

Public Document Pack



Executive Board Sub Committee

Thursday, 1 March 2012 10.00 a.m.
Marketing Suite, Municipal Building

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David W R'.

Chief Executive

ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

PART 1

Item	Page No
1. MINUTES	
2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST	
Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached and, with personal and prejudicial interests (subject to certain exceptions in the Code of Conduct for Members), to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.	
3. HEALTH AND ADULTS PORTFOLIO	
(A) AWARD OF HOUSING RELATED SUPPORT CONTRACTS	1 - 3

*Please contact Gill Ferguson on 0151 471 7395 or e-mail gill.ferguson@halton.gov.uk for further information.
The next meeting of the Committee is on Thursday, 15 March 2012*

Item	Page No
4. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO	
(A) HALE RESTORATION PROJECT – REPLACEMENT CHILDE OF HALE STATUE	4 - 6

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

REPORT TO: Executive Board Sub Committee

DATE: 1st March 2012

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director Communities

PORTFOLIO: Health & Adults

SUBJECT: Award of Housing Related Support Contracts

WARDS: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To inform the Board of the award of a contract for two housing related support services and the none award of a third service.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Board

- 1) **note the award of a contract to Halton YMCA for the provision of housing related support services at the Halton Lodge YMCA Hostel in the annual sum of £408,636, and for the provision of a Nightstop supported lodgings service in the annual sum of £46,250; and**
- 2) **note the decision not to award a contract for the provision of housing related support through the Advice and Guidance service (currently delivered by Halton YMCA and known as Y's Up).**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 In September 2011 Executive Board Sub Committee received a report outlining the intention to tender a number of housing related support services where existing contractual arrangements were due to expire at the end of March 2012. These included services known as Halton Lodge YMCA, Nightstop supported lodgings, and Y's Up advice and guidance, all currently provided by Halton YMCA.

3.2 Following an open tender process facilitated by the Procurement Team through 'The Chest' only 1 bid was received for each service, in all three cases from Halton YMCA.

3.3 The tendered prices and current annual contract costs are shown in the following table.

Service	Current Cost	Tendered Price	Difference
Halton Lodge YMCA	£457,288	£408,636	- £48,652
Nightstop	£48,688	£46,250	-£2,438
Y's Up	£46,347	£41,703	-£4,734

3.4 The Operational Director Commissioning and Complex Care has awarded a contract for the Halton Lodge YMCA and Nightstop services to Halton YMCA and this is being reported to Board for information in accordance with Procurement Standing Order 2.11.

3.5 However during the tender evaluation process it became clear that many of the functions the Y's Up advice and guidance service provides are a duplication of those provided by other organisations e.g.

- preparing for work – CV preparation, interview technique, work experience placements, job search – provided by Job Centre Plus.
- Identifying volunteering opportunities – provided by HVA, Job Centre Plus and Sure Start to Later Life.
- Educational opportunities – provided by Halton College.
- Signposting to other services – provided by HDL.
- Accommodation advice – provided by HDL, Housing Solutions, RSLs and CAB.

3.6 It has therefore been decided not to award this contract and to formally decommission the service from the contract expiry date.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None identified.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None identified.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

Young people constitute the main client group for the YMCA hostel and Nightstop services, and the award of these contracts will ensure continuity of provision.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None identified.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

There are clear links between homelessness and an increased risk of poor physical and mental health. The continued provision of these accommodation based services is therefore vital.

6.4 A Safer Halton

None identified.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None identified.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 It is made clear in every tender that the Council reserves the right not to award a contract, and the EIA suggests the impact of decommissioning the Y's Up service will not be too great.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken to ensure the withdrawal of the Y's Up service will not disproportionately affect any vulnerable groups.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO:	Executive Board Sub-Committee
DATE:	1 st March 2012
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director, Communities
PORTFOLIO:	Physical Environment
SUBJECT:	Hale Restoration Project – Replacement Childe of Hale Statue
WARDS:	Hale

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To update Members on progress with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) project and seek waiver of standing orders 4.1 competitive requirements for contracts under £173,934. In order to appoint a preferred artist and foundry to create a new statue.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That under procurement SO 1.8.2 (e) SO 4.1 be waived in respect of commissioning Phil Bews and Castle Fine Art Foundry (nr. Oswestry, Powys, Wales) as the preferred artist and foundry.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Members will recall that Halton Council successfully gained a HLF grant of £643,000 in 2007 for improvements in Hale Park and Hale Village; to promote the heritage value of the area for local people and wider tourism purposes.

3.2 The majority of the work has been carried out in the Park itself, which successfully gained a green flag in 2008 following the improvements works. This work cost less than the original budget estimate partly because it was tendered at the time of the 'credit crunch', which meant that very competitive tenders were received from competing contractors.

3.3 It has been agreed with HLF that the money saved from these main works can be spent in the village on related features that support the main aims of the project.

3.4 Members may know that in the mid 1990's an artist was employed to carve a Beech tree in the village to commemorate John Middleton, also known as the 'Childe of Hale' due to his considerable height. This carving became a well known feature in the village, which unfortunately had to be removed in June 2011 due to decay.

3.5 Some preliminary consultation was undertaken in the summer of 2011 to determine public opinion on the desire for a replacement and what form this should take. The original artist was employed for one day in June 2011 to work

with local residents to help formulate opinions and ideas for a suitable replacement and location within the Village. It was widely agreed that a more permanent feature should be considered as a replacement.

- 3.6 As part of the consultation exercise and to meet the broader requirements of the Hale Restoration Project, it is intended that interested local people will be able to visit the foundry during the manufacturing process. They will also continue to work with the artist and be able to take part in a small bronze casting exercise if they wish. Both of these ideas are intended to strengthen ownership and local pride in the finished artwork. This supports one of the main outcomes required of the HLF grant.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Hale Heritage Restoration Project has made significant contributions to preserve and enhance this part of the Borough and continues to create new attractions for the benefit of local communities, and wider audiences. The addition of the Childe of Hale statue will provide an additional permanent feature which will help to promote the local history. Overall the project will improve leisure and educational links, helping to achieve the objectives of 'A Healthy Halton', 'Urban Renewal' and 'Employment, Learning and Skills'.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Ahead of the consultation exercise in June 2011 expressions of interest were sent to a short list of artists in order to gain information on feasibility and outline costs for different materials each artist specialised in. They were also asked for ideas on what consultation they would be able to provide. From this a shortlist of possible artists, Officers together with the Friends of Hale Park and representatives from Hale Parish Council selected the most appropriate submission. This was from Phil Bews, the sculptor of the original Childe of Hale Carving. The value of this initial stage of consultation was below £1,000. This cost has been met as part of the grant funded project.
- 5.2 Part of the proposals put forward by the preferred artist included working with a particular foundry which can cater for public visits (which is unusual due to health and safety risks) and for visitors to try casting bronze themselves. The artist has also suggested reuse of pre existing moulds that he and the foundry hold, adapted to the new design. This substantially reduces the costs of creating a bronze casting. The proposed foundry is also close enough to visit in one day.
- 5.3 The budget cost allocated for producing the finished bronze statue, including all artists fees, delivery and installation is in the order of £45,000. This cost can be met from within the remaining Hale Restoration Project budget which is funded by HLF together with a small contribution from Area Forum. Should the HLF not be utilised, this proposal and alternative options not be identified then the funding will have to be returned to the Heritage Lottery.

6.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Sustainability: a permanent 'Childe of Hale' Statue will provide a long lasting attraction for people to visit in the area. Through a combination of good design, and material choice the statue will require minimum maintenance and present no additional risk to the Council.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

7.1 A Healthy Halton: improved facilities will encourage more recreation and exercise in the area, helping to combat obesity, to encourage cardio vascular and muscular activity and to promote mental well-being for local communities.

7.1 Halton's Urban Renewal: improvements to Halton's green infrastructure will further improve the image of the Borough and help retain and attract residents, business and visitors.

7.1 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton: community enablement will offer opportunities for local people to gain additional knowledge and skills which will support personal development and will be transferable for future employment.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 There are limited number of other opportunities to secure funding for this type of high quality feature that the Council can access, if the money saved from other parts of the project are not directed towards the feature it will be lost form the Lottery grant.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

8.1 No significant Equality and Diversity issues have been identified.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Executive Board Report 25 th September 2008	Open Space Services)
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) Nick Martin
HLF 'Parks for People' Hale Park Restoration Project award letter.)
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