

Delegated Officer Report
(Non Key and Contracts up to a value of £100k)

Contract Award Report

Decision Maker: Paul Clifford, Director of Economy

Date of Decision: 7th March 2023

Subject: Rough Sleeping Initiative Navigator Contract Award

Report Author: Moira Fields – Senior Housing Needs Officer

Ward (s): N/A

Reason for the decision: Oldham Council, as part the Greater Manchester response to homelessness, is committed to continuing to deliver a Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) Navigator service until 31st March 2025. Upon confirmation of funding from Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) to facilitate this, an opportunity was advertised to procure a supplier for the continued delivery of the service to follow on from the end of the current provider's contract.

Following completion of a competitive process for the delivery of RSI Navigator services in Oldham from 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2025, Sanctuary Trust Limited has been assessed as having delivered the best quality bid. This report therefore seeks authorisation to award and enter into a contract with Sanctuary Trust Limited.

Summary: Oldham Council have commissioned an RSI Navigator provider since October 2019, with the service being recommissioned in each funding round through a competitive process.

This RSI Navigator funding is provided by GMCA and runs from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2025. The incumbent provider, Sanctuary Trust Limited, were already in contract up to 31st October 2022 and an additional contract was approved and put in place to cover the 1st November to 31st March 2023, to provide time for the tendering process to take place.

The RSI Navigator service ensures that we are working towards ending rough sleeping within the borough and is based on assisting with the delivering of the three principles identified in the Oldham Rough Sleeping Plan;

1. Prevention - Stopping people sleeping rough for the first time.
2. Intervention – Support to those currently sleeping rough to move off the streets.
3. Recovery – Support to those who have slept rough to ensure they don't return to the streets

The RSI Navigator is tasked with sourcing accommodation and building effective networks of support for rough sleepers in the borough.

The RSI Navigator is key to tenancy sustainment for the cohort of identified entrenched rough sleepers. The ongoing support provided by the RSI Navigator continues through their journey in temporary accommodation schemes such as A Bed Every Night (ABEN) and stays with them when they are housed in an independent tenancy, in either the social or private sector.

3 eligible bids were received for the advertised opportunity to deliver an RSI Navigator service, which bids were evaluated in accordance with the evaluation criteria, with weightings of:

- 90% Technical Capacity
- 10% Social Value

Price was included as a pass/fail for this opportunity due to there being definitive levels of grant funding available. The price attributed to the contract is as follows:

- Year 1: £48,260*
- Year 2: £49,588*

NB. The amounts provided above include

provision of a small personalisation fund for rough sleepers of £5,000

Following evaluation, Sanctuary Trust Limited were assessed as the successful bidder, in particular having provided a good level of assurance around innovative and flexible approaches to non-engagement, the importance of lived experience and co-production in shaping rough sleeping services in Oldham, and reporting outcomes meeting both the service specification and GMCA's expectations around service provision.

It is therefore recommended that a contract is awarded to with Sanctuary Trust Limited.

What are the alternative option(s) to be considered? Please give the reason(s) for recommendation(s):

1. Award the RSI Navigator opportunity to and enter into a contract with Sanctuary Trust Limited (recommended): This is recommended to ensure the continued delivery of engagement and support provision for rough sleepers in Oldham.
2. Do not award the opportunity and deliver in-house (not recommended): The Council has undertaken a competitive tender exercise, and to withdraw from this would have reputational implications. Additionally, there is not currently staffing capacity to deliver RSI Navigator services in-house at short notice.
3. Do nothing (not recommended): This would have repercussions in terms of an increase in rough sleeping and reputational damage for the Council.

Consultation: including any conflict of interest declared by relevant Cabinet Member consulted.

No conflict of interest has been declared, a consultation has been undertaken with service users and partner agencies.

Recommendation(s):

Award the RSI Navigator tender to and enter into a contract with Sanctuary Trust Limited

Implications:

What are the financial implications?

As per the GMCA Grant Agreement 2022-2025 the value of Rough Sleeping Initiative Grant

approved for Oldham Council for the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2025 is £97,848.

This sum is split between the two years in the proportion –

Financial Year	Amount (£)
2023/24	£48,260
2024/25	£49,588
Total	£97,848

The value of the works proposed for approval with Sanctuary Trust Limited is for the full value of the grant. There are no additional costs to the Council.

(John Hoskins)

*What are the **legal** implications?*

Rule 4 of the Contract Procedure Rules require the completion of an open quotation exercise for contracts with a value of below £100,000.

Provided all bids were evaluated in accordance with the advertised evaluation and scoring criteria and provided a contract is entered into with the successful bidder, largely on the advertised contract terms and conditions, there are no known legal risks associated with the proposed contract award.

Sarah Orrell – Commercial & Procurement Solicitor

*What are the **procurement** implications?*

The Commercial Procurement Unit supports the recommendation outlined in the report. The procurement process has been carried out in line with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. A high-quality service provider has been identified through this process to achieve the desired outcomes. (Emma Wall – Category Manager)

*What are the **Human Resources** implications?*

As the successful tender was from Sanctuary Trust who currently hold the contract there are no HR implications.

Adele Savage, HR Advisory Operations Manager

***Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment** attached or not required because (please give reason)*

No change in service; previous EIA in place from service inception and has been kept under review.

What are the **property** implications

N/A

Risks:

The Council will need to manage the contract in accordance with the grant conditions (Mark Stenson)

Co-operative agenda

This decision will positively support the Council's cooperative agenda:

- **Fairness:** Continuation of provision of the RSI Navigator service via Sanctuary Trust Limited will ensure rough sleepers have continued access to support with no disruption to service.
- **Openness:** The RSI Navigator service is well publicised across Greater Manchester serving to highlight the extent of rough sleeping and homelessness and the need to respond to this.
- **Working together:** RSI Navigator will increase joint working between the council and its partners across all sectors to achieve better outcomes for our rough sleepers

Has the relevant Legal Officer confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council's Constitution?

Yes

Has the relevant Finance Officer confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council's budget?

Yes

Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council?

No

Reason(s) for exemption from publication:

3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person including the Council

There are no background papers for this report

In consultation with Paul Clifford, Director of Economy



Signed :

Date: 7 March 2023

