

Devon and Cornwall Police Authority Resources Committee
3rd September 2009
Open for the purposes of FOI
Report of Sandy Goscomb, Interim Director of Finance and Resources

Construction Framework South West

Recommendation(s):

- (i) Resources Committee approve the use of Construction Framework South West and sign the User Agreement

Introduction / Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to update the members of the Police Authority Resources Committee as to the purpose and benefits of the Construction Framework South West, and agree the signing of the User Agreement.

Background Information

2. Devon County Council have led on a collaborative procurement exercise on behalf of the RIEP (Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership), formerly SW Centre of Excellence, to award a Construction Framework which is designed to be used by any public body in the South West for major construction projects.
3. The framework is awarded to commence on 1st August 2009 for a period of four years.
4. The framework will comprise of 11 contractors who have been selected from a long list of over 40 original applicants.
5. The use of the framework will provide many benefits including; reduction in tendering costs, lower construction costs through the use of mini competitions and benchmarking of the contractors, collaborative contract management, improved construction times, supporting the local economy, and sharing of best practice across the wider public sector in the South West.
6. For an organisation to access the framework, Devon County Council as lead organisation require participants to sign the User Agreement (as included at Appendix A).
7. The User Agreement covers the following:
 - To work collaboratively and feedback lessons learnt and contractors performance
 - The agreement warrants that the framework users will not hold the lead organisation (Devon County Council) or RIEP responsible for any claims, liabilities, losses or costs arising out of or pursuant to the framework user entering in to this agreement or any underlying contracts that result from its use.
 - The framework user shall comply with the terms of the framework.
 - We are not bound to use the framework if we feel that an alternative procurement approach is more appropriate.
 - The use of the framework will be free of charge for at least 2 years.
8. The User Agreement has been reviewed by Jill Gratwick, Force Legal Advisor who has confirmed that there are no issues of concern.

Contact: for further information

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Sponsored by Sandy GOSCOMB, Interim Director of Finance and Resources