

Scotland Excel

To: Executive Sub Committee

On: 13 October 2017

Report by Director Scotland Excel

Request for Associate Membership of Scotland Excel by Viewpoint 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 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 work carried out with them as part of a review of procurement capability within the organisation, Viewpoint Housing Association Ltd has applied to Scotland Excel for associate membership. Viewpoint's focus is on sheltered accommodation and alarm based housing amongst other types

Viewpoint Housing Association Ltd are a not for profit organisation and Scottish Charity and they are also a Registered Social Landlord.

Viewpoint Housing Association Ltd are registered:

- As a social landlord with The Scottish Housing Regulator
- As a charity with the Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator
- With the Care Inspectorate for the provision of housing support services, support services and care home services

Viewpoint Housing Association Ltd has 1313 self-contained units and 132 non self-contained units.

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 Viewpoint Housing Association Ltd qualify for membership as they 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 Viewpoint Housing Association Ltd application to join Scotland Excel as an associate member be approved, at a £2,170 annual fee, subject to completion and signing of the agreement document.