

Scotland Excel

To: Executive Sub Committee

On: 26 January 2018

**Report
by
Director Scotland Excel**

Request for Associate Membership of Scotland Excel by Caledonia 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, Caledonia Housing Association Ltd has applied to Scotland Excel for associate membership.

Caledonia Housing Association is one of Scotland's leading providers of high quality affordable homes for people in housing need.

Caledonia is a registered Scottish Charity and provides homes for rent and also low cost home ownership. They cater for many diverse needs, offering mainstream housing for families, couples and single people, as well as supported accommodation, sheltered and amenity housing, residential care and other specially adapted properties, including those specifically designed for wheelchair users.

They are governed by a voluntary Management Board. On a day to day basis, our activities are carried out by a paid staff team.

Caledonia Housing Association owns and manages 3450 homes across Tayside, Fife and the Highlands

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 Caledonia Housing Association 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 Caledonia Housing Association application to join Scotland Excel as an associate member be approved, at a £5,175 annual fee, subject to completion and signing of the agreement document.