



**SOUTH  
KESTEVEN  
DISTRICT  
COUNCIL**

## **Cabinet**

Tuesday, 8 October 2024

Report of Councillor Virginia Moran  
Cabinet Member for Housing

# **Contract Award for Safety of Life Systems**

### **Report Author**

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### **Purpose of Report**

To approve the award of a contract to ABCA Systems for Safety of Life Systems. The contract would be awarded for an initial period of 3 years with an option to extend for a further 2 years.

### **Recommendations**

**Cabinet is recommended to approve the award of a contract to ABCA Systems for Safety of Life Systems with an annual contract value up to £40k for a period of 3 years with the option to extend for a further 2 years.**

### **Decision Information**

|   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| Is this a Key Decision?   | Yes                          |
| Does the report contain any exempt or confidential information not for publication? | No                           |
| What are the relevant corporate priorities?   | Housing<br>Effective council |
| Which wards are impacted?   | All                          |

## **1. Implications**

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

### ***Finance and Procurement***

- 1.1 The 2024/25 approved HRA Revenue budget includes a budget of £1.2m for compliance works which can be used to fund the cost of this contract.

*Completed by: Richard Wyles, Deputy Chief Executive and s151 Officer*

### ***Procurement***

- 1.2 It is confirmed that a fully compliant procurement process has been completed and the Council's Procurement Lead has been consulted throughout the process.

*Completed by: Helen Baldwin (Procurement Lead)*

### ***Legal and Governance***

- 1.3 There are no significant legal and governance implications arising from the report which are not already reflected elsewhere in the report, particularly in relation to procurement and compliance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

The report could not be added to the Cabinet Forward Plan in time to give 28 days' notice, and therefore the General Exception Notice process has been followed as per Paragraph 17 of Part 4(2) of the Constitution (Access to Information Procedure Rules). The notice is available at the below link:

<https://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ecSDDisplay.aspx?NAME=SD451&ID=451&RPID=13229957>

*Completed by: James Welbourn, Democratic Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer*

### ***Risk and Mitigation***

- 1.4 Any risk will be monitored as part of the contract management process.

*Completed by: Tracey Elliott, Governance & Risk Officer*

## ***Health and Safety***

- 1.5 As part of the tender documentation, a comprehensive Pre-Construction Information document was provided for all bidders to review and consider the aspects of health & safety associated with the proposed roofing contract.
- 1.6 When the contract is awarded to the successful bidder, a Construction Phase will be requested and must be provided prior to works commencing by the Principle Contractor and this will detail how all the health & safety risks associated with the construction phase will be implemented to minimise the risks or where possible or eliminate them. This will be monitored regularly through the management of the contract

*Completed by: Phil Swinton Health, Safety and Compliance Manager)*

## **2. Background to the Report**

- 2.1. The Council has a clear commitment in its Corporate Plan 2024 – 2027 to ensure that all residents can access housing which is safe, good quality, sustainable and suitable for their needs and future generations.
- 2.2. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to enter into a contract with ABCA Systems for Safety of Life Systems in HRA properties. The contract would be awarded for an initial period of 5 years with an option to extend for a further 2 years.
- 2.3. The Safety of Life Systems contract will include the installation of detection of fire systems, fire alarms, emergency lighting and servicing of fire extinguishers.
- 2.4. The procurement opportunity was tendered as a mini competition using a framework run by Efficiency East Midlands (EEM), for Fire and Intruder Alarms and Fire Protection Equipment EEM0067. An Expression of Interest was issued to all suppliers on the framework and interested suppliers were invited to submit a bid for the opportunity.
- 2.5. The Tender was made up of two questionnaire sets: one questionnaire for the selection criteria questions, and one for award criteria questions. The award criteria questions were evaluated as follows:

| Evaluation | Weighting |
|------------|-----------|
| Quality    | 50%       |
| Price      | 50%       |

- 2.6. An evaluation panel was constructed to ensure that individuals assigned to evaluate questions were the most suitable and relevant to the criteria being examined, based upon qualifications and experience. Each question was evaluated by at least two evaluators and their scores, and comments recorded.
- 2.7. Following the completion of the evaluation process, a moderation meeting was held by Welland Procurement on the 9 September 2024. This was attended by both the evaluators and Welland Procurement to review the scores and also to ensure that the scoring had been consistent and the key points in each question had been accounted for. As the scoring was consistent between the evaluators, average scoring was not used.
- 2.8. Following the completion of the evaluation and moderation process the scores awarded to the participants were as follows:

| Rank | Bidder       | Overall Score |
|------|--------------|---------------|
| 1    | ABCA Systems | 82.07%%       |
| 2    | Bidder 2     | 75.20%        |
| 3    | Bidder 3     | 58.54%        |

- 2.9. It is therefore recommended that the contract is awarded to ABCA Systems for the provision of Safety of Life Systems.

### **3. Key Considerations**

- 3.1. Key areas for consideration are that a contract for Safety of Life Systems is required to ensure that the Council is meeting its compliance responsibilities. The procurement has gone through a formal process and established a competitive outcome with a best value for money and quality of product.

### **4. Other Options Considered**

- 4.1 There are no other options available as the Council requires this contract to ensure compliance responsibilities are met.

### **5. Reasons for the Recommendations**

- 5.1. The proposed contract award has followed a compliant procurement process and shall provide the Council with the appropriate contracts to aid enable it to deliver the commitment to ensure that all residents can access housing which is safe, good quality, sustainable and suitable for their needs and future generations.

### **6. Appendices**

- 6.1 Appendix 1 – Safety of Life Systems Award Report.

