

Scotland Excel

To: Executive Sub Committee

On: 31 March 2017

**Report
by
Director Scotland Excel**

Request for Associate Membership of Scotland Excel by Blue Triangle Housing Association

1 Introduction

In addition to the 32 local authorities who are full members of Scotland Excel applications can be made for Associate Membership by organisations such as council arm's length organisations, community groups, charities, housing associations and voluntary organisations which are a public body or a body that engages in activities of a public nature.

Organisations apply to Scotland Excel for Associate Membership to allow them to access the frameworks for goods and services which we have in place for our full members. Associates do not have the opportunity to influence the future contract delivery schedule which is reserved for the full local authority members.

2 Application

Blue Triangle was established in 1975 by the office bearers of YWCA to become the housing arm of the group and manage their hostel properties.

The organisation now provides safe and secure mainly hostel type accommodation for vulnerable people who are homeless, at risk of homelessness or have a Looked After and Accommodated background. The organisation works with service users to help them gain the right skills to move onto more independent living and achieve a better quality of life

Currently the organisation provide a range of services, over 25 sites employing over 300 staff based in 9 local authority areas.

3 Legislative Position

Before any application is submitted to committee for consideration checks are made into the organisation including scrutiny of the Memorandum & Articles of Association, finances and the type of contracts that the organisation wishes to

access. Membership commences once committee has approved the application and a Membership Agreement between Scotland Excel and the organisation is signed. The Membership Agreement protects Scotland Excel and Renfrewshire Council in the event of default by the Associate Member in any contract.

Scotland Excel monitors all requests from organisations to become associate members to ensure that all legal requirements are met. In this case Blue Triangle qualify for membership under the Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970, section 1(1B)(c), namely that the organisation is a person who not being a public body has functions of a public nature or engages in activities of that nature and the purpose or effect of its access to Scotland Excel services is to facilitate its discharge of those functions or activities.

4 Recommendation

It is recommended to committee that Blue Triangle's application to join Scotland Excel as an associate member be approved, at an annual fee of £500, subject to completion and signing of the agreement document.