

	Officer Key Decision
	Report to Director of Housing Needs & Support
	Lead Cabinet Member for Housing and Resident Services
AUTHORITY TO AWARD CONTRACT FROM A FRAMEWORK FOR THE PROVISION OF RESETTLEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES	

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Key Decision
Open or Part/Fully Exempt: (If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)	Open
No. of Appendices:	Appendix 1 – List of Contractors
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officer(s): (Name, Title, Contact Details)	Name: Saleema Nuraney Job Title: Private Sector Initiatives & Projects Team Leader Email: Saleema.nuraney@brent.gov.uk

1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report concerns the procurement of a contract for the provision of Resettlement Support Services. This report requests authority to award contracts as required by Contract Standing Order 88. This report summarises the process undertaken in procuring a contract and recommends to whom the contract should be awarded.

2.0 Recommendation(s)

That the Director of Housing Needs & Support in consultation with the Lead Member for Housing and Resident Services:

- 2.1 Approves the pre-tender considerations set out in paragraph 3.11.
- 2.2 Approves the award the contract for the provision of Resettlement Support Services with Beam Up Ltd for a period of 12 months in the sum of £1.35m.

3.0 Detail

Contribution to Borough Plan Priorities & Strategic Context

- 3.1 The award of the contract will contribute to 3 of the priorities in the borough plan:
- Prosperity and Stability through providing employment and accommodation support for homeless households; by increasing housing supply and reducing the number of people in expensive, nightly let Temporary Accommodation, thus achieving desired outcomes 1 and 3.
 - Thriving Communities by increasing access to employment opportunities for homeless households, thus achieving desired outcome 3.
 - A Healthier Brent by reducing the impact to health for people living in nightly let Temporary Accommodation, thus achieving desired outcome 1.

<https://www.brent.gov.uk/the-council-and-democracy/strategies-priorities-and-policies>

Background

- 3.2 Due to increasing pressures on emergency temporary accommodation, which is overloaded due to high demand and a lack of affordable housing, the council requires the provision of Resettlement Support Services to assist homeless into private sector accommodation and with employment support where necessary. The aim of the contract is to contribute to Brent's strategic priorities of preventing and reducing homelessness by supporting residents with securing a private rented tenancy and support to sustain the tenancy for 12 months. The contract will deliver focused move-on support to households in emergency nightly let Temporary Accommodation.
- 3.3 The Council is looking to award a contract to a provider who is able to support those affected by homelessness - including families, refugees, single homeless and care leavers - to overcome barriers and secure private rented homes, employment, and ESOL. Under the proposed contract, the Council will enter into an outcome based agreement to deliver 120 housing outcomes, with tenancy sustainment. The outcome fees will be £576K per annum and the move on costs will be £774K per annum, if all 120 outcomes are delivered. This will enable support to 120 clients with housing and tenancy sustainment in the Private Rented Sector. Once clients are accommodated, the council would be able to discharge its housing duty into the PRS using its powers under the Localism Act. The Council sees this Initiative as an important addition to the range of support services for homeless people. This service aims to improve the quality of life of homeless people living in the borough, support people into employment and housing as well as help people to sustain their tenancy. The

service also helps people to maintain or regain their independence and encourages them to settle back into the community.

- 3.4 As at February 2025, the average number of clients in Stage 1 Bed & Breakfast (B&B) type accommodation was 1087 and in Stage 2 long term leased temporary accommodation was 1092.

The average net cost per TA household (Stage 1) in 24/25 was
16,807,089.45/1087= £15,461.90

The average net cost per TA household (Stage 2) in 24/25 was
2,562,685.78/1092= £1,832.88

- 3.5 Officers have considered whether the service can be provided by the council itself but have concluded that the service is best provided by a contractor. Officers have reviewed a range of procurement options and have determined that the use of a framework is the most appropriate and cost effective means of procuring a contractor.
- 3.6 Officers have undertaken a procurement exercise by calling off from the Crown Commercial Service's G-Cloud 14 Framework Agreement RM1557.14 Lot 2 (the "Framework") and identified Beam Up Ltd as the contractor providing the most economically advantageous offer in accordance with relevant criteria set out in the Framework and therefore recommend the award of a contract for the provision of Resettlement Support Services (the "Contract").

The Procurement Process

- 3.7 The Contract will be called off from the Framework, using the form of award and standard call off terms and conditions prescribed under the Framework.
- 3.8 The Framework permits award by way of a further competition and by way of direct award and sets out rules for the identification of the most economically advantageous contractor under both procedures. Officers consider that identification of the most economically advantageous contractor using the Framework's direct award procedure is most appropriate for the procurement of the Contract and is aligned with framework award criteria as:
- The direct award route under the Framework allows for a search long list to identify suppliers who best meet the needs of the service, which Officers have utilised. The direct award route enables the shortlisting of the available suppliers who could provide the services based on the search long list terms which are created.
 - The Framework allows for the evaluation and selection of a supplier through a direct award route on:
 - 1) Most economically advantageous tender criteria or
 - 2) Direct award on lowest price only if they are comparable services

- 3.9 In compliance with the Framework guidance, Officers have reviewed the framework information for all contractors on Lot 2 the Framework as set out at Appendix 1. Officers have identified Beam Up Ltd as the most economically advantageous contractor. The Contract is for 12 months in the sum of £1.35M.
- 3.10 The estimated Contract commencement date is on 4th June 2025 subject to call-in.

Pre-tender Considerations

- 3.11 The pre-tender considerations relevant to the Contract are as follows:

Ref.	Requirement	Response	
(i)	The nature of the services / goods / works.	As detailed above	
(ii)	The value.	£1.35M for 12 months	
(iii)	The contract term.	12 months	
(iv)	The tender procedure to be adopted.	Direct Award from a Framework	
(v)	The procurement timetable.	Stage in Procurement	Indicative dates
		Identifying contractors on framework capable of delivering the Contract	29/04/2025 – 07/05/2025
		Desktop evaluation of supplier Service Offer	08/05/2025 – 12/05/2025
		Contract start date	04/06/2025
(vi)	The evaluation criteria and process.	Direct Award using Framework criteria	
(vii)	Any business risks associated with entering the contract.	No specific business risks are considered to be associated with entering into the Contract.	
(viii)	The Council's Best Value duties.	For the reasons set out in Section 3, it is considered that Direct Award will result in the Council achieving best value.	
(ix)	Consideration of Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012	Officers have had regard to the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.	

Ref.	Requirement	Response
(x)	Any staffing implications, including TUPE and pensions.	There are no implications for Council staff arising from the procurement.
(xi)	The relevant financial, legal and other considerations.	Financial – See Financial Considerations at Section 5.
		Legal – See Legal Consideration at Section 6.
		Other – N/A
(xii)	Sustainability	Given the nature and value of the Contract, it is not possible to include specific sustainability requirements.
(xiii)	Key Performance Indicators / Outcomes	Appropriate Key Performance Indicators / Outcomes will be included in the Contract.
(xiv)	Policy requirements including the National Procurement Policy Statement; prompt payment; London Living Wage; modern slavery; and carbon reduction	<p>The potential suppliers will be required to provide Services in accordance with all relevant policy requirements, to include those detailed in the National Procurement Policy Statement, to comply with a 30 day payment requirement, to provide evidence of wage compliance, evidence due diligence in supply chain (including modern slavery) and provide report on carbon emission and sustainability initiatives during contract delivery].</p> <p>The Contract will require the payment of the London Living Wage</p>
(xv)	Sharing information to allow understanding of the Council's procurement policies and decisions	Has not been applied due to the Framework process.
(xvi)	Consideration of whether SMEs may face particular barriers to participate in the Tender and consider if such barriers can be removed or reduced	Officers have considered whether any steps can be taken to remove or reduce barriers for SME participation in the procurement. It is considered that the tender process recommended is appropriate for the Services required and upholds the principles of equal treatment, transparency, and non-discrimination, ensuring that SMEs and large enterprises are evaluated fairly without any undue advantage given to larger enterprises.
(xvii)	Contract Management	A contract manager will be appointed and appropriate contract management provisions will be included in the Contract.

4.0 Stakeholder and ward member consultation and engagement

- 4.1 The Lead member for Housing & Resident Services has been consulted by the Director of Housing Needs & Support in respect of this Contract.

5.0 Financial Considerations

- 5.1 This contract is anticipated to provide a net cost avoidance of £505,428 to the council, if all 120 outcomes are achieved. This is based on the assumption that those households on a nightly rate of £65 a night in stage 1 accommodation will be prioritized as part of this contract. This would allow the council to discharge its housing duty with a minimum 12 months tenancy offered to the household. This contract will be funded as part of the spend to save initiative to reduce the overall spend on homelessness.
- 5.2 As this is an outcomes-based contract, the Council would not be liable for any outcomes which have not been delivered.
- 5.3 The Council currently pays an average of £5K incentive to secure a 24 month Assured Shorthold Tenancy in the Private Rented Sector (PRS). While this is more expensive than procuring accommodation in-house through the Housing Needs Service's PRS procurement team, it is anticipated that Beam will mainly engage with a new supply of landlords who have not worked with the Council before and will therefore procure new supply in order to meet the homeless demand.

6.0 Legal Considerations

- 6.1 Officers recommend the use of the Framework to procure a contract for the provision of Resettlement Support Services. This Framework was procured prior to 24 February 2025 in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("PCR 2015"). As a result, the PCR 2015 governs a call off under the Framework. The estimated value of the proposed call off Contract is above the threshold for Services under the PCR 2015
- 6.2 The PCR 2015 allow the use of framework agreements and prescribe rules and controls for their procurement. Contracts may then be called off under such framework agreements without the need for them to be separately advertised and procured through a full procurement process. Call offs under the framework agreement need to be carried out in accordance with the framework rules, to include using evaluation criteria specified in the framework agreement and utilising the terms and conditions set out in the framework agreement.
- 6.3 The Council's Contract Standing Orders state that no formal tendering procedures apply where contracts are called off under a framework agreement established by another contracting authority, where call off under the framework agreement is approved by the relevant Corporate Director or Director and

provided that the Director, Law has advised that participation in the framework is legally permissible. The Director, Law has confirmed that participation in the Framework is legally permissible.

- 6.4 The award of the Contract is subject to the Council's own Standing Orders in respect of Medium Value Contracts given the procurement is valued at less than £2 million. The Director has authority pursuant to paragraph 9.5 and 9.7 of Part 3 of the Constitution to approve the award of the Contract using the Framework.
- 6.5 The decision to award the contract will be subject to call-in as provided for in the Council's Constitution. As the procurement of the Contract is from a framework, there is no requirement for the Council to observe a 10 day standstill period under the PCR 2015. Subject to no challenge preventing award, Officers will seek to implement the decision to award.
- 6.6 There are no Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (TUPE) implications as there is currently no existing service in place, and the previous service provided by the incumbent provider is the same provider being award this Contract and there will be no Council staff impacted by this decision.

7.0 Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Considerations

- 7.1 Pursuant to s149 Equality Act 2010 (the "Public Sector Equality Duty"), the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
 - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the Act
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
 - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it,
- 7.2 The Public Sector Equality Duty covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, marriage and civil partnership, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 7.3 Having due regard involves the need to enquire into whether and how a proposed decision disproportionately affects people with a protected characteristic and the need to consider taking steps to meet the needs of persons who share a protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it. This includes removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by persons who share a protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic.

7.4 There is no prescribed manner in which the council must exercise its public sector equality duty but having an adequate evidence base for its decision is necessary.

7.5 The proposals in this report have been subject to screening and officers believe that there are no adverse equality implications.

7.6 The proposals in this report have been subject to screening and officers believe that there are no adverse health equality implications

8.0 Climate Change and Environmental Considerations

8.1 There are no climate change and environmental implications as a result of this award.

9.0 Human Resources/Property Considerations (if appropriate)

9.1 This service is to be provided by an external contractor and there are no implications for Council staff arising from the award of the Contract.

9.2 There are no Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (TUPE) implications as there is no existing service in place, and the previous service provided by the incumbent provider is the same provider being award this Contract.

9.3 There are no property considerations as a result of the award of the Contract.

10.0 Communication Considerations

10.1 N/A

Report sign off:

Laurence Coaker
Director of Housing Needs and Support