubbish collections as well as working closely with BMBC Neighbourhood Pride and the Safer Neighbourhood Teams to try to alleviate the problems.

4.2 The recent intensity of problems was discussed by local members with the Head of Community Safety and Enforcement recently and at a subsequent meeting which took place of the Area Council Manager, Chair of the Area Council Cllr Noble and the Group Leader Dearne Valley Regeneration Team. It was agreed at the meeting that a Private Sector Housing and Environment Officer post could be funded from the funds available through Economic Strategy and managed by the Dearne Valley Regeneration Team. The availability of funding for this post was confirmed by Cabinet in late February 2014.

4.3 Following further discussions with members the Area Manager was requested to obtain costs for two additional officers – Housing and Environment Officer and a Generic Enforcement Officer and that at the next available Dearne Area Council Meeting members consider whether they wish to fund a one or two officers enforcement officers for the Dearne area.

4.2 The consideration for members at this meeting is whether they wish to:

- a) Fund the cost of one additional generic enforcement officer through a service level agreement with the Safer Neighbourhood Service at a Cost of £35,000.
- b) In addition to the above fund the cost of commissioning another enforcement officer to work closely with the Community Safety and Enforcement Team through an external provider at a cost (including 'on costs') of £35,000.
- c) Fund the cost of both posts at a cost of £70,000 to the Area Council.

It is intended that both posts be for 1 year in the first instance with an evaluation of the service at the end of the first year.

It is also proposed that the 2nd post if agreed is commissioned for delivery by an outside provider possibly in conjunction with Central Area Council who are considering a similar procurement.

5.0 **Remaining Allocation for 2014/2015**

- 5.1 The allocation for Dearne Area Council for the financial year 2014/2014 is £200,000. From that allocation should the commissions referred to in this report be agreed at full cost it would total £145,000 leaving £55,000 to consider further commissions against the agreed priorities.

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18 March 2014