

Scotland Excel

To: Chief Executive Officers Management Group

On: 21st May 2018

Directors Update Report

1. Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide the group with an update on key developments within Scotland Excel since the last meeting of the Chief Executive Officers Management Group on 26th February 2018.

2. Summary

Since the group last met there have been a number of new developments

2.1 Local Government Digital Office (LGDO) update

Scotland Excel continues to work closely with the Chief Digital Officer to ensure alignment with the LGDO, and to provide procurement support as appropriate.

The procurement of a replacement for the SEEMIS system has been completed, and the contract with the successful bidder, Alscient, will commence this month. In addition, contracts for Data Hosting and Office 365 are under development, and will also be issued this month.

A PIN Notice was issued to facilitate better engagement with IT and digital suppliers, and meetings are ongoing with a number of key service providers.

Cross sector engagement with the NHS continues to inform and develop the next generation of the Telecare replacement framework.

2.2 Scottish Government funded projects – Affordable Housing/Social Care

Affordable Housing

Scotland Excel have completed the first year of the Scottish Government funded Procurement Commercial Improvement Programme(PCIP) assessments to support the housing sector. Scotland Excel are working with fifty-three housing associations who volunteered for the programme. At the end of March 2018 there were 37 full day pre-assessments and 13 full day PCIPs completed with the rest for completion in year two. Local Government have benefited from this programme in a number of ways.

Social Care – Care and Support Services

Following a period of consultation and engagement with a wide range of stakeholders, along with analysis of the market, consideration of council purchasing patterns and commissioning needs, Scotland Excel are now developing a strategy for the development of a national flexible framework agreement for the purchase of Care & Support services. This flexible framework agreement will be open to all 32 Scottish councils and any integrated Health and Social Care Partnership's (HSCPs) although 11 councils have advised that they are unlikely to participate due to their current contractual arrangements.

The flexible framework for care and support services will be the first national agreement for these services and represents an opportunity to contract with service providers on nationally agreed terms and conditions.

The flexible framework will seek to promote innovative approaches to promoting choice and control, increasing life choices and improving lifestyles for people using services, and supporting people to maintain or develop links with their communities.

The procurement strategy for these services will seek to support a holistic approach to delivering care and support which focuses on the achievement of personal outcomes. An appropriate lot structure will allow HSCPs to purchase care at home and supported living services separately but also identify where there are service providers who can deliver a holistic service. A key aim of the future strategy is to encourage service providers to deliver new and innovative approaches to service delivery.

Scotland Excel's priority is to ensure there is an increased level of choice of quality and value for money providers with the capacity and capability to deliver care and support to vulnerable people in communities throughout Scotland.

Key objectives of this strategy are:

- delivering a platform for new, creative and innovative approach to meeting the needs of people;
- enhancing a partnership approach in the market, where providers can focus their resources on delivering care and support;
- freeing up local resource spent tendering to allow greater focus on local service monitoring and market shaping;
- increasing fee transparency;
- delivering standardisation of terms and conditions; and;
- supporting positive workforce practices such as payment of the Scottish Living Wage (SLW).

2.3 Update on the Contract Plan

There are 59 current frameworks in the Scotland Excel contract portfolio, with 16 of these frameworks to be renewed before 31 March 2019. It is also planned that a further 7 new frameworks will be added to the contract portfolio by 31 March 2019. Four these are being coordinated through the operational supplies and services team.

A further eight of the frameworks on the current portfolio have extension options that are likely to be exercised in 2018/ 2019 (Appendix 3).

Overall, efficiencies delivered to date continue to be within the 2-4% forecast range.

In addition to the work ongoing within Care and Support Services, this year Scotland Excel will also deliver a new sourcing strategy for care home services for older people. This strategy, again co-produced with stakeholders, will build on current best practice and complement local strategic commissioning plans.

In the construction portfolio, Scotland Excel has released a prior information notice for a new build housing framework. The framework will aim to support council delivery of new affordable houses, enabling councils to attain a range of works and services.

2.4 The Scotland Excel Academy

The Scotland Excel Academy supports accredited work-based-learning, collaborating with 3 professional bodies and 7 Scottish university business school partners. The Academy delivers professional qualifications in procurement, leadership & management and project management.

The procurement qualification (MCIPS) is accredited by the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS), whilst the leadership and management qualifications are accredited by the Chartered Management Institute (CMI). In addition, Scotland Excel is the only public body in Scotland able to assess and award Chartered Manager.

The work-based-learning methodology provides a quick return for both the individual and the employer, where the learner directly applies new knowledge to their work-based-practice through project work.

The Academy delivers qualifications up to degree level, at a significant financial saving over existing private sector provision.

The Academy is now working towards delivering leadership & management qualifications to Masters level and accrediting project management qualifications with the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA).

The Academy supports a community of practice nationally, delivering regional practitioner workshops sharing best practice and masterclasses sharing thought leadership.

2.5 Contracts approved since February 2018

The following contracts have been approved at Executive Sub Committee since February 2018:

Children's Residential Care and Education Services including Short Breaks
Supply of Digital Publications and Services
Supply, Delivery, Servicing and Maintenance of Fire Safety Products.
Supply and Delivery of Power Tools

2.6 General update

New Associate Members

There has been one new associate member since the last CEOMG:

Hawthorn Housing Co-operative Ltd

Recent Awards

We were delighted to receive two awards at the UK Go Awards held in Manchester in April 2018.

We received a Highly Commended Award, for our Domestic Furniture and Furnishings framework, and we won the Leading Procurement Practice category for the work that we have done in developing an indexation model to monitor our contract financial performance against the market.