

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 18th November 2021

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community & Resources

PORTFOLIO: Corporate Services

SUBJECT: Council contract for supply of Fruit & Vegetables (includes bread and dairy)

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This is a Preliminary Estimate Report to seek approval from Executive Board to commence a new procurement process for the supply of Fruit and Vegetables, Bread and Dairy Produce in compliance with Procurement Standing Order 1.3.4
- 1.2 current fruit & vegetable (including bread and dairy) contract was procured using the 'The University Caterers Organisation' (TUCO) framework and is due to expire on the 31 December 2021, a new contract needs to be awarded to commence from 1st January 2022.
- 1.3 contract supplies fruit, vegetables, bread and dairy products and was awarded to Chalker's on 1st January 2018, who distribute produce to Schools, the DCBL Stadium, Council run Café Bars and Council run Care Homes.
- 1.4 The current estimated annual expenditure is £500k across all school and non-school sites, with an estimated total expenditure of £2 million.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That:

The Executive Board approves this Preliminary Estimates Report in compliance with Procurement Standing Order 1.3.4. to allow Officers to undertake a call-off by mini competition in compliance with Procurement Standing Order 1.4.1, Frameworks, as supported by the Councils Procurement Division, accessing the TUCO Fresh Fruit & Vegetables & Related Products Framework for a 2 year period with the option to extend for a further two separate 12 month periods from 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2025 with an estimated total expenditure of £2million.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Annually the council spends £500k on the supply of fresh fruit,

vegetables, bread and dairy products across over 60 sites.

3.2 The School Meals service require fresh fruit and vegetables along with bread and dairy products to ensure a balanced nutritious diet for the children staying for lunches at schools in Halton.

3.3 Deliveries are required daily to ensure maximum freshness and quality of the end product/meal.

3.4 Halton use the TUCO frameworks to ensure value for money and economies of scale.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The procurement of fresh fruit and vegetables has a direct impact on the Councils Healthy Halton policy. Ensuring the children in Halton receive regular fruit and vegetables as part of their daily diet.

4.2 TUCO Frameworks are fully compliant with the Public Contract Regulations 2015.

5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Annually HBC spends approximately 500k per annum on the contract for supply of fruit & vegetables. These costs are covered by recharges either by cash sales or recharges.

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

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

Fruit and vegetables are a great source of vitamins, minerals and fibre, and are an important part of a healthy, balanced diet. The school meals service needs this contract to ensure the provision of fruit & vegetables to children from the ages of 1-18

6.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

None identified.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

Eating plenty of fruit and veg helps keep us healthy, and may reduce the risk of disease and some cancers.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 If there is no contract in place there could be supply issues or a breach of standing of orders.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 None identified.

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

None under the meaning of the Act.