

## **Scotland Excel**

**To: Executive Sub Committee**

**On: 25 October 2019**

**Report  
by  
Director Scotland Excel**

### **Request for Associate Membership of Scotland Excel by Loreburn Housing Association Ltd**

#### **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**

Loreburn Housing Association Ltd has 2376 properties based in Dumfries and Galloway and is a Community Benefit Society and a charity. It is also a Registered Social Landlord.

Loreburn Housing Association Ltd pays Scottish Living Wage and is currently in the process of applying for accreditation.

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

### **3 Legislative Position**

Before any application is submitted for approval, a number of validation checks on the organisation are carried out. These include a review of the Memorandum & Articles of Association, the financial position and the type of contracts that the organisation is likely to access.

Scotland Excel monitors all requests from arm's length and other organisations to become associate members to ensure that any legal requirements are met. In this case, Loreburn Housing Association Ltd qualifies for membership in accordance with the Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970 section 1 (1B) (c). Namely, that it has functions that are public in nature or engages in activities of that nature so long as the purpose or effect of access to Scotland Excel's services is to facilitate its discharge of those functions or activities.

### **4 Recommendation**

It is recommended to committee that Loreburn Housing Association Ltd application to join Scotland Excel as an associate member be approved, at a £3,564 annual fee, subject to the agreement document.