

	Executive 31 August 2017	Agenda Item No. 11
Title	Procurement Exemption for WDC VCS Commissioned Contracts 2015 – 2018	
For further information about this report please contact	Liz Young Community Partnership Team Manager Ext: 6019 Liz.young@warwickdc.gov.uk	
Wards of the District directly affected	ALL	
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?	No	
Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number	Executive 8 March 2017	
Background Papers	Executive 8 March 2017: Item 08 – Community Forums & Voluntary and Community Sector Spending Review	

Contrary to the policy framework:	No																
Contrary to the budgetary framework:	No																
Key Decision?	Yes																
Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)	Yes																
Equality and Sustainability Impact Assessment Undertaken	Yes																
Officer/Councillor Approval																	
Officer Approval	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="617 1335 858 1373">Date</th> <th data-bbox="866 1335 1450 1373">Name</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="617 1375 858 1444">Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive</td> <td data-bbox="866 1375 1450 1444">Andrew Jones</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="617 1447 858 1485">Head of Service</td> <td data-bbox="866 1447 1450 1485">Marianne Rolfe</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="617 1487 858 1525">CMT</td> <td data-bbox="866 1487 1450 1525">Chris Elliott, Bill Hunt, Andrew Jones</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="617 1527 858 1565">Section 151 Officer</td> <td data-bbox="866 1527 1450 1565">Mike Snow</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="617 1568 858 1606">Monitoring Officer</td> <td data-bbox="866 1568 1450 1606">Andrew Jones</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="617 1608 858 1646">Finance</td> <td data-bbox="866 1608 1450 1646">Mike Snow</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="617 1648 858 1686">Portfolio Holder(s)</td> <td data-bbox="866 1648 1450 1686">Andrew Thompson</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Name	Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Jones	Head of Service	Marianne Rolfe	CMT	Chris Elliott, Bill Hunt, Andrew Jones	Section 151 Officer	Mike Snow	Monitoring Officer	Andrew Jones	Finance	Mike Snow	Portfolio Holder(s)	Andrew Thompson
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Portfolio Holder(s)	09/08/17 Andrew Thompson																
Consultation & Community Engagement																	
Meeting of VCS Commissioning & Grants Panel – 12 July 2017																	
Final Decision?	Yes																
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)																	

1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for an exemption to the Code of Procurement Practice to allow the extension of the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) contracts for 3 months.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That Executive agrees to an exemption to the Code of Procurement Practice to allow the extension of the VCS Contracts until 30 June 2018.

3. **REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 As agreed at March 2017 Executive, officers set out to procure consultants to project-manage the re-commissioning process and review of VCS spend. Unfortunately this first attempt proved unsuccessful at finding someone appropriately qualified and experienced to meet requirements, specifically identifying social return on investments and achieving savings targets.
- 3.2 Having gone through a second procurement process Inspira Consulting has now been appointed and inception meetings have taken place. However this delay has meant the re-commissioning process is now three months behind where it should be. As it stands the re-commissioning process has been constricted as far as practicable in order to minimise the required time period for extension.

4. **POLICY FRAMEWORK**

- 4.1 **Fit for the Future** –
The review of the council's investment in the Voluntary and Community Sector specifically supports the Service and Money strands of Fit for the Future in relation to continuously reviewing and improving our services whilst ensuring resources are managed appropriately and creatively to ensure value for money and social return on investment.
- 4.2 The VCS Commissioning Framework is aligned to the Sustainable Community Strategy and contributes to the vision of making Warwick District a great place to live work and visit.

5. **BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK**

- 5.1 £49,000 had been factored into the Medium Term Financial Strategy, in line with the June 2017 Fit for the Future Report to the Executive.
- 5.2 This should have been included in the 2018/19 Savings Targets. However, it was inadvertently factored into the following year. This has now been corrected. The revised Profile shows £36,750 being saved in 2018/19 and the residual £12,250 being realised the following year. This has been factored into the Strategy that is reported as part of the Budget Review Report elsewhere on this agenda.

6. **RISKS**

- 6.1 Without the extension it would be impossible to carry out the full commissioning process, including the extensive consultation required with a wide range of stakeholders.

6.2 If the current contracts were terminated on 31 March 2018 that would leave a gap in service provision until such a time that the new contracts were awarded thus impacting on both the voluntary and community sector organisations and the local communities receiving those services.

6.3 WDC could have liabilities in terms of TUPE that would need further investigation if contract delivery was not continuous.

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 An alternative option would be to go out to tender in October 2017 and terminate the contracts as originally planned on 31 March 2018. However this would not allow time for full stakeholder consultation and pre market engagement which is essential to inform the re-commissioning process and to develop a tender specification that is going to deliver the Council's objectives and meet community needs.

7.2 Another option is to terminate on 31 March 2018, whilst conducting the full re-commissioning process, but that would leave a gap in service provision of 3 months until the new contracts commenced on 1 July, thus having a negative impact on both the voluntary and community sector organisations and the service recipients.

8. BACKGROUND

8.1 The first procurement process began immediately after March Executive with a closing date of 27 April due to the Easter break. Only one bid was received which did not fulfil the criteria. The second process adopting a 'quick quote' approach was instigated almost immediately with a closing date of 12 May and Inspira Consulting were awarded the tender by the end of May and inception meetings took place mid June once contracts had been agreed and signed.

8.2 Consideration was given to not carrying out a second procurement process due to time pressures however the value of external input into this review is a high priority as agreed at March Executive - 'Bringing in an external specialist in this field will provide the necessary objectivity and demonstrate to VCS partners that the Council is striving to manage the balance between savings, value for money and social value.'