

Scotland Excel

To: Executive Sub Committee

On: 25 August 2017

Report by Director Scotland Excel

Request for Associate Membership of Scotland Excel by Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership

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 arms 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

Following a review of procurement capability within the organisation, Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership has applied to Scotland Excel for associate membership.

Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership owns and maintains more than 10,300 homes across Dumfries and Galloway. They directly employ around 200 people, and through their various maintenance and investment contracts they are responsible for the employment of many local construction industry workers. The area of Dumfries and Galloway is the third largest region in Scotland, covering 2,380 square miles, with a population of around 148,000 and Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership plays a significant role in many of the towns and villages.

Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership operate a governance structure that enables their tenants to have a valued input into the ownership and management of their homes. Tenants also make up the four District Management Committees

(DMCs), which are full sub-committees of their Board. This helps keep local decisions at a local level.

To ensure the efficient and cost effective delivery of these services they have approached Scotland Excel and requested approval to become an associate member with access to our contracts.

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.

Scotland Excel monitors all requests from arms-length and other organisations to become associate members to ensure that any legal requirements are met. In this case Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership qualify for membership as they are in accordance with the Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970, section 1(1B), namely that the organisation is not a public body, but it has functions of a public nature or engages in activities of that nature and the purpose of accessing Scotland Excel's services is to facilitate the discharge of those functions and activities.

4 Recommendation

It is recommended to committee that the Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership application to join Scotland Excel as an associate member be approved, at a £15,518 annual fee, subject to completion and signing of the agreement document.