

**REPORT TO:** Executive Board Sub Committee

**DATE:** 15th December 2011

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director, Communities

**PORTFOLIO HOLDER:** Health & Adults

**SUBJECT:** Procurement of Care and Support Services for Extra Care Housing

**WARDS:** All

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To inform the Board that tenders are to be invited for the provision of care and support services in three Extra Care housing schemes. This is a report for information purposes, to comply with Procurement Standing Order Part 2.1 due to the estimated value of the tender being in excess of £1m.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Board note that a procurement process is to be undertaken for the services set out in this report.**

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 The Board will be aware that two new Extra Care housing schemes are being developed, one comprising 47 units by Halton Housing Trust at Liverpool Rd in Ditton which should be ready summer 2012, and one comprising 90 units by Cosmopolitan Housing Association at the Boardwalk, West Bank which should be ready early 2014. Additionally there is an existing Riverside scheme of 40 units at Dorset Gardens in Palacefields where services need to be tendered.

3.2 The Council is responsible for procuring the personal care and housing related support services that are to be provided within these schemes and officers are about to initiate a procurement exercise. One provider will be sought to provide services across the three sites in order to secure maximum efficiencies and economies of scale, and a contract period of 5 years is to be offered.

3.3 Financial provision for the contract is contained within the Community Directorates Supporting People and Community Care budgets. The estimated value of the contract over the five years is £5.7m.

3.4 Tender submissions will be evaluated on both price and quality using a 70% price and 30% quality ratio. The outcome of the tenders

will be reported to the Board in the normal way.

#### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The method of procurement complies with the Council's procurement policy and Procurement Standing Orders, and will utilise the 'Chest' e-procurement portal.

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The expansion of the Extra Care housing service is taking place against a background of financial austerity which will require careful management of the Supporting People and Community Care budgets. Although there is still a need for additional Extra Care schemes, efforts to secure development funding have been deferred until such time as the revenue consequences on the Council become affordable.

#### **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

##### **6.1 Children and Young People in Halton**

None identified.

##### **6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

The services to be provided in the two new housing developments will offer employment opportunities to local people.

##### **6.3 A Healthy Halton**

The provision of on site care and support services will help residents to lead a healthy and active lifestyle within a caring environment.

##### **6.4 A Safer Halton**

None identified.

##### **6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

#### **7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 Risk will be a particular consideration in the tender evaluation process given that a failure by the appointed service provider may affect all three schemes. A bond will be secured to mitigate any adverse financial impact of a contract failure, and robust service

monitoring should provide early warning of any performance issues.

**8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 All contractors will be required to demonstrate that they embrace and comply with the Equality Act, and services will be monitored to ensure this is the case.

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

None.