

## Scotland Excel

To: Executive Sub Committee

On: 25 August 2017

### Report by Director Scotland Excel

#### Request for Associate Membership of Scotland Excel by Weslo Housing Management 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 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, Weslo Housing Management Ltd has applied to Scotland Excel for associate membership.

Weslo Housing Management Ltd, a company limited by guarantee with charitable status is a Registered Social Landlord operating in the Falkirk and West Lothian Council areas. Their registered office is in Bathgate with a local office in Bo'ness.

Weslo Housing Management is governed by a Board of 12, headed by a non-Executive Chairman. The Board is made up of 4 tenant directors, 5 wider community representatives and 3 Executive Directors forming the Executive Team, who are charged with the day-to-day running of the business.

Weslo owns 2,400 properties in West Lothian and Bo'ness. They are also the estate manager to over 3,500 private owners who have acquired their properties through Right to Buy.

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 Weslo Housing Management Ltd 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 Weslo Housing Management Ltd.'s application to join Scotland Excel as an associate member be approved, at a £3,660 annual fee, subject to completion and signing of the agreement document.