

10. PROCUREMENT ARRANGEMENTS – SUPPLY OF LONE WORKER ALARMS

The Council Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Estates providing information on the position in regard to the contract for lone worker alarms.

The report advised that following Council Executive on 1 November 2011, IT Services conducted a Mini Competition for a lone care worker solution with the UK Government's Buying Solutions framework for Telecare, Telehealth and Telecoaching – Telehealth Products. All 27 suppliers on the framework were invited to quote and the council received returns from Tunstall Healthcare (UK) Limited and Alere Connected Health Limited. The submission from Alere Connected Health Limited was deemed to be the most economical advantageous tender based on the agreed award criteria.

The Head of Finance and Estates advised that it was intended that an award of contract be issued to Alere Connected Health Limited. However, in spite of repeated attempts to progress, Alere Connected Health Limited and Reliance High-Tech Ltd had been unable to reach agreement over pass through liabilities in the event of any contractual dispute.

The report went on to advise that the capital budget of £130,000 identified for the supply of lone worker alarms would be retained pending the outcome of the business case review which was to be completed by 31 July 2013 and reported back to Council Executive.

In conclusion the report advised that it was not possible to reach an agreement for a contract for lone worker solutions with Alere Connected Health Limited. It was proposed that the business case be reviewed by the Head of Social Policy to determine future action.

The report recommended that the Council Executive:-

1. Note the council would not be progressing with Office of Government Commerce Buying Solutions framework for the provision of lone worker solutions.
2. Agree that the business case for lone worker alarms would be reviewed to determine appropriate future action.
3. Agree that a further report on how issue should be presented to be Council Executive after options had been considered.

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.