

Report to	Cabinet	Item
	14 October 2020	
Report of	Head of neighbourhood housing services	9
Subject	To award a contract for solar thermal water heating to social housing properties	

KEY DECISION

Purpose

To seek approval to award a contract for solar thermal water heating to social housing properties.

Recommendations

To award the contract for the installation of thermodynamic hot water systems for housing properties 2020-21 to Impact Renewable Energy Ltd.

Corporate and service priorities

The report helps to meet the corporate priority Great neighbourhoods, housing and environment

Financial implications

The value of the contract will be up to a maximum spend of £500,000. Funding for this will be taken from the HRA capital budget allocated to improve energy efficiency of council owned homes.

Ward/s: Multiple Wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Harris - Deputy leader and social housing

Contact officers

Lee Robson, head of neighbourhood housing services 01603 212939

Paul Venn – Interim Director, NPS Norwich Ltd 01603 227900

Background documents

None

Report

1. The councils stated ambitions in its strategy for the city's council housing is not only to make sure that homes are well maintained but that they are fuel efficient and cheap to run with low emissions and carbon use.
2. The installation of Thermodynamic hot water systems is one part of that approach.
3. Housing Thermodynamic hot water systems include panels which sit on the roof of a property. In addition to reducing the city's carbon footprint, the panels use the sun's thermal energy to provide some free hot water to the tenant all through the year.
4. To date, Norwich City Council has successfully installed over 700 thermodynamic hot water systems to its housing properties.
5. Installing thermodynamic hot water systems to housing properties throughout the city assists the council's objective of reducing fuel poverty.
6. In addition to any reduction in fuel poverty, it will reduce the risk of tenants falling into arrears due to rising energy costs. This may also release money into the local economy that would have otherwise gone towards fuel bills.
7. A procurement process was undertaken, commencing in August 2020. Three tenders were received. A tender evaluation exercise was completed which concluded that Impact Renewable Energy Ltd is the preferred supplier. Impact Renewable are the current contractor who have successfully delivered the programme of installations during 2019-20
8. The tendering supplier has delivered these requirements in previous years and the rates supplied are similar in comparison to tenders previously awarded for these works.
9. Based upon the tender submitted, officers anticipate that there will be approximately 130 thermodynamic systems installed during 2020-21. The installations will be targeted as far as possible to the tenancies identified as most at risk of fuel poverty and in need of energy efficient heating/water systems.

Procurement process

10. The procurement exercise adhered to Norwich City Council's Contract Procedures in that it was conducted fairly, transparently and in an open and regularised way and which conformed to relevant legal requirements.

Integrated impact assessment



NORWICH
City Council

Report author to complete

Committee:	Cabinet
Committee date:	14 October 2020
Director / Head of service	Lee Robson
Report subject:	To award a contract for Solar Thermal Water Heating to social housing properties
Date assessed:	September 2020

	Impact			
Economic (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Finance (value for money)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This procurement process ensures the Council achieves the best value for money. In comparison to previous tender returns, it is competitively priced.
Other departments and services e.g. office facilities, customer contact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ICT services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Economic development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The thermodynamic panels can reduce energy bills and fuel poverty. Through employment of local labour, the project assists in social economic benefits for the city and county.
Financial inclusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above
Social (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Safeguarding children and adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>S17 crime and disorder act 1998</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Recommendations from impact assessment

Positive

Reduced fuel bills therefore preventing fuel poverty, reduction in carbon emissions within the housing stock and for the city contributing to our overall reduction target.

Negative

Neutral

Issues