

DELEGATED POWERS REPORT NO.

1726

SUBJECT: The award of a contract to the Innovation Unit to support Barnet's Big Society Innovation Bank.

Control sheet

All of the following actions MUST be completed at each stage of the process and the signed and dated report MUST be passed to the Governance Service for publishing

All reports		
1. Governance Service receive draft report	Name of GSO Date	Paul Frost 06 July 2012
2. Governance Service cleared draft report as being constitutionally appropriate	Name of GSO Date	Paul Frost 10 July 2012
3. Finance clearance obtained (<i>report author to complete</i>)	Name of Fin. officer Date	John Hooton/ Maria Christofi 17 July 2012
4. Staff and other resources issues clearance obtained (<i>report author to complete</i>)	Name of Res. officer Date	N/A
5. Strategic Procurement clearance obtained (<i>report author to complete</i>)	Name of SPO Date	Lesley Meeks 17 July 2012
6. Legal clearance obtained from (<i>report author to complete</i>)	Name of Legal officer Date	Sheila Saunders 10 July 2012
7. Policy & Partnerships clearance obtained (<i>report author to complete</i>)	Name of P&P officer Date	Andrew Nathan 10 July 2012
8. Equalities & Diversity clearance obtained (<i>report author to complete</i>)	Name of officer Date	Julie Pal 10 July 2012
9. The above process has been checked and verified by Director, Head of Service or Deputy	Name Date	Stephen Evans 06 July 2012
10. Signed & dated report, <u>scanned or hard copy</u> received by Governance Service for publishing	Name of GSO Date	Paul Frost 23 July 2012
11. Report published by Governance Service to website	Name of GSO Date	Paul Frost 31 July 2012
12. Head of Service informed report is published	Name of GSO Date	Paul Frost 31 July 2012
13. Expiry of call-in period	Date	N/A
14. Report circulated for call-in purposes to Business Management OSC members & copied to Cabinet Members & Head of Service	Name of GSO Date	N/A

**ACTION TAKEN BY OFFICER UNDER DELEGATED POWERS
(EXECUTIVE FUNCTION)**

Subject The award of a contract to the Innovation Unit to support design and delivery of Barnet's Big Society Innovation Bank for 2012.

Officers taking decision Assistant Chief Executive

Date of decision 23 July 2012

Summary	To award a contract to the Innovation Unit to support design and delivery of Barnet's Big Society Innovation Bank for 2012.
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Officer Contributors Jody Nason, Development Manager, Third Sector Commissioning Team
Julie Pal, Strategic Policy Manager, Chief Executive's Service
Stephen Evans, Assistant Director Strategy

Status (public or exempt) public

Wards affected all

Enclosures None

Reason for exemption from call-in (if appropriate) Not applicable

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Serial No 1726

1. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

1.1 None

2. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 Awarding this contract to the Innovation Unit will strengthen the Big Society Innovation Bank Round 2 to deliver the corporate priority 'Sharing responsibilities, sharing opportunities' and will be mindful of the continuing need to deliver 'better services with less money'. We wish to focus potential applicants to generate innovative solutions to local problems and to ensure that successful applicants have proposals that are well thought through and sustainable. The Innovation Unit are best placed to support this because they have a strong track record of using innovation (both facilitation and research) to solve social challenges with both public sector and civil society partners.
- 2.2 The relationship between the Innovation Unit and council through the delivery of the Big Society Innovation Bank will also assist the council's ambition to develop a new relationship with citizens by empowering residents to become more involved in solving local problems.

3. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 3.1 The following risk assessment has been carried out and mitigation measures have been implemented. .

Risk	Level of risk			Mitigation
	High	Medium	Low	
Partner lacks capability to deliver the project	Low			Key milestones have been agreed with the Innovation Unit and will be carefully monitored.

4. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 4.1 Pursuant to the Equality Act 2010, the council and all other organisations exercising public functions on its behalf must have due regard to the need to: eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act; advance equality of opportunity between those with a protected characteristic and those without; promote good relations between those with a protected characteristics and those without. The relevant protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation. It, also, covers marriage and civil partnership with regard to eliminating discrimination.
- 4.2 Awarding of this contract will not compromise the council in delivering its strategic equality objective as set out in the Corporate Plan 2012-13.

5. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.1 As the contract value is below the relevant European threshold the requirements of The Public Contracts Regulations 2006 do not apply to this contract award. Nevertheless consideration was given to the proposal provided by the Innovation Unit and the decision to award this contract was based on synchronised outcomes.
- 5.2 The contract will be monitored throughout the duration of the process to ensure Value for Money.

6. LEGAL ISSUES

- 6.1 A formal written contract between the council and the selected provider will be prepared and executed in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, on behalf of both parties.

7. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

- 7.1 Part 3 of the Constitution - "Responsibility for Functions" – Section 6.1 – Powers Delegated to Officers - provides that Chief Officers can take decisions where it is a decision authorised to be taken by the Chief Officer under the Contract Procedure Rules.
- 7.2 Table 6-1 of Barnet's tendering and quotation thresholds for works, supplies and services states that for contracts of less than £24,999 the council must go through reasonable means of selection including budget authorisation and an audit trail.
- 7.3 Table 5-1 of the Contract Procedure Rules sets out Authorisation and Acceptance thresholds and provides that Directors/Heads of Service can accept quotations or tenders for works, supplies and services contracts with estimated values up to £173,933 where the tender is the lowest or where the tender represents value for money and is the best available option for the council.

8. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 8.1 Public funding has fallen sharply at a time when pressures on services, especially social care, are progressively building as a result of demographic changes. Growth in the Borough will bring additional pressures through the churn in population. At the same time, there is significant desire for a shift in greater public participation through the Localism Bill and the Government's Big Society Agenda.
- 8.2 The London Borough of Barnet's Sustainable Communities Strategy 2010 – 2020 identifies that a 'Strong Civic Society' as one of our core values. Barnet's Big Society Innovation Bank builds fits our corporate plan intention to build a citizen-centred organisation supported by a new relationship with our citizens. The Big Society Innovation Bank will provide resources to allow communities to design and delivery local responses to local problems.

8.3 The first round of the program was a success with eight projects awarded funding and support. However this year in round two, the Big Society Innovation Bank would like to place more emphasis on innovation and sustainability. The Innovation Unit are key to fostering innovation amongst potential applicants and have a track record of innovation exchange, facilitation, research and measurement. They are leaders demonstrating innovation through their work on previous projects such as their work with Knowsley council to build sustainable innovation. This round will utilise their knowledge to ensure that good ideas are generated and supported throughout the process.

8.4 The involvement of the Innovation Unit can be summarised in four stages.

- a. Horizon Scanning and data visualisation to promote innovation
- b. Workshop Presentation and Participation
- c. Bilateral feedback and support for selected projects – The Innovation Unit will run provide support to short listed participants with follow up bilateral conversations. This will help to create final submissions that are feasible and sustainable. These sessions will take place during October 2012 and will be led by the Innovation Unit.
- d. Post Award Workshops – The Innovation Unit will work with the awardees/potential awardees to provide targeted support. These workshops may include:
 - Ethnography and user insight
 - Design and service design
 - Commissioning and building a business case
 - Budgeting and Financial Management
 - Research and evaluation

8.5 The value of the contract is £18150 (£21780 including VAT) and will be paid in three instalments of £7260 subject to satisfactory provision of service.

9. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 None

10. OFFICER'S DECISION

10.1 I authorise the decision to award the contract to the Innovation Unit to support Barnet's Big Society Innovation Bank.

Signed

Assistant Chief Executive

Date

23 July 2012
