

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE -	Housing & Environment
DATE –	16 th February 2010
DIRECTOR –	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT –	Contractual Arrangements with Aberdeen Cyrenians Limited (ACL)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to request approval to extend the housing element of the current time limited contract with Aberdeen Cyrenians Ltd. until the 31 July 2010 (or such earlier date as required). Delegated powers are also sought to award contracts to the preferred bidder as a result of the current procurement process.

The current contract arrangements were agreed by the Urgent Business Committee on 5th August 2009. The future service provision relating to the services are currently the subject of tendering for new contracts however these will not be in place by 1 April 2010 which is the date the current contract with Aberdeen Cyrenians Ltd expires.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that Committee

1. agree to the extension to 31 July 2010, or such earlier date as required, the housing element of the contract for housing support services with Aberdeen Cyrenians Ltd.
2. delegates to the Director of Housing & Environment, in conjunction with the Director of Corporate Governance, the powers to award a contract to the preferred Bidder as a result of the current procurement process if it is not possible to report to the 13th April 2010 Housing & Environment Committee. Such delegated powers will only be used after consultation with the Convener and Vice Convener of the Housing & Environment Committee.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Committee should note that as the services have been included in the budget for 2010/11 there is therefore the finance available to cover the costs of the extension and no additional costs are involved.

Following the decommissioning and realignment of ACL services during 2008/09 the services funded by the housing budgets are Community Supported Accommodation Service, Community Resettlement, Advice & Support Service and Margaret House. The service at Margaret House is a jointly funded service with Social Care & Wellbeing.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

The Community Plan sets out our vision for the future of the City. Our vision is a City which is Vibrant, Dynamic and Forward Looking an even better place to live and work, where people can expect high quality services that meet their needs. The current policy aims to fulfil the following Vibrant Dynamic and Forward Looking objective:

Work in partnership with other public bodies to deliver maximum efficiencies.

ACC's Single Outcome Agreement is contained within the Community Plan Update 2008 and the Single Outcome Agreement 2008-2011. This links national outcomes with local outcomes and priorities that in turn support the administration's policy document. Those matters specifically related (either directly or indirectly) to participation and consultation are:

1. Improve the quality of life in our most deprived areas, taking advantage of regeneration opportunities city wide as they present themselves and identify in consultation with the local communities.
2. Tackle the significant inequalities in Scottish Society, and agree to wider participation of partners from TACA on the equalities Action Network.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Legal Implications

The currently tendering and commissioning of new services will ensure that all legal issues arising from contracts and commissioning are complied with.

Personnel Implications

There are no direct Personnel issues arising from this report.

There are no direct equipment implications arising from the report.

There are no direct Health and Safety implications arising from the report.

Resource Implications

The funding to cover the extension is contained within the budget. These funds would have been used to fund the new contracts but can be used to fund the extension of this contract until such time as the new contracts comes into effect.

Property Implications

There are no direct property implications arising from the report.

6. IMPLEMENTATION

Subject to the decision of the Committee, matters will be taken forward by the Director of Housing and Environment in consultation with the City Solicitor.

7. CURRENT POSITION

7.1 The Urgent Business Committee on 5th August 2009 agreed to the issuing of temporary contracts to ACL to 31st March 2010. They also agreed that the Council disengage from ACL on a phased basis ending on 31st March 2010 with an open and competitive procurement process for new services to be taken forward.

7.2 This procurement exercise is now well under way, covering both the Social Care & Wellbeing and Housing and Environment requirements. The contract was advertised on 6th January 2010 with a closing date for submission of 16th February 2010. It will not be possible for tenders to be assessed, contracts entered into and services to be operational from 1st April 2010. It is envisaged that the new contracts will be operational in June 2010.

7.3 For this reason Committee are asked that the contracts for the Community Supported Accommodation Service, Community Resettlement, Advice & Support Service and Margaret House can be extended beyond 31st March 2010. It is proposed that 31st July 2010 is the final date to ensure sufficient time to have the new contracts operational. This should be before 31st July but until such time as the tender submissions are received and scrutinised it is requested that some flexibility around the date is provided.

7.4 Tender submissions are due to be received on 16th February. Tender evaluation and interviews will then be undertaken with the outcomes to be reported to the Housing & Environment Committee on 13th April 2010. It is anticipated that the time line to achieve this is in place however in case this can not be achieve Committee is asked to agree that the Director of Housing & Environment, in conjunction with the Director of Corporate Governance, can use delegated powers to award a contract to the preferred Bidders. Such

delegated powers will only be used after consultation with the Convener and Vice Convener of Housing & Environment.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Graeme Stuart
Strategist (Policy & Planning – Housing)
gstuart@aberdeencity.gov.uk
Tel – (53)8038