

Commissioning and Procurement Approach for the Positive Pathway

The scale, complexity and ongoing development of the supported housing and homelessness service requires careful consideration of the approach taken to commission and procure the right services against the **Putting Prevention First Positive Pathway**.

Impending national changes to Supported Exempt Accommodation benefit regulations time lined for April 2019 means that the landscape for existing services is going to change. Local authorities are still awaiting further guidance from central government in terms of how local authorities will be expected to respond.

In addition the development of the **Prevention Positive Pathway** will require a high degree of co-design and shaping by well established providers and leaders in the market. The combination of these issues means that there is a need for an innovative and flexible approach to commissioning and procuring the appropriate services; some elements of which are not currently available.

There is an established market in Birmingham for Adult Support and Supported Accommodation; both providers and Council officers believe that a more collaborative and partnership based approach is needed to further develop and implement the Prevention Positive Pathway. There are two procurement routes that allow flexibility and we will consider which route(s) best meet the needs of the service during the pre-approved 2 year extension period of the Supporting People Contracts. These routes are: Competitive Dialogue and Innovation Partnership. We will consider applying some of the procurement methodology during the extension period in order to develop the pathway as well as a possible further extension of 3 years which would allow flexibility for co-design and time to model and test elements of the pathway further and adjust it accordingly; there will be an element of trial and error which requires flexibility and innovation within the contracted route.

Innovation Partnerships is a new option within Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and allows the opportunity to commission in a more innovative and collaborative way inviting the market to develop a new or significantly improved product, service or process with the purpose of helping solve societal challenges; it seems ideal to facilitate the changes outlined in the report.

This approach allows the local authority to team up with a single or multiple partners to research and develop innovative solutions. The process would allow the call for tender bids based upon some general requirements without pre-determining the solution enabling the providers to work with us to develop the solution. It also allows us the flexibility to commission as part of a staged process meaning that if the desired solution did not seem possible to achieve we could end the Innovation Partnership completely or at that stage. It is likely that there could potentially be a combination of the use of an Innovations Partnership and Competitive Dialogue to achieve the overall outcome as set out in the report.

Similar to Competitive Dialogue the knowledge and experience of those involved in the partnership in respect of the requirement of the service area are critical to success and the maturity and expertise of the current market lends perfectly to this option. Indicative Timelines are outlined below:

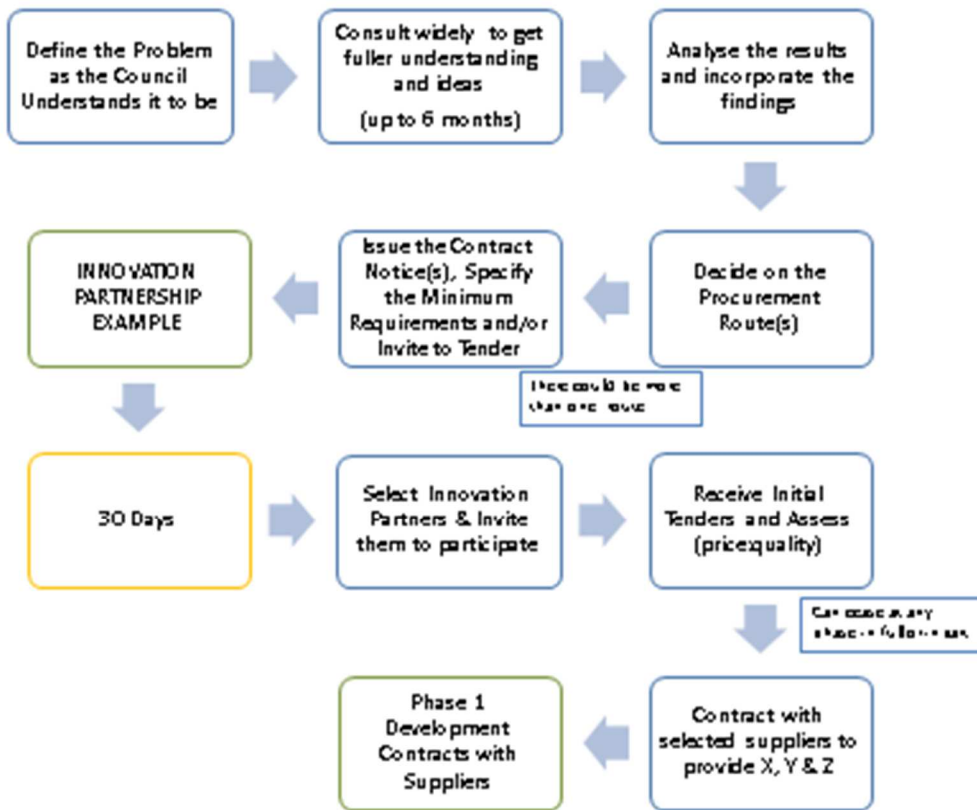
Phase	Action(s)	Purpose/outputs	Timelines	Involved Parties
Preliminary	Define the Problem as the Council Understands it to be	Sets the scope as the Council understands it to be following Cabinet Approval	December 2017	Project Board
Consultation & Engagement	Share the problem and seek feedback on the problem, outcomes, possible solutions, challenges and opportunities	Comprehensive Understanding of: the problem, outcomes needed, the challenges and the opportunities. This phase may also provide some solutions	January 2018 – June 2018	Service Users and Carers, Providers, Partners

Appendix Five Public Report

Analysis and Commissioning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Analyse the results of the engagement and incorporate the findings 2) Decide on the Procurement Route(s) 	An informed decision on how best to procure the solution including the value and length of potential contracts. It is anticipated that this will be either a Competitive Dialogue or Innovation Partnership.	July 2018	Project Board
Commissioning & Procurement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Issue the Contract Notice(s) Re-state the Problem and/or Specify the Minimum Requirements and or Invite to Tender 2) Award the Contract(s) 	Sets the scope of this phase and engages with the market to deliver and potentially develop solutions (or part of)	August 2018 – July 2019	Project Board & Procurement
Contract Management	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Manage the Contract(s) 	Ensure effective delivery and monitor against outcomes	August 2019 ongoing	Service

PROCUREMENT EXAMPLE - PREVENTION – POSITIVE PATHWAY

Prevention Pathway Example - Phase 1



Prevention Pathway Example - Phase 2

