

**Report of:** *Smart Cities Lead*

**Report to:** *Chief Information Officer*

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015

**Subject:** Report to seek approval to award a contract to Hebe Works Ltd to develop the open data platform (The Data Mill) with other public bodies and support the Leeds version of this platform (The Leeds Data Mill) using the EU Negotiated Procedure without prior publication of a contract notice.

<p>Are specific electoral wards affected? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If 'yes', name(s) of ward(s):</p>
<p>Are there implications for equality and diversity or cohesion and integration? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><i>If you have identified any implications for specific groups you should indicate that here and provide more details under 'equality and diversity, cohesion and integration' in section 4.</i></p>
<p>Is the decision eligible for call-in? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><i>If the decision is anything other than a key decision made by an officer, or an executive decision made by the executive board, the decision will not be open to call-in. This should be explained under 'legal implications, access to information and call-in' in section 4.</i></p>
<p>Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If 'yes', access to information procedure rule number:</p> <p>Appendix number:</p>

### Summary of main issues

The Smart Cities programme includes an ambition to provide an Open Data Platform, which will become the focal point for Open Data hosting for the City.

The Government have set ambitious targets for the development of Open Data solutions within Cities with solutions meeting clear criteria:

- The platform must be truly open and based on an Open Source technology
- Must be a city wide resource and available to anyone

As part of this programme Innovate UK (Formerly the Technology Strategy Board) has grant funded an Open Data research project based on a collaboration between York City Council, University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN), Leeds City Council, York Local TV Channel (Hello York) and HeBe Works Ltd.

Under this collaboration HeBe Works Ltd. have exclusive rights to the Open Data Platform (Leeds Data Mill) in order to fulfil their obligations under the Grant Funding agreement.

HeBe Works Ltd. are the lead research partner and the main objectives of the project are:

- Provide insight into the value and impact of open data at a hyper local level
- Understand the conditions required for open data innovation to thrive at a hyper local level
- Understand the project's impact on the transparency and accountability of local government
- Understand the commercial opportunities that surround open data at a hyper local level

## **Recommendations**

**This report is to seek approval to award a contract to Hebe Works Ltd to develop the open data platform (The Data Mill) with other public bodies and support the Leeds version of this platform (The Leeds Data Mill) using the EU Negotiated Procedure without prior publication of a contract notice.**

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 This report is to seek approval to award a contract to Hebe Works Ltd to develop the open data platform (The Data Mill) with other public bodies and support the Leeds version of this platform (The Leeds Data Mill) using the EU Negotiated Procedure without prior publication of a contract notice.**

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 A Smart City is one which effectively maximizes the use of digital information and technology for the benefit of the whole City and communities. The world's most successful cities have digital programmes where public and private sectors co-operate to achieve sustainable city outcomes increasing economic competitiveness and prosperity.
- 2.2 As other leading smart Cities have shown, significant benefits can be realised by making data open and available across the City. The more we can make our data available, the more we will be supporting the innovation of organisations and individuals in our community who can develop, in a positive way, the capabilities of technology.

## **3 Main issues**

- 3.1 The Innovate UK collaboration project has brought together the Public, Private and Educational sectors to research and develop Hyper Local solutions using Open Data.
- 3.2 The Lead partner is HeBe works Ltd. who have responsibility for ensuring delivery of the project outcomes which are based on Open Data publication, the development of Co-Production services using Open Data, Open Data Hyper Local insights and data visualisations.
- 3.3 The achievement of the above is dependent on the availability of an appropriate Open Data platform and development capability.
- 3.4 The Leeds Data Mill provides the most appropriate technical and delivery environment for the Innovate UK project.
- 3.5 In addition HeBe Works Ltd. have the capability to deliver the outcomes of the project and develop required enhancements to the Data Mill service.
- 3.6 HeBe Works Ltd have an exclusive licence to utilize the Data Mill service as part of the Innovate UK project to support the exploitation of Open Data at the Hyper Local Level and to provide appropriate technical and service enhancements to the platform.**

## **4 Corporate considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and engagement**

- 4.1.1 This award and supporting licence has been developed with PPPU\PU, ICT Strategic Sourcing and ICT's Service leadership team, all of whom are supportive of the proposed approach.
- 4.1.2 Executive members with specific responsibilities for procurement and the council's digital strategy have been consulted and are supportive.

### **4.2 Equality and diversity, cohesion and integration**

- 4.2.1 Equality, diversity, cohesion and integration requirements are embedded in all planning processes for the Open Data and Innovate UK Programme
- 4.2.2 All programme and policy changes are assessed for equality, diversity, cohesion and integration, to ensure that access is fair and equal;

### **4.3 Council policies and the best council plan**

- 4.3.1 This award relates to external spend which supports the city and council objectives \ outcomes. Specifically Best City for Data.
- 4.3.2 The Innovate UK project and wider open data programme supports the ambition to be "The Best City Council in the UK" and the council's values. It will assist in the achievement of outcomes contained in the Best Council Plan 2015-2020 and help to deliver the wider city priorities, particularly 'Becoming a more efficient and enterprising council' and 'Promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth'.

### **4.4 Resources and value for money**

- 4.4.1 The budget is funded from an Innovate UK grants. The value of the expenditure under this agreement will not exceed £200k.
- 4.4.2 This award represents the lowest administrative cost and value for money when acquiring the required technical and artistic resources supporting the Open Data platform and the hyper local open data exploitation programme.
- 4.4.3 The contract shall expire automatically on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

### **4.5 Legal implications, access to information and call-in**

- 4.5.1 The value of this service does fall within the scope of the Public Contract Regulations.
- 4.5.2 The award is a significant operational decision taken by the Chief Information Officer and is not subject to call in.

## 4.6 Risk management

4.6.1 The risk with respect to this engagement under the Innovate UK programme is:

Intellectual property rights arising from the work that is generated – These are to be consistent with the smart cities strategy and it is anticipated that most products or services will be developed on open data principles without direct commercial benefit, for those engagements that are anticipated to generate the potential for commercial gain the intellectual property rights will be established prior to the agreement for funding.

## 5 Conclusions

5.1 HeBe Works are the Lead partner in an Innovate UK project and partnered with Leeds City Council, City of York Council, York Local TV (Hello York) and the University of Central Lancashire. A key component of this project is the exploitation of Open Data and the provision of an Open Data Platform.

Under the Innovate UK collaboration the contract needs to be awarded to HeBe Works Ltd. as they have exclusive rights to the Open Data Platform (Leeds Data Mill) in order to fulfil their obligations under the Grant Funding agreement.

The budget value for the work is set by the Government Funding (Innovate UK) which is very precise in detailing the outcomes required and the budget allocation. As the licence holder for Leeds Data Mill Developments, HeBe Works Ltd represents the best value approach for delivery.

## 6 Recommendations

6.1 **The Chief Information Officer is recommended to award a contract to HeBe Works Ltd to develop the open data platform (The Data Mill) with other public bodies and support the Leeds version of this platform (The Leeds Data Mill) using the EU Negotiated Procedure without prior publication of a contract notice.**

6.7 The decision should be taken immediately.

## 7 Background documents<sup>1</sup>

7.1 None

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.