

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CHILDREN'S SERVICES CABINET MEMBER

**FINDINGS FROM THE RECENT PROCUREMENT EXERCISE FOR SUPPLY
TEACHERS**

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 This report sets out a summary of the findings from the recent tendering process to establish a framework arrangement for the provision of Supply Teachers in schools.
- 1.2 The key points in this report are:
- Cabinet Member for Children's Services, is asked to approve the awarding of the contracts.
 - A compliant EU competitive procurement exercise was undertaken

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The council has recently undergone a procurement exercise for Supply Teachers in schools.
- 2.2 Under EU Procurement Regulations an Open Procedure was followed resulting in a number of suitably qualified and experienced companies submitting a tender.
- 2.3 The current contract for the provision of Supply Teachers ends on 31 March 2010. This contract has been in place for four years.
- 2.4 Following consultation with schools, the Schools Forum recommended that a corporate procurement exercise was undertaken on behalf of all schools. Since schools have delegated budgets and delegated management they can make individual decisions around procurement. In the case of Supply Teachers many schools employ teachers directly to carry out this role. It was therefore concluded that although there was significant spend in this area, volumes could not be guaranteed and therefore a framework agreement was appropriate.

- 2.5 It was agreed by the officer panel, following consultation with schools that tenders would be evaluated according to the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT) criteria. The price/quality split was a ratio of:
- Price: 70%
 - Method Statements: 25%
 - Added Value: 5%
- 2.6 The tender notice was published in the OJEU, SCMS and in the Local Press on 23 December 2009.
- 2.7 On the tender close date of 4 February 2010, seven tenders were received via SCMS.
- 2.8 Tenders were evaluated according to the criteria mentioned at 2.9 by a panel which included representation from Schools.

Tenderers
Crosby Employment Bureau
Hays Specialist Education
Principal Resourcing
Protocol Education
Ranstad Education
Services 2 Sport
Synarbor PLC

3 OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 To award the Framework Arrangement to the top ranking five tenderers
- 3.2 To continue with the current arrangements.

4 ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 Option 3.1 The council is obliged by EU rules to carry out a competitive tendering procedure. Adopting this approach would mean that the council would be abiding by the relevant EU legislation. This option is deemed to offer value for money and is the most viable option.
- 4.2 Option 3.2 would place the council in breach of EU legislation and not make effective use of officer time/resource. This would put the council in breach of EU procurement rules and is not an option.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

5.1 Financial

Supply Teacher costs are met by Individual School Budgets.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)

6.1 Statutory

None

6.2 Environmental & Other

None

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

7.1 Schools have been consulted on this process directly and through the Schools Forum.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 That the findings of this exercise are approved and to commence with the award.

8.2 Approve the award to the five chosen companies on the basis of rank order:

8.3 All approved agencies will be contract monitored on all aspects with particular focus on safeguarding.

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

None