

NON KEY DECISION: REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: Councillor Barry Dobson
Cabinet Member for Housing

REPORT AUTHOR: Head of Environmental

REPORT NO. ENV716

DATE:

SUBJECT OF NON KEY DECISION:	Framework Agreement for Adaptations under Disabled Facilities Grants
---	---

CABINET MEMBER REMIT:	Housing	
CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS:	Minor	
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT IMPLICATIONS:	This report is publicly available on the Council's website www.southkesteven.gov.uk via your Council and Democracy link	
INITIAL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	Carried out and appended to report? Not Applicable	Full impact assessment required? No
BACKGROUND PAPERS:	None	

(1) PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to utilise the County Wide Framework Agreement for contractors to deliver home adaptations funded by disabled facilities grants.

(2) RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Housing approve the use of the Countywide Framework Agreement (up to a maximum of 4 years) to appoint Contractors to undertake home adaptations funded by disabled facilities grants in accordance with that Framework.

**(3) REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)
(including any alternative options considered and rejected)**

- 3.1 As part of the streamlining of the disabled facilities grant process a county wide Framework to create a list of pre-qualified Contractors and a standardised schedule of rates has been established. This negates the need to go out to quotation and reduces timescales for the completion of works, resulting in a quicker more efficient service for Clients. It also ensures that all Contractors, regardless of where they work in the county are pre-qualified to the same standards and work for the same rates of pay.
- 3.2 Prior to the establishment of the Framework, works have been priced based on a schedule of rates (last fully reviewed in 2012), but with no formalised arrangement with Contractors the tender process resulted in delays and reduced interest from Contractors who have struggled to deliver the requirements against these rates. As part of the new Framework, the Schedule of Rates has been reviewed and updated to reflect current market prices and will be fixed for the 4 year Framework period.
- 3.3 The Framework has been procured in conjunction with the other Lincolnshire Authorities and Lincolnshire Procurement and in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules. The tender was divided into geographical lots for each District area, with Contractors selecting the localities they were interested in working within in accordance with the pre-determined schedule of rates. Within the scope of works are: bathroom adaptations, internal works and external works, concrete ramps and conversions. Other larger schemes such as extensions will still be subject to a formal tender process and stairlifts and modular access ramps are installed under a separate Contract with a sole supplier.
- 3.4 The Framework is renewable annually up to a maximum of 4 years. Twenty three Contractors have met the criteria to be included in the Framework for South Kesteven. The Contractors are not guaranteed a minimum level of work through the Framework.
- 3.5 The Government Grant allocated to South Kesteven for Disabled Facilities Grants for 2019/20 has been announced as £859,556.

(4) COMMENTS FROM FINANCIAL SERVICES

- 4.1 Funding for Disabled Facilities Grants is paid to the Council as a grant via the Government's Better Care Fund. The use of a Framework with a pre-determined schedule of rates ensures that best value is achieved.

(5) COMMENTS FROM LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

- 5.1 The use of Framework Agreements is allowed for in the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. The Framework Agreement has a clear set of bespoke terms and conditions and detailed call off procedure.

(6) OFFICER CONTACT

Anne-Marie Coulthard

e-mail: a.coulthard@southkesteven.gov.uk

Telephone: 01476 406319

(7) DATE DECISION EFFECTIVE:

If the decision is made on Wednesday 12 June 2019, then it can be implemented on 21 June 2019 so long as it is not called in by the Chairman of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee or any five members of the Council.