



CABINET

7.30 pm	Wednesday 9 October 2024	Council Chamber - Town Hall
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Members 9: Quorum 3

Councillor Ray Morgon (Leader of the Council), Chairman

	Cabinet Member responsibility:
Councillor Gillian Ford	Lead Member for Adults & Wellbeing
Councillor Oscar Ford	Lead Member for Children & Young People
Councillor Paul McGeary	Lead Member for Housing & Property
Councillor Paul Middleton	Lead Member for Digital, Transformation & Customer Services
Councillor Barry Mugglestone	Lead Member for Environment
Councillor Natasha Summers	Lead Member for Housing Need & Climate Change
Councillor Christopher Wilkins	Lead Member for Finance
Councillor Graham Williamson	Lead Member for Regeneration

Zena Smith
Head of Committee and Election Services

For information about the meeting please contact:
Bernadette Lynch tel: 01708 434849
e-mail: bernadette.lynch@havering.gov.uk



Webcast

**Please note that this meeting will be webcast.
Members of the public who do not wish to appear
in the webcast will be able to sit in the balcony,
which is not in camera range.**

Under the Committee Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution the Chairman of the meeting may exercise the powers conferred upon the Mayor in relation to the conduct of full Council meetings. As such, should any member of the public interrupt proceedings, the Chairman will warn the person concerned. If they continue to interrupt, the Chairman will order their removal from the meeting room and may adjourn the meeting while this takes place.

Excessive noise and talking should also be kept to a minimum whilst the meeting is in progress in order that the scheduled business may proceed as planned.

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Members of the public are entitled to report on meetings of Council, Committees and Cabinet, except in circumstances where the public have been excluded as permitted by law.

Reporting means:-

- filming, photographing or making an audio recording of the proceedings of the meeting;
- using any other means for enabling persons not present to see or hear proceedings at a meeting as it takes place or later; or
- reporting or providing commentary on proceedings at a meeting, orally or in writing, so that the report or commentary is available as the meeting takes place or later if the person is not present.

Anyone present at a meeting as it takes place is not permitted to carry out an oral commentary or report. This is to prevent the business of the meeting being disrupted.

Anyone attending a meeting is asked to advise Democratic Services staff on 01708 433076 that they wish to report on the meeting and how they wish to do so. This is to enable employees to guide anyone choosing to report on proceedings to an appropriate place from which to be able to report effectively.

Members of the public are asked to remain seated throughout the meeting as standing up and walking around could distract from the business in hand.

DECLARING INTERESTS FLOWCHART – QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF



AGENDA

1 ANNOUNCEMENTS

On behalf of the Chair, there will be an announcement about the arrangements in case of fire or other events that might require the meeting room or building's evacuation.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

(if any) - receive

3 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members are invited to disclose any interests in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting. Members may still disclose an interest in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter.

4 MINUTES

Due to the short amount of time between the previous Cabinet Meetings, the minutes for the September Cabinet meetings will be presented alongside the October Cabinet minutes at the November meeting.

5 AWARD OF A PRE-CONTRACT SERVICE AGREEMENT TO DEVELOP THE DESIGNS FOR THE NEW BALGORES SPECIAL SCHOOL (Pages 5 - 68)

6 AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR ULEZ COMPLIANT BUSES FOR PTS TO TRANSPORT CLIENTS ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN AND ADULT SERVICES (Pages 69 - 82)

7 DIRECT AWARD OF SOCIAL CARE CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM - LIQUIDLOGIC (Pages 83 - 96)

8 COMMENCEMENT OF PROCUREMENT OF THE REPLACEMENT HOUSING SYSTEM (Pages 97 - 106)



This Report is part exempt and Appendices A and B are not available for public inspection as they contain or relate to exempt information within the meaning of paragraph [no/s] of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. It is exempt because it refers to commercially sensitive information and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

CABINET

Subject Heading:

Award of a Pre-Contract Service Agreement to develop the designs for the new Balgores Special School

Cabinet Member:

Councillor Oscar Ford, Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Councillor Paul McGeary, Cabinet Member for Housing and Property

ELT Lead:

Neil Stubbings, Strategic Director of Place

Report Author and contact details:

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Policy context:

Supports educational outcomes within the broader opportunities' context of the Havering Vision.

Financial summary:

This is a post Stage 1 tender award of a PCSA contract for the price of £ 2,328,096 to Galliford Try Ltd.

Is this a Key Decision?

Yes

When should this matter be reviewed? October 2024

Reviewing OSC: Full Overview and Scrutiny Board

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

- People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well
- Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy
- Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council

SUMMARY

This report details the procurement process to appoint a developer to design and offer firm price for the delivery of the new Special School on the Balgores Field on Balgores Ln, Gidea Park, Romford RM2 6BS, to provide Havering resident children with special educational needs with the educational care they require. Details are provided of the financial (capital) implications of the project and a master programme is also given, to identify where this report sits within the larger governance pathway associated with this development.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To agree to

1. award preferred bidder status for a 2 stage construction contract for the construction of Balgores Special School to Galliford Try Ltd; and
2. award Galliford Try Ltd a stage 1 Pre Contract Service Agreement (PCSA) for the development of the designs associated with the new school at a value of 2,328,096.

To note that:

1. The PCSA contract length is anticipated at 51 weeks.
2. Following completion of services under the PCSA, a further report will be brought to Cabinet with a recommendation for award of a construction contract at Stage 2.

REPORT DETAIL

Wider context to this decision

The proposed new school should be aligned with the Children and Young People Education Place Planning Plan 2023 -2027. This is a four-year rolling plan that is updated annually. It sets out how Havering Council seeks to ensure there is sufficient capacity to meet demand for early years, primary, secondary, post-16, special school places and alternative provision places across the borough. Furthermore, the ethos of the new school should be shaped by Havering's Draft SEND and Alternative Provision Strategy (final version to be published, March 2024) which emphasises the local authority's vision to:

1. Build parent and carer confidence in the local SEND and Alternative Provision system, through systematic co-production at all levels from EHCPs to service development.
2. Work in partnership across education, health and care to deliver the right services at the right time, to prevent problems escalating through early intervention and early help.
3. Ensure that when new provision and support is created, that Health, Education, and the Local Authority share responsibility to ensure that high quality support is in place for children, young people, and families when and where they need it. This will be enhanced by our emphasis on quality assurance through Delivering Better Value, including our strength based peer review model.
4. Ensure children and young people with SEND can access the help and support they need to thrive and achieve within their local communities. They can go to local education provision that meets their needs, access services and play an active role in the community close to where they live.
5. Give families easy access to information which helps them understand how best to support their child or young person's needs and access the help that is offered. This will include co-producing an improved website and local offer to diversify usage.
6. Ensure children, young people, and families have access to the same level of high-quality support and education, wherever they live in Havering.

Approvals for this scheme

Approval for the development of a new Special School at Balgores was agreed by the full Council in its meeting in November 2023.

The proposal to develop a new Special School is expected to have several positive outcomes, including but not limited to:

- a. To improve the health and wellbeing of Havering resident children who need not be transported out of Borough (sometimes over long distances) to get their special education;
- b. To lower the revenue costs associated with special education for Havering resident children (including transportation cost).

The process including the procurement process has been managed by the Balgores Special School Project Board (BSSPB) of offices, who have also brought in the services of an external Project Management firm, Playle and Partners LLP.

Approval to tender and Procurement strategy

The procurement strategy for this development, which has been agreed by the SPU and by the Gateway Review Group, is to carry out a two-stage tender exercise for

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the appointment of a design and build developer via a National framework (Southern Construction Framework).

Approval for the commencement of this tender exercise was agreed on the 12.02.2024, and subsequently another decision was made on the 14.03.2024 to change the weightings applied to the tender scoring.

Procurement report

The tender exercise provided no.4 compliant offers, which were evaluated for quality, compliance and commercial soundness.

Upon completion of the Stage 1 of the tender, this was reported to GRG (Gateway Review Group) who signed it off recommending approval.

Details of the four bids (including company names of the bidders) are included in exempt Appendix A.

Outcome of the tender exercise

In conclusion of the tender exercise, it is recommended that a PCSA contract is awarded to **Galliford Try Ltd** who ranked first in the ranking of the tenderers and who offered £ 2,328,096 for the cost of the PCSA.

Nature of the PCSA contract

A Pre-Contract Services Agreement (PCSA) is a contractual arrangement between a client and a contractor that outlines the terms and conditions under which the contractor will perform preliminary services before the main construction contract is signed. These services typically include activities such as design development, cost estimation, scheduling, procurement planning, and securing necessary approvals.

The PCSA helps to ensure that all preparatory work is completed efficiently, reducing risks and potential delays once the full project commences. By clearly defining the scope, timeline, and payment terms for these early-stage tasks, a PCSA fosters a collaborative environment and establishes a foundation for a smoother transition to the main construction phase.

Contract outcomes

During the proposed contract the developer will develop the designs, in dialogue with the end user (the School Trust) and under the direct supervision of the BSSPB and its appointed project managers and will produce a submission to planning and a fully priced firm tender (which will be subject to a further award report).

It is to be noted that the contractual outcomes of the PCSA will remain property of the London Borough of Havering who could, in the unlikely event of a Stage 2 mis-tender, decide to appoint a different developer to construct these designs.

Risk profile

As with any contractual undertaking, the Council entering into a Pre-Contract Services Agreement (PCSA), faces several risks. The three main ones include:

Financial Risk: There is the possibility of cost overruns or unforeseen expenses arising during the pre-contract phase. *Mitigation:* We have the ability to undertake (and have made a PCSA Programme allowance for) a Value Management / Value Engineering Workshop to get the Works within Budget. The Contractor also has multiple Client Engagement Meeting arranged during the PCSA Programme to work up the design (and identify cost creep). We also will have regular Meetings (during the PCSA Programme) iterating the same. The Stage 2 pricing submission will also be open book with 3 quotes per package to be substantiated to demonstrate value for money (this process is in line with Government Guidelines for 2 stage procurement). We also have no obligation under the PCSA to appoint Galliford Try to proceed into and under the Main JCT Design & Build Contract so LBH can terminate the PCSA and will only be liable for the costs of works completed at the time of termination as per the PCSA clauses. LBH-BSSPB has also ensured that detailed cost estimations are in place and has included provisions for cost recovery if the main contract is not awarded.

Scope Creep: Without clear and precise definitions of the scope of work, there is a risk of scope creep, where additional tasks and requirements are added incrementally. *Mitigation:* LBH-BSSPB has created well defined scope of works and services associated with this project.

Contractor Performance Risk: The quality and timeliness of the contractor's performance during the pre-contract phase are critical. If the contractor fails to deliver satisfactory work or meet deadlines, it can disrupt the project timeline and affect the quality of the preparatory work. *Mitigation:* LBH-BSSPB has assessed the competency and resource availability of the bidders and it has found them capable to perform.

The Project Board and Team maintains a live risk register and a change control procedure to monitor and manage the risks above and all the other project associated risks.

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Master programme

For information, the following master programme for this project is given as follows:

Activity	Completed on
This cabinet report signed off	18.10.2024
Call-in period	26.10.2024
Contract award (PCSA)	27.10.2024
Design development	28.10.2024
Planning Application	02.10.2025
Anticipated Planning Decision	02.01.2026
Confirmation of Fix Price Tender (end of Stage 2)	01.09.2025
Cabinet report signed off	28.10.2025
Cooling off period	05.11.2025
Contract Award (D&B)	01.12.2025
Mobilisation to site	27.01.2026
Contract works finish	28.06.2027
School in occupation	September 2027

REASONS AND OPTIONS

Reasons for the decision:

The principal reason for the decision detailed in this report is the tender exercise outcome, which clearly indicated that Galliford Try Ltd is to be awarded the contract.

Other options considered:

Re tender Re tendering for these same services is unlikely to generate any significant savings. On the other hand it is going to create a substantial delay on the preparation of the building plans etc. and therefore delay the overall completion of the school building project. This option is therefore rejected.

Do nothing Doing nothing would fail to appoint a developer and this means that no new special school will be constructed. This is to the detriment of the Havering resident children with special educational needs (who will need to keep on travelling for out-of-Borough education) and of the Council who would need to support the revenue costs associated with this. This option is therefore rejected.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

The outcome of the tender exercise (Stage 1 of 2) is the following:

Cost to appoint Galliford Try Ltd under a PCSA: £ 2,328,096.

Please note that the selection of the Contractor is here based on their overall ranking for the totality of the works, which is the subject of the two stage tender exercise. By determining that Galliford Try are the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT) bidder for the whole works, the Council has equally determined that they would be the most suitable contractor to carry out the PCSA.

It is not envisaged that this PCSA cost will be exceeded.

The capital cost implications of the whole project are given for information only and are detailed in the schedule below:

	Pre Tender	Post Tender
	Estimate	Actuals
Contract works	£ 33,010,000	£ 31,388,548
PCSA	£ 400,000	£ 2,328,096

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Contractor's design fees	£ 1,100,000	(included above)
FF&E and ICT	£ 600,000	£ 600,000
Professional fees and surveys	£ 490,000	£ 490,000
Risks, contingencies and inflation	£ 3,400,000	£ 4,000,000
Total project cost	£ 39,000,000	£ 38,806,644

All of which will be covered within the approved budget (cost code C41160) which has been approved for this project, at the Full Cabinet meeting on the 8th November 2023. This funding is Basic Need which the Department for Education has granted to London Borough of Havering for the establishment of school places.

During the development of the PCSA the appointed contractor will develop a firm price which will if successful, constitute the basis of the appointment of a Design and Build contract to construct the new Special School. This will be subject to a separate post Tender (Stage 2) award report and decision.

The new Special School is expected to produce revenue cost reductions in out-of-Borough SEND education and the transport used for anticipated future pupil placement demand.

Legal implications and risks:

Local Authorities should have regard to sections 13, 13A and 14 of the Education Act 1996 which require local authorities to ensure efficient primary, secondary and further education are available to meet the needs of the population of their area. The provision sought will be targeted to those identified with needs as assessed under Children and Families Act 2014.

The Council must ensure that there are sufficient schools for providing primary and secondary education in its area, which must be sufficient in number, character and equipment to provide for all pupils the opportunity of appropriate education, in accordance with section 14 of the Education Act 1996. The Council is making a decision to procure a contract for building works for that purpose.

The Council has the general power of competence under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 to do anything an individual may generally do. The contract may be procured in accordance with these powers.

Additionally, the Council has the power to procure the contract under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 which, permits the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of its functions.

The total value of the 2 stage contract is above the Public Contracts Regulations threshold for Works. Award of preferred bidder status is caught by the full PCR 2015 regime. The Southern Construction Framework is a PCR2015 compliant framework which Havering, as a London based contracting authority may use. Award of the contract is therefore PCR2015 compliant.

For the reasons set out above, the Council may award preferred bidder status for construction of Balgores Special School to Galliford Try Ltd. and enter into a PCSA with Galliford Try Ltd. for the first stage of the two stage construction contract.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There are no Human Resources implications associated with this decision.

Equalities implications and risks:

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to:

- (i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex/gender, and sexual orientation.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

Health and Wellbeing implications and Risks

There are no direct Health and Wellbeing implications associated with the recommendation for the award of pre-contract service agreement associated with the new Balgores Field Special School to Galliford Try Ltd.

In the context of the increasing SEND school provision within the borough, steps to progress with delivery of the Balgores Field Special School will contribute to future

health and wellbeing benefits for residents, by enabling more children to access specialist provision closer to home, reducing impacts of potentially lengthy travel to out-of-borough provision on pupils, parents and carers.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

In general

The project subject of this relates to improving building efficiency within the educational asset portfolio and delivers a modern and efficient facility which is more efficient and more environmentally friendly than the rest of the educational portfolio.

The following sections outline the environmental and climate change considerations that have been addressed as part of the building design and procurement of the construction contract which is subject to the present report. This has been divided into design considerations and contractor selection considerations.

Design element

The proposed appointee has demonstrated an outstanding level of knowledge and experience in delivering BREEAM excellent and net zero carbon in operation (NZCiO) projects, following all the best guidance available on the subject (including the ones issued by LETI). As part of the Employers Requirements for the PCSA the Council has made its ambitions known and the proposed developer has demonstrated their understanding and their capacities of taking these challenges on and delivering a modern, sustainable and beautiful learning environment for Havering resident children with special learning needs.

Procurement element

As part of the tender exercise, tenderers have been asked to produce their environmental credentials, and have been evaluated on this basis, along with other technical queries. In particular, tenders have been evaluated in relation to their response to waste management, energy and carbon footprint questions

All tender responses have been evaluated carefully and the winning tenderer, which this report proposes to award the contract to, has fully demonstrated their understating of all the issues under hand, and they have demonstrated proactive, above and beyond commitments and practical steps taken to improve their environmental policies and practices and to reduce site waste and operational carbon emissions.

Lastly, as part of the Council's commitment to go paper free, the tender exercise, which some years ago would have resulted in huge amounts of paper being produced, has been moved online and it is now a fully digitalised exercise.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix A tender report (commercially sensitive)

Appendix B Playle & Partners Tender report (commercially sensitive)

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Equality & Health Impact Assessment (EqHIA)

Document control

Title of activity:	Specification for new special Free School on Balgores site-free school presumption process
Lead officer:	Pooneeta Mahadeo, School Organisation Manager, Learning & Achievement, People
Approved by:	Trevor Cook, Assistant Director of Education, Learning & Achievement, Children's Services
Version Number	V0.1
Date and Key Changes Made	12 March 2024
Scheduled date for next review:	September 2027

Did you seek advice from the Corporate Policy & Diversity team?	Yes
Did you seek advice from the Public Health team?	No
Does the EqHIA contain any confidential or exempt information that would prevent you publishing it on the Council's website? See Publishing Checklist.	No

1. Equality & Health Impact Assessment Checklist

Please complete the following checklist to determine whether or not you will need to complete an EqHIA and ensure you keep this section for your audit trail. If you have any questions, please contact READI@havering.gov.uk for advice from either the Corporate Diversity or Public Health teams. Please refer to [this Guidance](#) on how to complete this form.

About your activity

1	Title of activity	Specification for new special Free School on Balgores site- free school presumption process		
2	Type of activity	Project		
3	Scope of activity	The scope of the EQHIA is to assess the impact of the proposal to implement a new special school in Havering. The new special school is required in order to meet the demand for special school places generated but the increasing numbers of children and young people with SEND.		
4a	Are you changing, introducing a new, or removing a service, policy, strategy or function?	Yes	If the answer to <u>either</u> of these questions is 'YES', please continue to question 5.	If the answer to <u>all</u> of the questions (4a, 4b & 4c) is 'NO', please go to question 6.
4b	Does this activity have the potential to impact (either positively or negatively) upon people from different backgrounds?	Yes		
4c	Does the activity have the potential to impact (either positively or negatively) upon any factors which determine people's health and wellbeing?	Yes	<i>Please use the Screening tool before you answer this question.</i>	
5	If you answered YES:	Please complete the EqHIA in Section 2 of this document. Please see Appendix 1 for Guidance.		
6	If you answered NO:	N/A		

Completed by:	Pooneeta Mahadeo, School Organisation Manager, Learning & Achievement, People
Date:	12/02/2024

2. The EqHIA – How will the strategy, policy, plan, procedure and/or service impact on people?

Background/context:

The London Councils briefing [Delivering transport services for children with Special Educational Needs](#) from 2022 stated that survey returns from 28 London local authorities revealed that overall spend on SEN transport services will increase by 37% over 4 years. Furthermore the briefing stated that in 2021, London had 72,000 children and young people on an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) – an increase of 97% since 2010 and 75% since the introduction of the Children’s and Families Act in 2014.

The London Councils briefing [Managing falling school rolls in London](#) from 2024 states that London has been grappling with a steady increase in the number of children identified with SEND in recent years. In the last year alone, the number of children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCPs) in London has increased by 9% from January 2022 to January 2023.

Nationally, Department for Education statistics show that in January 2023 the [number of pupils in schools in England with SEND Education Health Care Plans](#) increased by 9.5% on the previous year.

This all underpins the fact that there is a national increase in children with special educational needs, which in turn leads to an increase in demand for specialist school places to accommodate the educational needs of pupils with SEND.

Havering’s Cabinet approved the draft Children and Young People Education Place Planning Plan 2023-2027 at its meeting on 8 March 2023 and recommended that it should be circulated for wider consultation. A consultation survey was undertaken by the School Organisation Team from Monday 20 March 2023 to Monday 15 May 2023. The survey was to gather views from education providers, parents and other stakeholders, concerning proposals that will help address the needs identified in the plan, including ways to meet increased demand for school places and to improve the quality of education in the borough.

The survey was structured on the need to understand the following:

- Views on sufficiency of early years, primary, secondary, Post 16, SEND and alternative provision in the borough.
- The important elements/principles that parents and other education stakeholders would like the local authority to consider when a decision is being made on the commissioning and delivery of early years, primary, secondary, Post 16, SEND and alternative provision places.
- Options on how the future projected demand for early years, primary, secondary, Post 16, SEND and alternative provision places could be delivered.

Two different survey questionnaires were issued; one for parents and another for all other stakeholders. For the stakeholder survey, additional questions were added regarding the education vision, future priorities over the plan period and demographic trends. In total 427 responses were received. In response to the consultation on the

CYPEPPP, the majority of parents and stakeholders (64%) agreed that we need a new special school in Havering. The Children and Young People Education Place Planning Plan 2023-2027 was finalised in August 2023.

All Local Authorities including Havering have a statutory duty to provide sufficient schools places to all children that live in the borough.

Our vision is for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to enjoy their education in the most inclusive environment possible, and be supported in participating as fully as they can in the lives of their schools and local community.

Our lack of special school places mean that some children who really need these places, are either supported inappropriately in mainstream, have to go to out-of-borough special schools (if we can find places), or as a last resort are on part-time timetables or are out of school with tutors or alternative provision. The number of children going to out-of-borough schools has increased, although these places are becoming harder to find due to similar pressures across the whole system. Where we do find places, we then need to provide transport and this is currently costing in excess of £3m. The numbers of complaints regarding lack of special school places are significantly increasing.

Given the scale of the increase in children and young people with SEND projected, additional SEND provision will be needed in Havering in order to meet the needs of its residents. Not only are the numbers of children and young people with SEND increasing, but the complexity of their SEND needs are also becoming more severe.

As such, it is proposed that Havering build a new 300 place special school on the playing Field off Balgores Lane, to the rear of Gidea Park Library.

Who will be affected by the activity?

This includes but is not limited to:

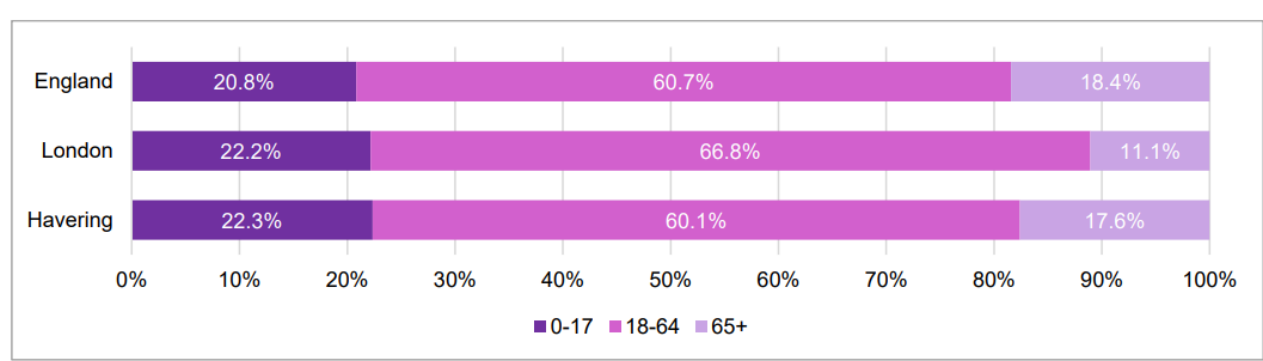
- Parents/carers of pupils resident in Havering (particularly those with SEND)
- Pupils attending a Havering school or College (particularly those with SEND)
- All Education providers
- Havering residents especially those who are residents near the site of the proposed new special school
- All voluntary organisations who provide alternative education in the borough
- All Governing body members of maintained schools
- Local Governing members of academies
- Members of Academy Trust boards

Protected Characteristic - Age: Consider the full range of age groups

<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		<p>Overall impact:</p> <p>The number of people that live in Havering has increased over the last decade from 237,232 in 2011 to 262,052 in 2021.</p> <p>The number of children aged under 18 has seen an increase of 15.2% (from 50,827 to 58,550), greatly outpacing the 4.8% and 3.9% increases in London and England, respectively.</p> <p>The number of households with dependent children (i.e. families) in Havering has increased in the last decade by 28%.</p> <p>Havering now has a higher proportion of children aged 0-17 (22.3%) than 80% of local authorities in England. This increase is slightly lower than the latest ONS projections (2018). The ONS predicts that the 0-17 population will grow to 61,350 by 2031.</p> <p>All of the above demonstrates the marked growth in the number of children and young people in the borough.</p> <p>The proposal to build a new special Free School on the Balgores site will have a positive impact on children and young people of school age living in Havering.</p> <p>The new special school will support the effective delivery of the Local Authority’s Children’s Services vision for every child in the borough “to enable all children and families in the borough to lead happy, healthy lives, where all children get a good start in life and live in a borough where families and communities look after themselves and each other.</p>
Positive	✓	
Neutral		
Negative		

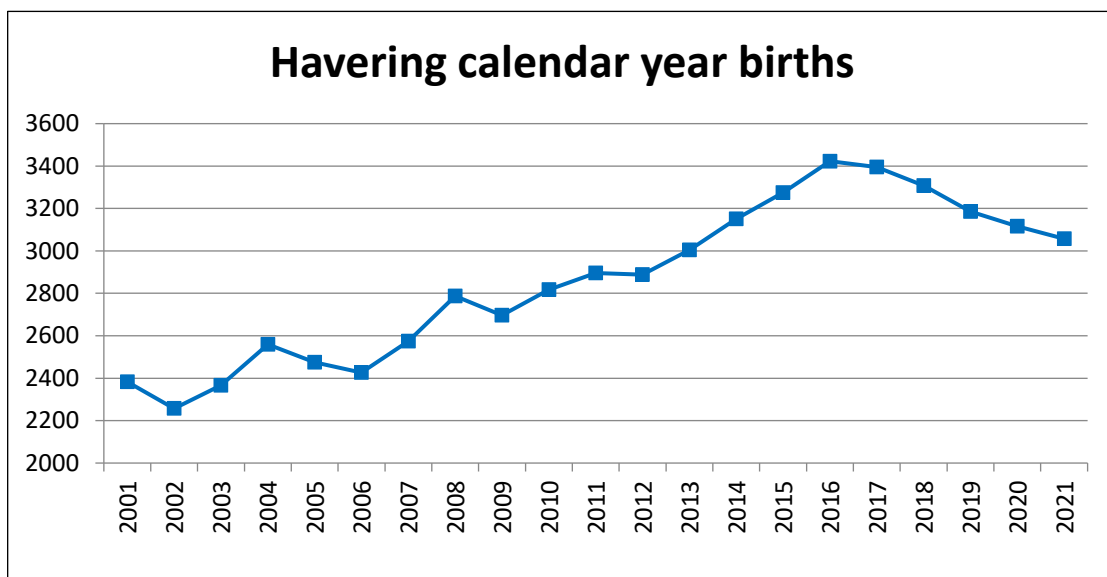
Evidence:

Figure 3: Comparing Havering aged 0-17, 18-64 & 65+ populations to London and England



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021

The Children & Young People Education Place Planning Plan highlights that 'In Havering, we have seen an increase of 52% in the number of births between calendar years 2002 to 2016. This includes a 19% increase in the birth rate from 2012 to 2016. However since the birth rate peaked in 2016, we have seen a year on year reduction in the birth rate in Havering, with the birth rate decreasing by 11% between 2016 to 2021.'



The Plan details how we will ensure sufficiency of early years, primary, secondary, SEND, post 16 and alternative provision places for years to come.

Sources used:

- Children & Young People Education Place Planning Plan (CYPEPPP)
- Birth data received from the ONS.
- Population projections produced by the GLA
- Historic pupil data obtained from the school census
- SEN2 data
- School Roll Projections
- Consultation survey report on the CYPEPPP
- Census 2021

Protected Characteristic - Disability: Consider the full range of disabilities; including physical, mental, sensory, progressive conditions and learning difficulties. Also consider neurodivergent conditions e.g. dyslexia and autism.

<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		Overall impact: In Havering an estimated 38,449 residents reported having a disability in 2021. This is an age-standardised proportion (ASP) of 15.3%, which is slightly lower than London (15.6%) and lower than England (17.7%). In Havering, an ASP of 6.6% reported that their day-to-day activities were limited a lot and 8.7% reported their day-to-day activities were limited a little, due to a disability.
Positive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Neutral	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Negative	<input type="checkbox"/>	

29,742 households in Havering had at least one person with a disability. Of these households, 6,181 had two or more members with a disability.

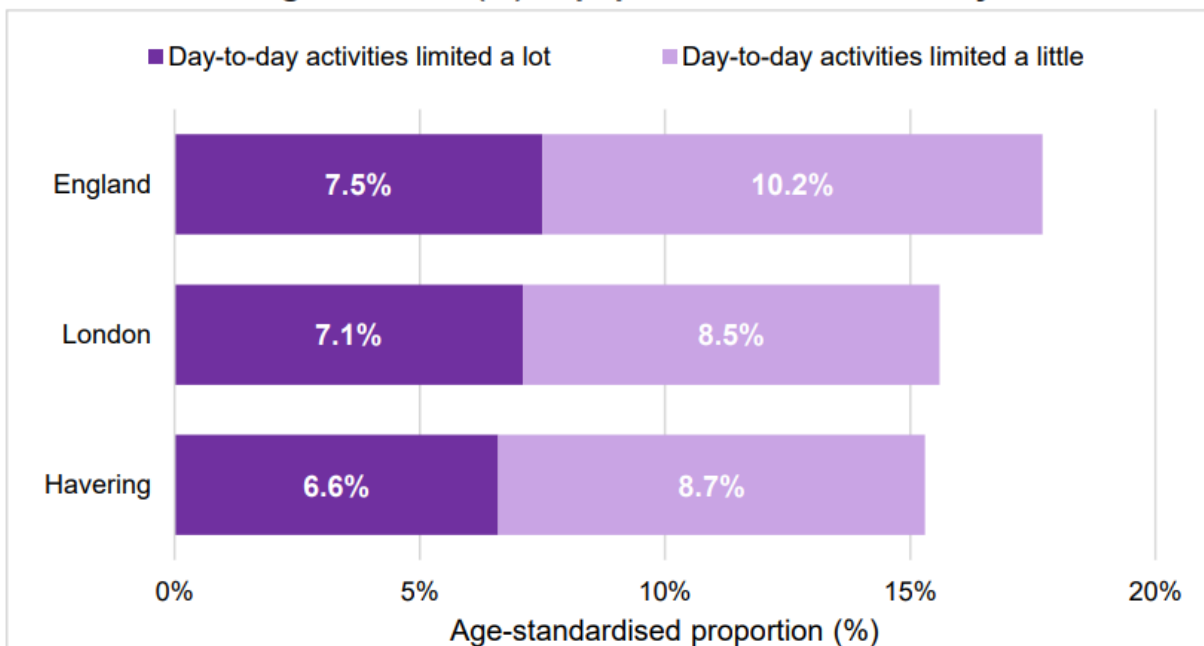
The proposal to build a new special Free School on the Balgores site will have a positive impact on children and young people with SEND living in Havering.

Children with SEND living in Havering will have more special school places available to meet their educational needs. Making appropriate local provision available is positive for children with special educational needs.

Furthermore, Havering's Draft SEND and Alternative Provision Strategy (final version to be published, March 2024) emphasises the local authority's vision to ensure children and young people with SEND can access the help and support they need to thrive and achieve within their local communities. They can go to local education provision that meets their needs, access services and play an active role in the community close to where they live.

Evidence:

Figure 4: ASP (%) of population with a disability



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by: Havering PHI

The CYPEPPP shows that there is an increase in the number of children resident in Havering with an EHCP, with the increase projected to continue:

Projections for Havering pupils with an EHCP attending a Havering or out borough Primary, Secondary, Special school and Post 16 provision at the end of the academic year

Academic year	Cognition and Learning	Communication and Interaction	SEMH	Physical and/or Sensory	Totals
2020/21	544	905	272	173	1894
2021/22	574	1057	312	195	2138
2022/23	562	1251	385	204	2402
2023/24	592	1354	381	205	2533
2024/25	621	1525	418	215	2779
2025/26	631	1702	438	227	2998
2026/27	645	1891	452	246	3234
2027/28	655	2082	451	264	3452

With the continued growth of children with an EHCP, it is not sustainable to continue placing them in a mainstream setting and therefore it is essential that we implement further specialist SEND places via the new special school.

In response to the consultation on the CYPEPPP, the majority of parents and stakeholders (64%) agreed that we need a new special school in Havering.

Sources used:

- Children & Young People Education Place Planning Plan
- SEND school roll projections
- School Census data
- Consultation survey report on the draft CYPEPPP
- Havering’s Draft SEND and Alternative Provision Strategy (final version to be published, March 2024)
- Census 2021
- [Census 2021 Briefing #9: Health Disability and Unpaid Care](#)

Protected Characteristic – Sex / gender: Consider both men and women	
<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>	
Positive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Neutral	<input type="checkbox"/>
Negative	<input type="checkbox"/>

Overall impact:

Havering has 135,668 females (52%) and 126,384 males (48%) in the borough. 93.67% of Havering residents identify as the same gender as when they were born.

The overall impact of this proposal is positive for both males and females. The majority of our education provision from early years right through to post 16 including special schools and alternative provision is largely co-educational. The new special school will also be co-educational.

Evidence:



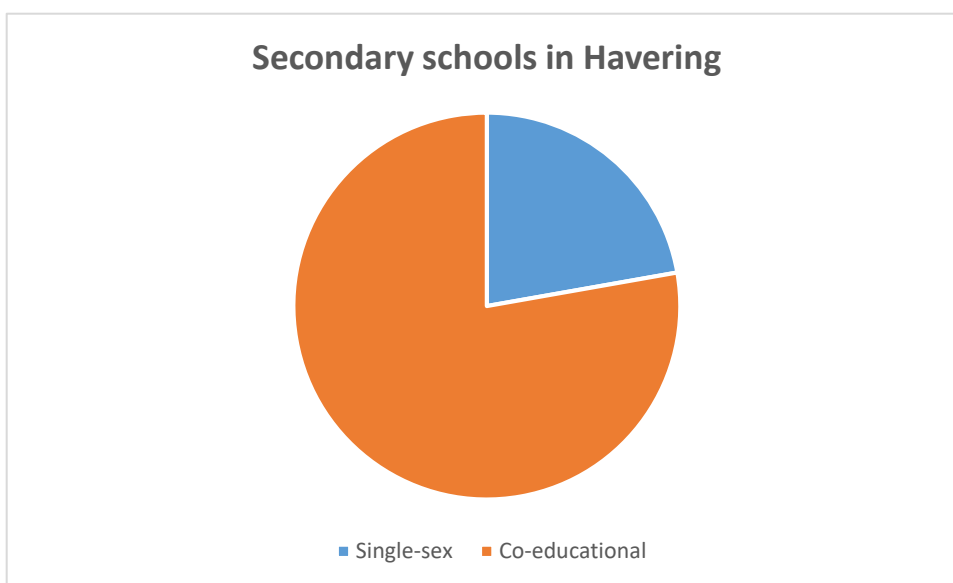
Population by sex for Havering (2021)



Gender Identity	Number	Percentage
Gender identity the same as sex registered at birth	196,462	93.67%
Gender identity different from sex registered at birth but no specific identity given	528	0.25%
Trans woman	228	0.11%
Trans man	212	0.10%
Non-binary	60	0.03%
All other gender identities	39	0.02%
Not answered	12,201	5.82%
Total	209,730	100.00%

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by: Havering PHI

All our early years, primary, special and post-16 provision are co-educational. 4 out of the 18 secondary schools in the borough are single sex, (two boys and two girls):



None of the commissioning options proposed for the creation of additional places included the expansion or establishment of a single sex school.

There was a small number responses received during the Children & Young People Education Place Planning Plan consultation regarding single sex schools or co-educational provision- most of these referenced the fewer school sixth form options available to boys in Havering.

Sixth form provision does not need to be local and students can travel at 16+ to access the post 16 setting of their choice/best suited to their needs. As such, having two less school sixth forms available to boys in Havering is not expected to be a barrier.

In any case, the sixth form provision at the new special free school will also be co-educational.

Sources used:

- School Census data
- Consultation survey report on the draft CYPEPPP
- [Census 2021 Briefing #6: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity](#)
- [Havering Data Intelligence Hub](#)
- Census 2021

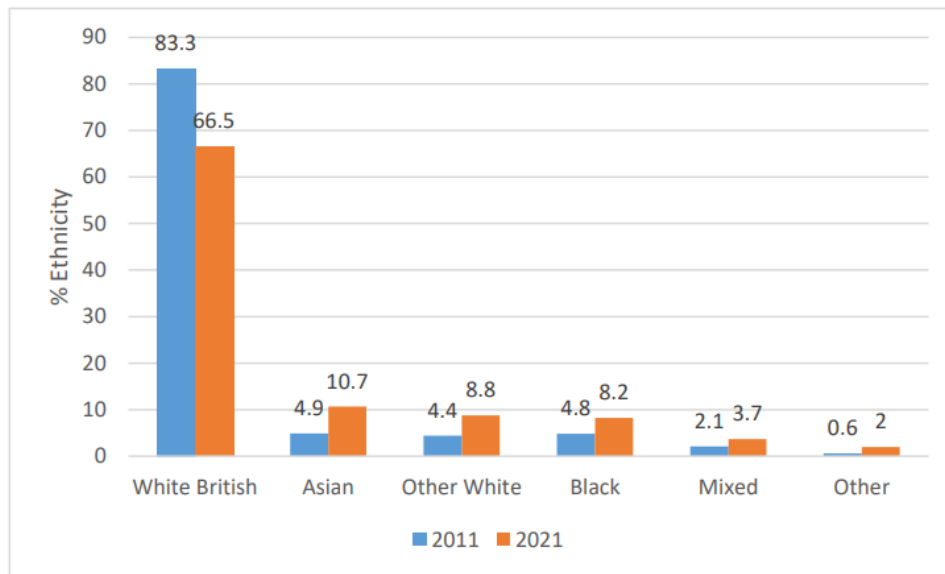
Protected Characteristic – Ethnicity / race / nationalities: Consider the impact on different minority ethnic groups and nationalities

<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		<p>Overall impact:</p> <p>According to the Census 2021, London remains the most ethnically diverse region of England and saw an 8.1% percentage point decrease in people who identified as White British from 44.9% in 2011 to 36.8% in 2021. Havering also followed this trend with a 16.8% percentage point decrease from 83.3% in 2011 to 66.5% in 2021. Havering and Bromley are the least diverse London Boroughs with both having a White British population of 66.5%. This compares with 74.4% for England, but is significantly higher than the 36.8% figure for London.</p> <p>The other main ethnic groups in Havering have increase between the Census 2011 and Census 2021; Asian has increased to 10.7% from 4.9%, Other White doubled from 4.4% in 2011 to 8.8% in 2021. Black has increased from 4.8% to 8.2% in 2021, Mixed from 2.1% to 3.7% in 2021 and Other from 0.6 to 2% in 2021.</p> <p>All of this demonstrates the wide demographic changes Havering has seen over the last decade. While White British remains the most common ethnic group in Havering, there is increasing ethnic diversity within the borough.</p> <p>The overall impact on this protected characteristic is neutral. National legislation determines that education establishments including schools cannot discriminate on ethnicity or racial grounds.</p>
Positive		
Neutral	✓	
Negative		

Creating additional school places via the new special school will enable us to meet our vision of ensuring that every child has access to a good local school providing an opportunity for every young person in the borough to thrive, thereby securing outcomes that are above the national average.

Evidence:

Figure 1 – Havering population in 2011 and 2021 by main ethnic group



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2011 & 2021; Produced by: Havering PHI

All our education provision is fully inclusive. Ethnicity or race is not a factor when considering the commissioning of education provision.

Sources used:

- Census 2021
- [Census 2021 – Topic Summary – Demography and Migration](#)
- School Census data

Protected Characteristic – Religion / faith: Consider people from different religions or beliefs, including those with no religion or belief

<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		Overall impact: The religion question is voluntary in the Census, but 94.5% of usual residents answered the question in 2021. The most commonly reported religion in Havering is Christian, with 52.2% of the total population in 2021 describing themselves as Christian. This is a reduction from 65.6% in 2011. No religion was the second most common response, with 30.6% identifying in this category, up from 22.6% in 2011. Other religions accounted for 11.7% of the total Havering population, which is
Positive		
Neutral	✓	
Negative		

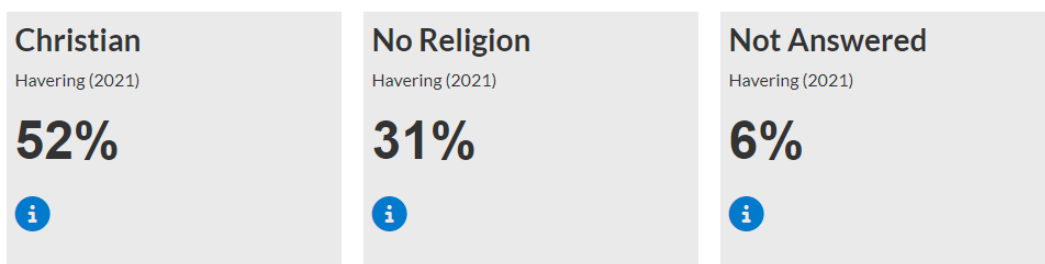
an increase from 5.1% in 2011.

The overall impact on people from different religions or beliefs including those with no religion or belief is neutral. National legislation determines that schools cannot discriminate on religion grounds. However, it should be recognised that faith schools are their own admission authority but are still expected to comply with the School Admissions Code.

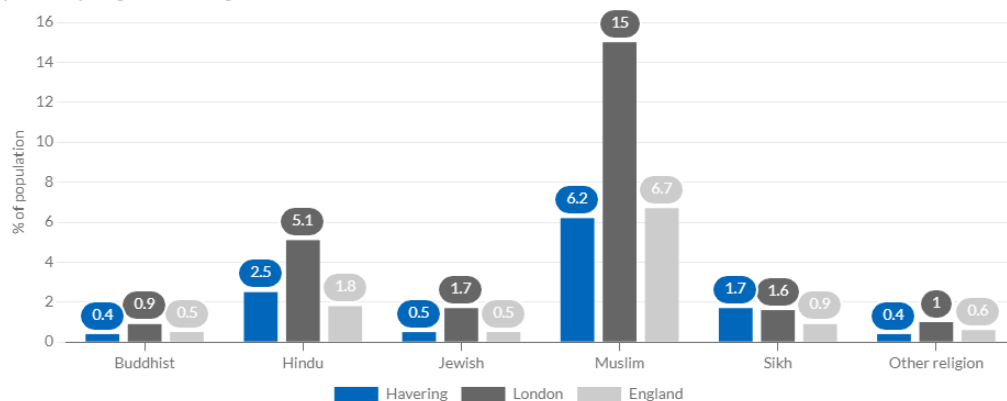
The new special free school will not have a religious character.

Evidence:

The data below give an insight into religious affiliation. However, it is important to highlight that this question relates more to identity than to an actual measure of practise or belief.



Population by religion (excluding Christian) (2021)



Source: ONS, Census 2021

The diversity across Havering is further demonstrated by the varying school sizes, governance arrangements and the number of voluntary aided schools. In addition, there are a number of Alternative Provision and Independent settings within Havering.

Where faith based schools are concerned, we seek to work collaboratively with our education partners, this includes the Dioceses and other relevant religious organisations.

In response to the consultation on the Children and Young People Education Place Planning Plan, a small number of stakeholders expressed concerns over the limitations of 6th form based religious criteria preventing non-religious or pupils of differing religions from applying for those 6th form places.

The new special free school (including the sixth form provision) will not have a religious character.

Sources used:

- School Roll Projections
- School Census data
- Consultation survey report on the draft CYPEPPP
- Census 2021
- [Census 2021 – Topic Summary – Ethnic group, national identity, language and religion](#)
- [Havering Data Intelligence Hub](#)

Protected Characteristic - Sexual orientation: Consider people who are heterosexual, lesbian, gay or bisexual

<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		<p>Overall impact:</p> <p>The Census question on sexual orientation was a voluntary question asked of those aged 16 years and over. The number of people responding was very high with 93% (195,099) of Havering residents answering the question. In total, 91.07% (191,007) of Havering residents identified as straight or heterosexual. In total, 1.95% (4,092) Havering residents identified as one of the LGB+ orientations (“Gay or Lesbian”, “Bisexual” or “Other sexual orientation”). In total, 6.98% (14,631) Havering residents did not answer the question.</p> <p>The overall impact on this protected characteristic is neutral. All our education provision is fully inclusive.</p> <p>Ensuring there is sufficient capacity to meet demand for special school places across the borough will enable us fulfil our statutory duty.</p>
Positive		
Neutral	✓	
Negative		

Evidence:

Figure 1: Detailed breakdown of sexual orientation in Havering for residents aged 16 and over

Sexual Orientation	Number	Percentage
Straight or Heterosexual	191,007	91.07%
Gay or Lesbian	1,993	0.95%
Bisexual	1,540	0.73%
Pansexual	436	0.21%
Asexual	56	0.03%
Queer	21	0.01%
All other sexual orientations	46	0.02%
Not answered	14,631	6.98%
Total	209,730	100.00%

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by: Havering PHI

81% of our surveyed participants who responded to our equality and diversity monitoring form during the Children and Young People Education Place Planning Plan consultation stated that they were heterosexuals. No issues regarding sexual orientation were raised during the consultation.

Sexual orientation is not considered as a factor when commissioning educational provision or in the determination of sufficiency of education provision.

Sources used:

- Census 2021
- [Census 2021 Briefing #6: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity](#)
- Consultation survey report on the draft CYPEPPP

Protected Characteristic - Gender reassignment: Consider people who are seeking, undergoing or have received gender reassignment surgery, as well as people whose gender identity is different from their gender at birth

<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		<p>Overall impact:</p> <p>The Census question on gender identity was also a voluntary question, asked of those aged 16 years and over. It was added to provide the first official data on the size of the transgender population in England and Wales. The question asked was “Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?” The number of people responding was very high with 94.2% (197,529) Havering residents answering the question. In total, 93.67% (196,462) Havering residents answered “Yes” and 0.51% (1,067) answered “No”. 5.82% (12,201) Havering residents did not answer the question.</p> <p>The overall impact on this protected characteristic is neutral. All our education provision is fully inclusive</p> <p>Ensuring there is sufficient capacity to meet demand for special school places across the borough will enable us fulfil our statutory duty.</p>
Positive		
Neutral	✓	
Negative		

Evidence:

Figure 3: Detailed breakdown of gender identity in Havering for residents aged 16 and over

Gender Identity	Number	Percentage
Gender identity the same as sex registered at birth	196,462	93.67%
Gender identity different from sex registered at birth but no specific identity given	528	0.25%
Trans woman	228	0.11%
Trans man	212	0.10%
Non-binary	60	0.03%
All other gender identities	39	0.02%
Not answered	12,201	5.82%
Total	209,730	100.00%

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by: Havering PHI

91% of all respondents who completed the equality monitoring form as part of the Children and Young People Education Place Planning Plan consultation identified that their current gender was the same assigned at birth.

Gender reassignment is not considered as a factor when commissioning educational provision or in the determination of sufficiency of education provision.

Sources used:

- Census 2021
- [Census 2021 Briefing #6: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity](#)
- Consultation survey report on the draft CYPEPPP

Protected Characteristic – Marriage / civil partnership: Consider people in a marriage or civil partnership

<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		Overall impact: The overall impact on this protected characteristic is neutral. All our education provision is fully inclusive Ensuring there is sufficient capacity to meet demand special school places across the borough will enable us fulfil our statutory duty.
Positive	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Neutral	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Negative	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Evidence:

Majority of respondents (62%) who completed the equalities monitoring form as part of the Children and Young People Education Place Planning Plan consultation stated that they were in a marital relationship. 1% stated that they were in a civil partnership.

No issues regarding marriage/civil partnership were raised during the consultation.

<p>Sources used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation survey report on the draft CYPEPPP

Protected Characteristic - Pregnancy, maternity and paternity: Consider those who are pregnant and those who are taking maternity or paternity leave

<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		<p>Overall impact:</p> <p>The overall impact on this protected characteristic is neutral. All of our education provision is fully inclusive</p> <p>Ensuring there is sufficient capacity to meet demand special school places across the borough will enable us fulfil our statutory duty.</p>
Positive	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Neutral	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Negative	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Evidence:

2% of the surveyed participants as part of the Children and Young People Education Place Planning Plan consultation were either pregnant or have given birth in the last 26 weeks. No issues regarding pregnancy, undertaking maternity or paternity leave were raised during the consultation.

Being pregnant or undertaking maternity/ paternity leave is not considered as a factor when commissioning educational provision or in the determination of sufficiency of education provision.

<p>Sources used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation survey report on the draft CYPEPPP

Socio-economic status: Consider those who are from low income or financially excluded backgrounds

<i>Please tick (✓) the relevant box:</i>		<p>Overall impact:</p> <p>59.5% of residents in Havering have a job, an increase from 58.9% in 2011.</p> <p>3.6% of residents are unemployed, which is the fourth lowest rate in London but an improvement from the rate of 5.0% in 2011.</p> <p>21.0% of residents are retired - the highest rate in London, which is in line with or high older person population.</p>
Positive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Neutral	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Negative	<input type="checkbox"/>	

The overall impact on those who are from low income or financially excluded backgrounds is positive.

Creating more SEND places to meet demand through implementing the new special school will help us realise our vision to ensure the growing SEND need is met and that every child has access to high quality education.

Evidence:

Table 1 Reasons for economic inactivity, Havering, London and England, 2021

Reason for economic inactivity	England and Wales	London	Havering
Economically inactive: Long-term sick or disabled	4.2%	3.6%	3.1%
Economically Inactive: Looking after home or family	4.8%	6.0%	5.1%
Economically inactive: Other	3.1%	4.1%	3.0%
Economically inactive: Retired	21.6%	12.9%	21.0%
Economically inactive: Student	5.6%	7.2%	4.6%

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by: Havering Insight Team

Social mobility remains a serious issue and the changes seen in Havering’s population influenced by historically increased births, housing developments and economic migration, mean that the Council's provision of school places, and in particularly SEND places for which there is a growing demand, must also respond to meet the changing needs of residents.

The Joseph Roundtree Foundation report on ‘Special educational needs and their link to poverty’ explores the links between SEND and poverty. The report shows that poverty is both a cause and an effect of SEND.

Therefore, supporting all phases of our education provision to develop a strong strategy and increasing access to only good/outstanding provision will ensure that all children have the best possible start in life, which will enable them achieve and reach their full potential.

Sources used:

- Census 2021
- [Census 2021 Briefing #5: Labour Market, Industry and Occupation, and Travel to Work](#)
- Joseph Roundtree Foundation – ‘Special educational needs and their link to poverty’

Health & Wellbeing Impact:

Consider both short and long-term impacts of the activity on a person’s physical and mental health, particularly for disadvantaged, vulnerable or at-risk groups. Can health and wellbeing be positively promoted through this activity?

Please tick (✓) all the relevant boxes that apply:

Positive	✓
Neutral	
Negative	

Overall impact:

In Havering an estimated 219,777 residents had ‘good’ or ‘very good’ health in 2021. This is an age standardised proportion (ASP) of 83.0%, which is higher than London (81.9%) and England (81.7%). However, in Havering, an ASP of 48.2% residents had ‘very good’ health compared to 49% in London.

The overall impact on health and wellbeing is positive.

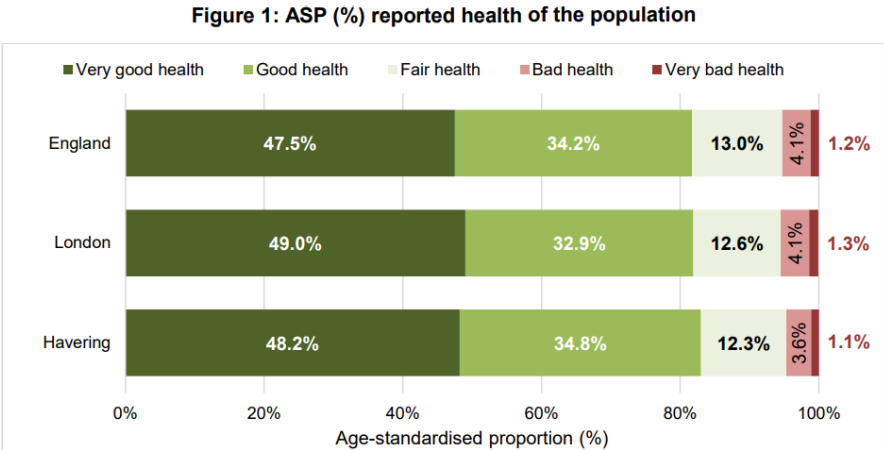
Havering’s Children and Young People Education Place Planning Plan sets out how we will carry out our statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient school places available for children and young people in the right areas and at the right time to meet demand, whilst maintaining a focus on high quality education, as well as enabling a culture of high performing and financially sustainable schools.

This includes both maintained and academy schools.

Do you consider that a more in-depth HIA is required as a result of this brief assessment? Please tick (✓) the relevant box

Yes No

Evidence:



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by: Havering PHI

Our vision for Education and Learning is to ensure that every child will go to a school rated by Ofsted as ‘Good’ or better, and provide an opportunity for every young person in the borough to thrive, thereby securing outcomes that are above the national average.

Sources used:

- Census 2021
- [Census 2021 Briefing #9: Health Disability and Unpaid Care](#)
- Children and Young People Education Place Planning Plan

3. Health & Wellbeing Screening Tool

Will the activity / service / policy / procedure affect any of the following characteristics? Please tick/check the boxes below
The following are a range of considerations that might help you to complete the assessment.

Lifestyle YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Personal circumstances YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Access to services/facilities/amenities YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Diet <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise and physical activity <input type="checkbox"/> Smoking <input type="checkbox"/> Exposure to passive smoking <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol intake <input type="checkbox"/> Dependency on prescription drugs <input type="checkbox"/> Illicit drug and substance use <input type="checkbox"/> Risky Sexual behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Other health-related behaviours, such as tooth-brushing, bathing, and wound care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure and cohesion of family unit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parenting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Childhood development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Life skills <input type="checkbox"/> Personal safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employment status <input type="checkbox"/> Working conditions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level of income, including benefits <input type="checkbox"/> Level of disposable income <input type="checkbox"/> Housing tenure <input type="checkbox"/> Housing conditions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational attainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Skills levels including literacy and numeracy	<input type="checkbox"/> to Employment opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> to Workplaces <input type="checkbox"/> to Housing <input type="checkbox"/> to Shops (to supply basic needs) <input type="checkbox"/> to Community facilities <input type="checkbox"/> to Public transport <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> to Education <input type="checkbox"/> to Training and skills development <input type="checkbox"/> to Healthcare <input type="checkbox"/> to Social services <input type="checkbox"/> to Childcare <input type="checkbox"/> to Respite care <input type="checkbox"/> to Leisure and recreation services and facilities
Social Factors YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Economic Factors YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Factors YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social contact <input type="checkbox"/> Social support <input type="checkbox"/> Neighbourliness <input type="checkbox"/> Participation in the community <input type="checkbox"/> Membership of community groups <input type="checkbox"/> Reputation of community/area <input type="checkbox"/> Participation in public affairs <input type="checkbox"/> Level of crime and disorder <input type="checkbox"/> Fear of crime and disorder <input type="checkbox"/> Level of antisocial behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Fear of antisocial behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Discrimination <input type="checkbox"/> Fear of discrimination <input type="checkbox"/> Public safety measures <input type="checkbox"/> Road safety measures	<input type="checkbox"/> Creation of wealth <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution of wealth <input type="checkbox"/> Retention of wealth in local area/economy <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution of income <input type="checkbox"/> Business activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Job creation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Availability of employment opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of employment opportunities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Availability of education opportunities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality of education opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Availability of training and skills development opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of training and skills development opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Technological development <input type="checkbox"/> Amount of traffic congestion	<input type="checkbox"/> Air quality <input type="checkbox"/> Water quality <input type="checkbox"/> Soil quality/Level of contamination/Odour <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise levels <input type="checkbox"/> Vibration <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land use <input type="checkbox"/> Natural habitats <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape, including green and open spaces <input type="checkbox"/> Townscape, including civic areas and public realm <input type="checkbox"/> Use/consumption of natural resources <input type="checkbox"/> Energy use: CO2/other greenhouse gas emissions <input type="checkbox"/> Solid waste management <input type="checkbox"/> Public transport infrastructure

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4. Outcome of the Assessment

The EqHIA assessment is intended to be used as an improvement tool to make sure the activity maximises the positive impacts and eliminates or minimises the negative impacts. The possible outcomes of the assessment are listed below and what the next steps to take are:

Please tick (✓) what the overall outcome of your assessment was:

✓	<p>1. The initial screening exercise showed a strong indication that there will be no impacts on people and need to carry out an EqHIA.</p> <p>2. The EqHIA identified <u>no significant concerns</u> OR the identified <u>negative concerns</u> have already been <u>addressed</u></p>	➔	<p>Proceed with implementation of your activity</p>
	<p>3. The EqHIA identified some <u>negative impact</u> which still needs <u>to be addressed</u></p>	➔	<p>COMPLETE SECTION 5: Complete action plan with measures to mitigate the and finalise the EqHIA</p>
	<p>4. The EqHIA identified some <u>major concerns</u> and showed that it is <u>impossible to diminish negative impacts</u> from the activity to an acceptable or even lawful level</p>	➔	<p>Stop and remove the activity or revise the activity thoroughly. Complete an EqHIA on the revised proposal.</p>

5. Action Plan

The real value of completing an EqHIA comes from identifying the actions that can be taken to eliminate/minimise **negative** impacts and enhance/optimize positive impacts. In this section you should list the specific actions that set out how you will mitigate or reduce any **negative** equality and/or health & wellbeing impacts, identified in this assessment. Please ensure that your action plan is: more than just a list of proposals and good intentions; if required, will amend the scope and direction of the change; sets ambitious yet achievable outcomes and timescales; and is clear about resource implications.

Protected characteristic / health & wellbeing impact	Identified Negative or Positive impact	Recommended actions to mitigate Negative impact* or further promote Positive impact	Outcomes and monitoring**	Timescale	Lead officer
Disability	Positive - Children and young people with complex learning disabilities will access the required educational provision	<p>New admissions processes will ensure the children with the most complex needs are prioritised for places at the new school. Identified individual(s) within EHCP team will oversee admissions processes across various provisions to ensure prioritisation.</p> <p>LA staff will closely monitor outcomes of CYP at the school and of provision being made. Support needs for the school will be discussed at the Schools Monitoring Group and</p>	<p>Fewer children out of school, being educated out of borough as no available local specialist provision, on part-time timetables or isolated within alternative inappropriate setting, or achieving poor outcomes in alternative inappropriate setting.</p> <p>Children and young people at the school achieve positive outcomes, monitored via EHCP Annual Review</p>	From opening	Marcus Bennett

		intervention support planned as required.	Process and reporting on school performance.		
Disability	Positive – More young people with complex learning disabilities accessing appropriate education, employment or training post-16.	Have Case Officers from LA work with the school from Year 9 onwards, focusing on Preparing for Adulthood outcomes (PfA), to plan which children/young people will remain on at school into Years 12-14 and where children would be better suited on alternative Education, Employment or Training (EET) routes, meaning fewer children and young people end up not in EET (NEET).	Fewer young people NEET, monitored via SEND dashboard reporting. Young people will access suitable settings for their identified needs. They will be monitored via the Annual review process or review of their social care plan.	From opening	Marcus Bennett
Disability	Positive – better support for children and young people in mainstream schools who have SEND.	Having schools report the high number of CYP with complex needs as potentially compromising support for those with mild to moderate needs in mainstream. CYP with complex needs being able to access the special school will therefore improve the quality of support for all pupils. LA staff working with mainstream schools to support schools in targeting resources now available on	Better outcomes for children and young people in mainstream schools with mild to moderate SEND, including those supported at SEN Support. Monitored via the Annual review process or the IEP termly review.	From year 1	Marcus Bennett

		<p>pupils with mild to moderate SEND.</p> <p>If the Local Authority provides more special school places, this will in turn reduce the pressure on schools and other settings that they are experiencing at this time due to the increasing number of pupils with complex needs attending mainstream provisions. The Local Authority will then support these schools and other settings in focusing their resources into early identification of needs within their pupils, enabling earlier intervention for those pupils at SEN Support and preventing those needs escalating due to lack of resources.</p>			
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Add further rows as necessary

* You should include details of any future consultations and any actions to be undertaken to mitigate negative impacts.

** Monitoring: You should state how the impact (positive or negative) will be monitored; what outcome measures will be used; the known (or likely) data source for outcome measurements; how regularly it will be monitored; and who will be monitoring it (if this is different from the lead officer).

6. Review

In this section you should identify how frequently the EqHIA will be reviewed; the date for next review; and who will be reviewing it.

Review: September 2027

Scheduled date of review: September 2027

Lead Officer conducting the review: Pooneeta Mahadeo

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This Report is part exempt and Appendix A is not available for public inspection as it relates to exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. It is exempt because it refers to commercially sensitive information, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

CABINET	9th October 2024
Subject Heading:	Award of contract for ULEZ compliant buses for PTS to transport clients on behalf of Children and Adult Services
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Barry Mugglestone– Cabinet Member for Environment
SLT Lead:	Neil Stubbings – Strategic Director of Place
Report Author and contact details:	Simon Blake 01708 433202 Simon.Blake@onesource.co.uk
Policy context:	Supporting the Places objectives within the Corporate Plan and in particular the Council’s Air Quality Action Plan 20182023
Financial summary:	The value of the proposed contract award is £1.647m. This will be funded from the £1.678m Capital budget (C38880) available.
Is this a Key Decision?	Yes Expenditure or saving (including anticipated income) of £500,000 or more

When should this matter be reviewed? Sept 2024

Reviewing OSC: Place OSSC

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering	X
Places making Havering	X
Opportunities making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connections making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUMMARY

This report considers the procurement of 13 replacement buses for the Passenger Transport Service (PTS), primarily for Home to School transport for SEN children, but also other transport work conducted on behalf of Children and Adults Services. These vehicles represent some of the remaining fleet assets that are not currently Euro 6 standard and therefore require replacement before the grace period for the TFL Community Bus Certificate expires in October 2025. After this date the buses will be subject to a £100 charge per vehicle per day to operate within the ULEZ.

These vehicles are also at least 3 years beyond their typical operating life and if not replaced are likely to present increased maintenance and reliability risks to PTS operations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

For the reasons set out in the report, Cabinet is recommended to agree the award of contract to:

- Treka Bus Limited (Company No. 15320085) for the purchase of thirteen 16 Seater Coach Built Buses.

As set out within the **exempt Appendix A** to this report, for the provision of replacement vehicles.

REPORT DETAIL

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Havering’s Passenger Travel Service (PTS) currently operates 58 vehicles that provide specialist home to school transport, conveying children & adults with either physical or mental disabilities to various specialist schools or day centres for Children’s Services and Adults Social Care (CAD). Unlike some local authorities, Havering do not hold any ‘spare’ fleet assets, as a result of which all 58 vehicles are in daily use. The 13 vehicles that require replacing are all at the end of their useful operating life.

The PTS service works with client departments to reduce the demand for Home to School transport, promoting other solutions where possible e.g. independent travel training, as a means of mitigating increasing demands and consequent budgetary pressures upon the service. Notwithstanding these efforts, demand for transport has increased significantly over the past 7 years from 38 education routes in 2017/18 (303) passengers to 42 education routes in 2022/23 with an average of (449) passengers transported per day by PTS.

Demographic forecasts for the borough indicate an ongoing and potentially increasing need for Home to School transport over the next 4-7 years linked to the forecast increase in children with Special Educational Needs (see table below).

Borough wide (Primary, Secondary, Special Schools and Post 16) demand

Academic year	Cognition and Learning	Communication and Interaction	SEMH	Physical and/ or Sensory	Totals
2020/21	544	905	272	173	1894
2021/22	574	1057	312	195	2138
2022/23	562	1251	385	204	2402
2023/24	592	1354	381	205	2533
2024/25	621	1525	418	215	2779
2025/26	631	1702	438	227	2998
2026/27	645	1891	452	246	3234
2027/28	655	2082	451	264	3452
2028/29	673	2269	448	280	3670
2029/30	691	2433	448	292	3864

In order to maximise the overall Council’s income, the PTS service seeks to utilise available capacity within the fleet outside of core hours to undertake additional contract and ad-hoc work for other clients. Acquiring these vehicles will accordingly

be advantageous in generating additional income from private hire and adult work for schools in neighbouring boroughs. External work of this nature generated additional turnover of approximately £1m in the last financial year.

The 13 vehicles will meet the current LEZ / ULEZ standards for London and will be running on GTL (Natural Gas to Liquid). The Home to School transport review has now been implemented, but the demand for bus transport continues to increase as a result of demographic pressures, notwithstanding increasing take up of personal travel budgets and independent travel training. It is recommended to use the remaining available balance of £1.678m from the existing capital Project Code C38880 to purchase 13 ULEZ-compliant, wheelchair-accessible buses to meet this demand.

The TPPL Bus and Coach framework was utilised to procure these vehicles. This framework has 27 specialist coach and bus manufacturers. The Council's requirements have been met via mini competitions under Lots 2 (5-26 seater bus van conversions (15 suppliers for accessible and non-accessible) and Lot 3 (5-36 seater coach built buses (9 suppliers fully accessible) of the framework.

A mini competition carried out under this framework offers a compliant and competitive route to market and is considered to offer the optimum and best value route to market.

Procurement Process Adopted:

The TPPL Framework runs for 48 months until August 2025.

The Framework provides access to 27 suppliers (with a mix of OE manufacturers and specialised vehicle convertors).

The relevant Contract notices are: Contract Notice Award Notice 2021/S 000-011496 2021/S 000-020126

The Framework permits mini-competitions, inviting all suppliers on the relevant lots to bid on the specifications provided. Officers conducted mini-competitions and tenders have been evaluated against the Framework's pre-determined best price-quality ratio of 40% price and 60% quality weightings.

The quality ratings was broken down into the following categories;

- Aftersales 20%
- Delivery 20%
- Dealer Network 10%
- Breakdown cover (VOR) 5%
- Parts Delivery 5%

Specifications were provided by the stakeholder Simon Blake, Head of Transport for Lots 2 & 3 - these were then signed off internally and reviewed by TTPL before they issued a mini competition via their DELTA e-sourcing portal on our behalf.

3 bids were received, 2 for Lot 2 (Van Conversions) and 1 for Lot 3 (Coach Built). Due to the total value of the bids exceeding available capital budget and the largest proportion of vehicles required was under Lot 3, the decision was made to procure 13 vehicles only under Lot 3. The Lot 3 bid was shared with procurement and the supplier fully meets the tender specifications required. The TPPL framework allows for flexibility regarding the award process as no bid is guaranteed to be awarded. The successful bid was shared with Procurement at Gateway 2. The Gateway group signed off and agreed the final outcomes which represent this award.

Throughout the mini competition the framework provider (TPPL) held clarification questions with suppliers based on specifications provided, with responses sent directly to the framework provider (TPPL). Financial checks on the companies will be taken by procurement prior to award.

REASONS AND OPTIONS

Reasons for the decision:

The 13 vehicles require replacement with Euro 6 standard models in order to achieve compliance with the forthcoming LEZ/ULEZ regulations. Replacement of aging fleet will also reduce future unplanned maintenance costs and maximise availability for statutory Home to School work. A full procurement exercise has been undertaken via a national framework comprising multiple suppliers to achieve the most competitive prices.

Other options considered:

Do nothing

In light of the increasing demand upon the Passenger Travel Service in recent years it is considered essential to replace the old and potentially non-compliant existing fleet with new vehicles. These vehicles are at the end of their operating life and extending the life of the vehicles will see more age related breakdowns with increased maintenance and hire costs. This would impact on home to school routes. If vehicles were not available some routes would temporarily be suspended until the vehicles were made available again.

There is also risk in operating potentially non-compliant vehicles. Currently the vehicles are under 5 tonnes and are compliant at present regarding the LEZ /ULEZ, but the LEZ/ULEZ threshold will change within the next 18 months as these vehicles are Euro 4/5 and not the cleaner EURO 6 which is less damaging to the environment. If the vehicles are not replaced the potential impact could generate a fine of £100 per day on each occasion that a vehicle enters the ULEZ/LEZ area. It would not be operationally feasible to undertake core LBH routes using only the remaining compliant vehicles.

Spot Hire (flexible rental agreement which is daily, monthly, or annual with no termination costs).

The 16-seat coach built buses are extremely hard to acquire via spot hire and would cost in the region of £1,560 per month for a 16 seat LEZ/ULEZ Euro 6 compliant vehicle. These vehicles would be used for a minimum of 45 weeks per year.

Our current vehicles under (WLC) whole life cost, which includes maintenance and wear and tear is £1,246 per month on average, £314 less per month than the spot hired vehicles.

Contract hire (fixed rental term over a set period of years) vs outright purchase

These vehicles require a large capital investment which specialist hire companies would have little interest in. Maximum contract hire (lease) term is 7 years with an agreed fixed annual rental & mileages. The annual lease charges would be higher than purchasing the vehicle outright and there is the risk of betterment charges and excess mileage charges at the end of the lease period. Leases are not extendable at the end of the agreement and must be returned on a predetermined date with a minimum of 6 months MOT still current on the vehicle to be returned.

Purchasing the vehicles reduces PTS running costs and charges to its internal clients over the operating period with more flexibility regarding the usage (mileage).

BEV (Battery Electric Vehicle) and Infrastructure

An extensive evaluation was undertaken of the potential to transition fleet assets to electric vehicles including purchase costs, operating costs, range restrictions, warranties and infrastructure requirements. Where appropriate, transition to electric vehicles has been progressed e.g. Grounds Maintenance fleet.

Equivalent electric vehicles, where available, are generally between 2-3 times the price of a conventional Euro 6 alternative and whilst operational savings are generated, the financial modelling undertaken indicates that the level of savings would require a 53 year payback period in order to recover the additional capital investment.

PTS vehicles ordinarily have a 10 year operating life and most manufacturers of electric vehicles will not warranty the batteries beyond 5 years, presenting operational and financial risks. Furthermore the stated operational range of these vehicles is a maximum of 100 miles on a single charge, presenting further operational risks as the average daily mileage for the PTS fleet is 80 miles and winter operations can drastically reduce the battery operating range due to heating and tail lift operations. The need to charge regularly would reduce fleet availability as it would take at least 8 to 10 hours to recharge between morning and afternoon runs with the real risk that the vehicles would not have enough battery capacity (charge) to continue their scheduled afternoon routes. This would have a serious impact on the service delivery of the PTS operations including support functions under a pandemic or emergency evacuations such as the fires in Rainham.

Beyond the factors above, the additional power demands arising from transitioning the PTS fleet to EV's would require a significant capital investment beyond the

charging infrastructure already planned, triggered by the capacity limits of the existing sub-station at Central Depot.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

Capital Implications of the purchase:

The initial capital budget available was for the purchase of 16 new buses due to deferring the replacement of 19 buses back in December 2022. The budget is established within Asset Management against capital project C38880. However due to the increase in chassis prices the budget only covers the purchase of 13 buses after the tender exercise. The remaining balance of vehicles will be replaced when more capital is available 2025/26.

The existing available capital budget will be used to fund the purchase of the 13 buses. The Internal Lease Reserve will be replenished over the useful life of the vehicles through the annual whole life cost charge to revenue. The Council generally purchases fleet assets (rather than leasing/contract hire) and then applies an internal financing charge over the operational life of the vehicle 13 years. This financing charge is set at a rate that replenishes the vehicle replacement reserve on a rolling basis.

Revenue Implications of the purchase:

As stated above, there will be an annual charge to the service Passenger Travel Service revenue budgets (PTS) to reflect the whole life cost (WLC) of the vehicles. This includes the replenishing the internal lease plus annualised costs of the estimated routine maintenance/MOT costs, road fund licence and insurance costs over the life of the vehicle. It is estimated that the net annual Whole life cost of the replacement vehicles will be £34k less than the current vehicles. A breakdown of these costs are outlined in the table below:

Item	Old Vehicles (£)	New Vehicles (£)	Difference (£)
Financing	164,693	158,815	-5,878
Tax	3,540	4,485	- 945
Maintenance	103,426	73,957	29,469
Total	271,659	237,257	-34,402

What is not included in the table above are the likely ULEZ fines that will be imposed once the Community Bus Certificate (exemption) expires in October 2025.

This is estimated to cost: £100 fine per day per bus x 190 academic days x 13 vehicles = £247K per annum. In addition, the replacement of these vehicles will also avoid Passenger Travel Service from funding further ad-hoc maintenance costs. These are currently quite high as the vehicles have reached the end of their useful life, which has already been extended from to 13 years.

As a short term fix, Transport will seek to install exhaust after treatment systems on the remaining balance of vehicles not replaced, which would be otherwise subject to a £100 per day ULEZ charge from October 2025.

Any savings to the PTS budgets will be used to offset any costs arising in the service to ensure that the overall charge to internal clients namely Adults & Children's services is kept as low as possible.

Wherever possible these vehicles will be used to maximise income by utilising spare capacity to provide ad hoc services to external clients such as schools, academies and other councils. Reduced costs may also make the service more competitive when bidding for such work, generating more income should there be an increase in contracts won.

Legal implications and risks:

This report seeks approval to award 1 contract to the named supplier within the Recommendations.

The Council has a statutory duty under Section 508A (1) (c) of the Education Act 1996 (as amended by the Education and Inspections Act 2006) to promote the use of sustainable modes of travel to meet the school travel needs of its area. The recommendations within this report are in keeping with this duty.

The procurement process followed has already been set out in the body of this report and appears to be a fully compliant procedure.

Officers have conducted mini competitions using the Procurement Partnership Limited (TPPL) national Minibus, Bus and Coach Procurement Framework (Contract Award Notice 2021/S 000-020126) for the purchase of replacement buses.

This is in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rule 20.4, which requires all purchases under a multi supplier framework to follow the express framework provisions for choosing a supplier and if there are no such express provisions to hold mini-competitions amongst the relevant suppliers.

The Framework itself was launched in August 2021. Participating authorities therefore have until August 2025 to call-off from this Framework.

Officers have satisfied themselves that the bid submitted by Treka Bus Limited represents the most economically advantageous tender for the Council overall.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There are no anticipated HR issues resulting from this decision.

Equalities implications and risks:

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to:

- (i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

The Council seeks to ensure equality, inclusion, and dignity for all in all situations.

PTS transport is generally provided on behalf of vulnerable client groups due to age, physical or mental disability or a combination of all factors.

The replacement fleet assets will continue to be fully accessible to wheelchair users with the appropriate comfort, cooling / heating, lighting, wheel chair securing, all age seat belts and other safety features for the welfare of our service clients

There are no equalities and social inclusion implications and risks associated with this decision and an EqHIA (Equality and Health Impact Assessment) is not required on this occasion.

Health and Wellbeing implications and risks

Below lists the positive health and wellbeing implications relating to the proposed decision to purchase the 13 buses designed to carry children & adults with special educational needs.

- The proposed vehicles are designed for maximum comfort and come with full climate control, tinted windows and mood lighting to aid mental health and wellbeing
- The proposed vehicles are fully accessible and will provide all age groups access to education or any other training opportunities agreed by the authority (CAD)
- Employment, income, opportunities for economic development
- These buses will be able to access green spaces (parks), sports facilities, and any other opportunities to allow the clients to be active in partnership with CAD
- The buses will be used to take clients to day centres which allows the clients the opportunity to interact socially with other people, prevent social isolation, foster community support networks and assist residents being able to live independently
- Ability to access health and social care services
- Flexible Transport, and connections to places within or between the Borough

Environmental and Climate Change Implications and risks

The buses recommended for purchase are EURO 6 compliant with stop/start systems and Ad blue, a treatment injected into the SCR (Selective Catalytic Reduction) systems which removes harmful nitrogen oxide converting it into nitrogen and water.

All of the proposed replacement buses will be fully compliant to meet the strict ULEZ / LEZ standards for London and will be running on GTL .This is the current green alternative fuel to diesel which all of the Council's current fleet vehicles operate on.

GTL complies with EN15940 standards and reduces NOx by 37% and Particulate Matter by 50% reducing our carbon footprint.

Other advantages of GTL:

- It has a much higher cetane number (fuel burns better within the engine)
- It has a higher mass calorific value
- It has a lower sulphur levels
- It has lower levels aromatics
- It is almost free from other unsaturated molecules such as olefins (unsaturated hydrocarbon compounds)
- More efficient combustion at lower temperatures (improved cold starting)
- Fully Bio- Degradable and Non Toxic with a low hazard rating (evaporates if spilt)

- Reduced noise levels by 1-4Db (uniform combustion shortens ignition delay reducing diesel knock)
- Reduced fuel consumption due to a more efficient fuel burn rate
- No smell from the fuel or from the exhaust
- Reduction in the following harmful gases: Nitrogen oxides (NO_x) Particulate Matter (PM) Carbon monoxide (CO) and Hydrocarbons (HC) all associated with respiratory illness.

Other measures to reduce fuel consumption:

All PTS drivers are subjected to periodic training which includes eco driver training and anti –idle training, which identify the health benefits and the impact on the environment from efficient driving techniques.

All bus routes are designed to be as fuel efficient as possible taking in the need of clients, distance, time and destination

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

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This Report is part exempt and Appendix 1 is not available for public inspection as it contains exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. It is exempt because it refers to commercially confidential financial information, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

CABINET	
Subject Heading:	Direct award of Social Care Case Management System to Liquidlogic.
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Gillian Ford, Cabinet Member for Adults & Wellbeing Councillor Oscar Ford, Cabinet Member for Children's & Young People
ELT Lead:	Kathy Freeman, Strategic Director of Resources
Report Author and contact details:	Daniel Smoker/ Zak Durrani Tel: 01708 431238 e-mail: Daniel.Smoker@havering.gov.uk Zak.Durrani@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	Corporate plan priority – To manage our systems and data well and be a data driven organisation.
Financial summary:	Expenditure for the total cost of c.£1.8m (£1,746,915.70) for the system required, for a maximum period of 7 years
Is this a Key Decision?	Yes
When should this matter be reviewed?	October 2024
Reviewing OSC:	People OSC

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

- People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well x
- Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy
- Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council x

SUMMARY

The current Liquidlogic contract expires 31st December 2024 and it is critical we procure a new contract.

The new contract will support the Social Care case recording and management systems, finance systems and customer portal modules. The proposed contract will also assist with hosting, support & maintenance for Adult and Children Social Care Services. The new contract will be for a period of a total of 7 years (an initial 5-years with the option to extend for a further 2 years).

This report seeks approval to direct award a new contract to Liquidlogic, using the compliant Crown Commercial Services Framework Vertical Application Solutions (VAS) Lot 2.

This report seeks approval of the expenditure from the revenue budget for a maximum value of c.£1.8million over the next seven years.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Following discussions with the Strategic Director of People and the Directors of Adult & Children Services, they are satisfied that Liquidlogic meets their current and future requirements.

For the reasons set out in this report, the Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Approve the award of a Call-Off contract for a 7-year (5+2) period to Liquid Logic Limited (Company Number 11227217) for the provision of a Social Care Case Management System & ContrOCC payment Systems from Liquidlogic / System C in accordance with the strategy set out in the report, by utilising the Crown Commercial Services Framework Agreement (Vertical Application Solutions - RM6259).
2. Delegate to the Strategic Director of Resources/S.151 Officer authority:
 - (a) implementation of the contract,
 - (b) to exercise the option to extend the contract for a period of 2-years, and
 - (c) for any budgetary change variances (including price increases and expenditure in implementing any new software modules) over the contractual period.

REPORT DETAIL

Background

1.1 In 2018, Havering's Adult and Children Social Care Services implemented the LiquidLogic case management systems as part of their statutory case recording systems requirements and the ContrOCC finance system, provided by the parent company System C. Following a successful tender process, a contract of five years with an optional two-year extension was awarded. The two-year extension was initiated in December 2022 and is set to expire on 31 December 2024.

Key Considerations and current position

1.2 Delivering and contributing to the Council's objectives relies on having IT solutions that are fit for purpose, ensuring service continuity, to enable officers to undertake their responsibilities and a move to a cloud-based solution. The system has gone through an internal triage process and the IT and the PMO departments support the direction.

1.3 As the current contract end approaches, an assessment had been carried out for all procurement options in scoping how to best meet the Council's requirements.

1.4 The CCS VAS Framework rules permit public buying authorities to direct award via the Framework.

1.5 In addition to best value for the Council, this will ensure continued hosting, support, and maintenance of the current systems and allow the authority to continue to develop the highly configurable systems to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the business in ensuring we continue to deliver excellent support to our residents.

1.6 The award will ensure software continuation as it currently supports established processes and system interfaces. The benefit of the fixed rate inflation provides the Council with certainty over the future costs and protects it from high and fluctuating inflation rates.

1.7 For the reasons set out in this report, it is recommended Cabinet approve the award for the provision of the required software for the Council and to achieve the savings set out in Appendix 1 of this report.

Proposed Procurement Strategy

1.8 The existing software is already fully embedded and integrated into Council systems necessary for all processes and practices.

1.9 This report proposes the use of the CCS Vertical Applications Software (VAS) RM6259 Framework, via the Government e-Marketplace to procure the supplier through a Direct Award via the Lot 2: Education, Community Health and Social Care Solutions. The contract award will be for a period of 7 (5+2) years at an estimated cost of circa £1.8m/annum, inflation inclusive. The Framework start date commenced on 07/03/2023 and expires on 06/03/2027, so is valid and legal.

1.10 Through the VAS Framework, the Supplier is permitted to provide us with a direct quote to meet our specific requirements. Through this process, the Supplier has offered lower prices (refer to Appendix 1 for prices) compared to the 2024 prices within the Framework digital catalogue (refer to Appendix 1 for prices). This is compliant through the expressed provisions of the Framework. With no current technical, operational or licence issues with the system, it is fully functional and is an appropriate, economical quote for Havering and will ensure the benefit of service continuation to award to Liquidlogic with no disruption. The bespoke offer has been provided for LB Havering at reduced cost and the offer will be held for us until December 2025.

1.11 The rationale for the recommended procurement option includes:

- Compliance with PCR regulations supports best value.
- We have certainty, clarity and vision on the modules we require. The CCS VAS FW allows for a Direct Award and through this route, the Supplier is permitted to offer a discount so provides Best Value. A beneficial fixed annual indexation rate has been included within the offer and will provide inflation stability for the Council, along with a module discount on the basis of a 5+2 contract term. The module costs do not vary, and it is the indexation rate that accounts for the annual increase in costs.
- There is Contract Procedure Rule (CPR) compliance to award this contract via the Crown Commercial Services framework.
- This process supports a longer-term commercial, technical and operational relationship with the supplier.

1.12 The other procurement options were also considered. This is detailed in 2.18.

Finance

1.13 The cost per year of the contract over the 7-year period can be found in Appendix 1; the price of the contract includes a fixed 3% increase per annum throughout its duration. Prices are fixed for each of the core applications, and prices will only be affected by indexation, as detailed. We will purchase a total of 30 modules currently and have the option of including other modules if the service demands it in the future.

1.14 Providing the Council commit to a 5+2 contract, LiquidLogic have offered a competitive fixed annual indexation rate of 3%, compared to the current indexation rate of 4%, this attracts a saving. There are savings (cost avoidance) in the implementation cost for the existing system, which is not required as we do not have this step. This is detailed in Appendix 1.

Specification

1.15 LiquidLogic has provided our integrated systems to meet the needs of the users in Social Care and provides a case management system for Adult and Children social care services (Early help, Families and Universal Services).

1.16 They are the chosen software market leader in several London Boroughs and have a robust roadmap to meet statutory and customer requirements to connect Healthcare, Social Care and Education Solutions for the future.

1.17 The service will work to finalise the specification requirements for the sole system requirement based on the work that has been completed by both LiquidLogic and Havering during the original contract term and will cover some of the areas pertaining to integrating all areas of Adult and Children Social care services in areas including:

- Customer experience exemplified by the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Referrals
- Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) information
- Adult Social Care Safeguarding
- Additionally, the integration with Health data is crucial for delivering holistic services to residents, with real-time data available within the Liquidlogic system.
- The continued hosting and support and maintenance
- The call-off contract will enable Havering to purchase any optional modules that may be required in the future – this is listed in Appendix 1.

1.18 In addition, the software currently supports established processes and system interfaces, the proposed award would provide stability and avoid staff disruption to learn and understand a new software system. IT Support team are familiar with the product and can respond quickly to routine issues. We have currently scoped 30 modules we would be using and have undertaken an exercise to determine any future needs required for the longevity of the contract.

1.19 Following approval from cabinet to process, LiquidLogic will upload their offer to the CCS e-marketplace portal for Havering to proceed with completing the order to direct award.

Market Comparison Costs and Indicative procurement timetable

1.20 Supplier prices are available from the CCS VAS Framework. Liquidlogic prices demonstrate excellent value and market leadership. In continuing with the existing Supplier, the Council will not be subjected to the cost of change, implementation and any potential scope creep.

The timeline (indicative) for this project is as follows:

Activity	Date
Finalise Specification /software requirements	August / September 2024
CCS VAS Access agreement review	August/September 2024
Cabinet report approval (Approval to procure and delegation to the Strategic Director to implement the contract)	October 2024
Issue Contract	December 2024
Contract Start	1st Jan 2025

REASONS AND OPTIONS

Reasons for the decision:

2.1 In the interest of vital and continued delivery of essential Council services to businesses, partners, residents, and service users, it is advised the proposed contract is approved, as continuation of services is our preferred option. Any changes to the provider could cause potential disruptions and impact on the pace of the Children's Social Care Improvement plan. Therefore, a new contract is essential to ensure ongoing software continuity and support which affect all parts of Council service functions and infrastructure.

2.2 Officers have conducted all the pre-procurement and accreditation checks associate with using the CCS VAS Framework. The supplier selection process been completed and undertaken so will up free up resources in terms of the service not needing to evaluate tender submissions which is very detailed and time consuming.

2.4 A review of suitable framework agreements accessible to the Council has been undertaken and has found the CCS VAS framework is the most suitable.

2.5 This procurement is vital and necessary for the continuation for all Council Adult and Children Social Care Services.

2.6 Delivering a contribution to the council's social value objectives will be included as an obligation under the contract. The Supplier demonstrates wider benefits regarding social value to cover Societal, Economic and Environmental benefits within the sphere of their operations.

2.7 The natural end of the contract and no suitable replacement would have a severe impact on business continuity and existing service provision. The software functions enable the council to be efficient and effective, we have a duty of care to our residents and the vulnerable. The proposed contract will ensure the software and system future-proofs us and includes options for any new modules. The cost of these are detailed in Appendix 1.

Benefits of using Liquidlogic

2.8 LiquidLogic support 80 Local Authorities with Adult case management and 94 with Children case management. They also have 20 education customers. The most vital point is that LiquidLogic meet all statutory and legal obligations as required by Adult & Children Social Care.

2.9 In addition to efficiency and organisational performance we are offered best value and most importantly, we use a trusted verified and accredited system which ensures the compliance standards of all integral data.

2.10 The system is the established software for Adult and Children Social Care Services, providing essential support for service staff and users. Staff are satisfied with the system, and it integrates seamlessly with web front-end portals for customers and professionals to submit requests directly into Liquidlogic systems.

2.11 As the largest provider of Social Care systems, Liquidlogic offers additional benefits, including established networks for sharing best practices and forums for system users and administrators. New employees joining Havering from other councils are likely to be familiar with the system, facilitating timely on boarding.

2.12 Internal reports utilise Liquid Logic's Data Warehouse to provide extensive information to staff via Power BI dashboards and Havering's Data Warehouse. This integration is now fully embedded within the services, supporting staff in effective decision-making and improving outcomes for Havering's residents.

2.13 The dedicated Systems Team manages system development, training and support in the authority. This mitigates the necessity to outsource any work resulting in a significant cost avoidance.

2.14 LiquidLogic also serves many Boroughs, which facilitates the transfer of case files, leading to enhanced support for service users who may transition between boroughs during their Social Care experience.

2.15 The integration of the portals, health data, child protection alerts to healthcare systems, and finance management would necessitate considerable investment for redevelopment and associated costs for retraining both internal staff and external partners if we were to procure a new system.

2.16 Opting to continue with LiquidLogic leads to cost avoidance primarily through the expenses related to another implementation, retraining, additional integrations and the redesign of a solution that is already functioning well.

2.17 The system can also facilitate the requirements outlined in the Ofsted Improvement Plan, which was approved by the cabinet earlier this year. Significant changes have been made already and a change in system could affect the timeline outlined in that report.

Other options considered:

2.18 Procurement options considered were:

- a) PCR 2015 Regulations 72 parts a-c for modification of contracts during their term - not suitable and could not cover a longer-term period
- b) Direct Contract Award to LiquidLogic via CCS VAS Framework (Recommended) It is recommended that the Council use this option, and proceed with the direct award, using the criteria as per the framework rules. The procurement has had oversight and approval of a Waiver to proceed at Havering's Gateway Review Group (GRG) and have approved the costings, length of contract, and the process of the direct award using the CCs route, pending cabinet approval. On this basis, Liquid Logic would be elected as the preferred supplier.

c) Do Nothing (Rejected)

Liquidlogic serves as a crucial business tool for both Adult and Children Social Care Services. Failing to secure a new contract for this application and losing its services would mean relinquishing all rights to use the software and this would pose a substantial risk to vulnerable individuals within the area, potentially endangering lives in severe cases.

Inactivity is not viable given the necessity to maintain records for children in care, child protection orders, and adults receiving services. Additionally, it would be impossible to comply with obligatory reporting to the Department for Education (DFE) and Department of Health (DoH).

d) G-cloud 13 Framework (Rejected)

The length of contracts under the G-Cloud 13 Framework are much shorter, as stipulated by the Framework Agreement, therefore unsuitable.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

This report is seeking approval to proceed with the direct award of a contract for the 7-year (5+2) period to Liquid Logic & ContrOCC Systems. The contract price in year 1 is £0.231m and is subject to a fixed 3% increase per annum throughout its duration. A fixed rate provides the Council with certainty over the future costs and protects it from high inflation rates. The Council has budget provision for this contract, and an inflationary uplift is provided for corporately on an annual basis which ensures the financial impact of inflation is managed effectively.

The software currently supports established processes and system interfaces. There is no option for a rolling contract, if a new contract is not in place by 1st January, the Council would revert to the VAS framework 2024 prices, which are significantly higher at approx. £500k per annum. The renewal price of £0.231m pa therefore represents a significant discount.

A direct award to Liquid Logic and ContrOCC Systems avoids the costs associated with procurement and implementation and provides continued stability given the recent implementation in 2018.

Legal implications and risks:

This report seeks authority to award a contract to Liquid Logic Limited by utilising the CCS Vertical Application Solutions (VAS) Framework Agreement (Contract award notice reference: 2023/S 000-010281).

The Council has a general power of competence under Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 to do anything that an individual generally may do subject to other statutory provisions limiting or restricting its use. The recommendations in this report are compatible with this statutory power.

The total value of each contract exceeds the threshold for services under the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (“PCR”) and is therefore subject to the full PCR regime. The use of a framework is permitted under Regulation 33 of the PCR.

The framework itself commenced on 7 March 2023. The agreement will initially run for 30 months (until September 2025) with the option to extend for a further 18 months (until March 2026). Participating authorities therefore currently have until September 2025 to call-off from this Framework.

The Council’s Contract Procedure Rule 20.4 states that where a framework agreement is operational, all subsequent purchases under the framework shall either not require further competition (if a single supplier) or, if there are two or more suppliers for those goods or services on the framework, follow the express framework provisions for choosing a supplier.

The VAS framework permits the use of direct awards to any supplier using the framework digital catalogue or by issuing a ‘price on request’ to the Suppliers on the chosen Lot. As explained in paragraph 1.10 of this report, Liquid Logic submitted the Council with a service offer (quote) to meet our needs. Officers are satisfied that this service offer represents best value for the Council overall.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There are no HR implications or risks arising directly that impact on the Councils workforce from this report. TUPE will not apply to this procurement.

Equalities implications and risks:

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have ‘due regard’ to:

- (i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: ‘Protected characteristics’ are age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants. An EqHIA (Equality and Health Impact Assessment) is usually carried out and on this occasion, this isn't required. The Council seeks to ensure equality, inclusion, and dignity for all in all situations. There are no social inclusion implications and risks associated with this decision.

Health and Wellbeing implications and Risks:

This procurement is not considered to have any health and wellbeing implications and risk in the context.

Environmental and Climate Change implications and Risks

The transition to cloud-based systems will support the council's carbon reduction ambitions by centralising data storage and processing, leading to a decrease in overall energy consumption.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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CABINET

Subject Heading:	Commencement of Procurement of the Replacement Housing System
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Paul Middleton – Cabinet Member for Digital, Transformation and Customer Services
ELT Lead:	Kathy Freeman - Strategic Director of Resources
Report Author and contact details:	David Clifton Programme Manager – Transformation david.clifton@havering.gov.uk 01708431569
Policy context:	Enabling a resident-focussed and resilient Council
Financial summary:	Anticipated 7-year (maximum) contract value ranging from £970k to £2,368k. Funding has been allocated in the HRA.
Is this a Key Decision?	Yes (a) Expenditure of £500,000 or more
Reviewing OSC:	Overview and Scrutiny Board

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well
 Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy
 Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council X

SUMMARY

Capita Open Housing software has been used by the Council's Housing service since 2018. The existing contract expires on 31st March 2026.

Following an in-depth review of the current systems and a market test of alternatives it has been determined that the best option for the Council is to procure a new, fully integrated Housing technology platform.

It is recommended that a mini-competition process using the Crown Commercial Services Vertical Application Solutions (VAS) framework Lot 3 (Housing, Environmental and Planning Solutions) is undertaken to identify a replacement system in accordance with the Council's procurement requirement.

This report seeks Cabinet approval to procure and publish the tender, approval to award a contract through delegated authority via the s.151 Officer.

It is proposed that the replacement system will be subject to a 3+2+2 (total 7 year) contract. It is estimated that the total value of the contract (including implementation services) will be within a range of £970,000 to £2,368,000 depending on the supplier selected via the mini-competition process. The allocated budget is approved.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To agree to :

1. Commence procurement of a maximum 7 year contract (3 +2 +2) for an integrated housing technology platform via a mini-competition through the Crown Commercial Services Vertical Application Solutions (VAS) framework Lot 3 (Housing, Environmental and Planning Solutions).
2. Delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Resources/S.151 Officer to:
 - a. award and implement the contract following completion of the further competition including authorisation of any budgetary change variances (for example price increases and expenditure);

REPORT DETAIL

Background

Cabinet, 9th of October 2024

1.1 Originally purchased in 2015, Capita Open Housing has been used by the Council's Housing service since going live in 2018. It is a multi-functional piece of software that supports frontline Housing services. The existing contract expires on 31st March 2026. There are no further extension periods available.

1.2 Following an in-depth review of the current systems, a market test of alternatives determined that the best option for the Council is to procure a new, fully integrated Housing technology platform.

1.3 Work has been undertaken to develop a robust set of system requirements which will inform procurement and implementation of a suitable replacement system for the future.

1.4 The project is reaching the conclusion of the tender preparation phase. It is proposed to publish a tender via mini-competition using the Crown Commercial Services VAS framework under Lot 3 (Housing, Environmental and Planning Solutions).

1.5 On the 8th of August 2024, a report was presented at the Council's Procurement Gateway Review Group, and the recommended procurement route was given approval by the panel.

1.6 The proposed contract will have an initial term of three years with two additional two year extension periods to provide system longevity and stability. (a total 7-year period).

Indicative Market Comparison Costs and estimated value

1.7 Based on the extensive market assessment across eight suppliers it is estimated that the total value of the contract will be within a range of c.£970,000 to £2.4m for the potential seven year life cycle of the software as illustrated in the table below (results of market assessment across eight suppliers).

	Implementation Services	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	7 Year Revenue Cost	Total Cost
Supplier 1	£130	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£840	£970
Supplier 2	£178	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£840	£1,018
Supplier 3	£160	£131	£131	£131	£131	£131	£131	£131	£917	£1,077
Supplier 4	£286	£117	£117	£117	£117	£117	£117	£117	£819	£1,105
Supplier 5	£215	£138	£138	£138	£138	£138	£138	£138	£966	£1,181
Supplier 6	£180	£144	£144	£144	£144	£144	£144	£144	£1,008	£1,188
Supplier 7	£200	£180	£180	£180	£180	£180	£180	£180	£1,260	£1,460
Supplier 8	£1,500	£124	£124	£124	£124	£124	£124	£124	£868	£2,368
Current Costs	£0	£107	£107	£107	£107	£107	£107	£107	£749	£749

Costs provided are in multiples of £1000

1.8 It is proposed to undertake the procurement as a mini-competition process using the Crown Commercial Services Vertical Application Solutions (VAS) framework Lot 3 (Housing, Environmental and Planning Solutions), and all Suppliers will be invited to submit bids. This framework provides the advantage of a good supplier pool running the procurement. All suppliers have undertaken a Supplier selection process to secure a place on the VAS Framework.

1.9 The delegation of contract awarding authority to the Strategic Director of Resources and s151 Officer will expedite the contract award process and allow the project to maintain momentum into the mobilisation phase.

1.10 The evaluation split breakdown will consist of 60% Quality, 30% Price, 5% Social value, 5% Technical Merit /assistance. This will provide the most economically advantageous bids, ensuring the council procures a solution that meets its needs at a competitive price. This work also identified that key suppliers will not bid on tenders where pricing is weighted at 70% as these are subject to opportunistic 'Abnormally low-priced tenders' winning regardless of product quality. The VAS framework allows for a 30% price weighting and authority to proceed on that basis will be covered under a non-key decision as detailed in the Constitution.

1.11 An evaluation panel consisting of Council Officers will evaluate the Quality aspects and Price. The final scoring will be carried out by Havering Officers and moderated by Procurement.

Evaluation Criteria

1.12 Quality (60%), technical merit (5%) and social value criteria (5%) – 70% of total score

In evaluating quality, we will consider the:

- Quality, to include: added Value / Innovation, approach to Delivery of the Services, implementation, use of supply chain/partners, after sales services, aesthetic and functional characteristics, environmental characteristics, period of completion, delivery date and delivery period, functionality and robustness of the product, approach to delivery of the services/methodology, including the strategies, expertise, methods, materials, and procedures in supplier proposals
- technical merit and assistance, including the competence, skills, and experience of the management, professional, and technical personnel proposed for the project
- social value in accordance with PPN 06/20

Price criteria – 30% of total score

In evaluating price we will consider the:

- Professional Services charges: time and materials, cost effectiveness, including all running costs over the duration of the contract including fixed capital costs, variable tender costs and special adjustments during the contract period, and maintenance and operating costs
- Software licence costs, including testing a range of licensing models (per user, per device, enterprise wide etc)
- Hardware costs (as part of a solutions)
- Support and maintenance costs
- Any lotting criteria (where appropriate)

Product Specification

1.13 Social housing software is multi-functional, and the specification is in development, to be ready for the procurement process We are looking to implement a Software as a Service (SaaS) cloud integrated property management system to meet our statutory and customer requirements for Housing, without the need for additional peripheral systems or modules.

The service will work to finalise the specification requirements to cover system modules. Some of these include:

- Housing
- Voids
- Account maintenance, rent account, benefit management and payments, service charges
- Allocations
- Rehousing
- Repairs, Planned Maintenance, Property Management
- Contractor Management
- Right to Buy
- Private sector Housing
- Homelessness
- Resident Involvement
- Estate management services
- Health and safety
- Out of hours
- Asset management
- Complaints
- Reporting
- Mobile working

We will also ensure we cover any additional functionality not available in the current system, which is causing additional capital and revenue spend where the services are looking to purchase other products to fill the gaps.

Procurement Timetable

1.14 Subject to the proposal achieving approval, the scheduled timetable for the tender process is as follows:

Procurement Activity	Indicative date
Notify Suppliers on the VAS FW of the requirement to tender through a mini competition	October 2024
Publish Tender	October 2024
Tender Evaluations	November/December 2024
Approvals	December /January 2024/5
Award Contract to successful applicant	Jan /Feb 2025
Service mobilisation and implementation	Feb 2025 onwards

REASONS AND OPTIONS

Reasons for the decision:

2.1 In the interest of vital and continued delivery of essential Council services to businesses, partners, residents, and system users, it is advised this procurement is approved as scoping other procurement platforms and ceasing provision of the service is not a viable option and a Procurement is essential to ensure ongoing system continuity within Housing.

2.2 Procuring via the CCS ensures best value, plus an opportunity to use an 'off-the-shelf' framework in sourcing our new requirement.

2.3 A review of suitable framework agreements and its Suppliers accessible to the Council has been undertaken and has found the CCS VAS Framework being the most suitable.

2.4 This procurement is vital and necessary for the continuation for the Council Housing services system.

2.5 Delivering a contribution to the council's social value objectives will be included as part of the procurement and Suppliers must demonstrate wider benefits regarding social value to cover Societal, Economic and Environmental areas within the sphere of their operations.

2.6 Allowing the open housing contract to expire with no suitable replacement would have a severe impact on business continuity and existing service provision. Procurement from the Framework will enable the Council to be efficient and effective in its functions

Other options considered

2.7 Use of other frameworks:

- SHED, Limited Supplier pool, framework not deemed suitable
- BOS (Saas) - CCS, Limited supplier pool, framework not deemed suitable
- G-Cloud – CCS - Limited, shorter-term contracts, framework not deemed suitable
- TEPAS – CCS/ESPO, Limited Supplier pool, framework not deemed suitable

2.8 To not procure a replacement housing management system.

Unfeasible option, however, the consequences of this would mean that the Housing Service would not have any integrated software to support its operations, and the service would return to a largely paper based, manual processes leading to massive inefficiency and risk through unmanageable operating practices.

2.9 To extend existing contract with Capita Open Housing.

A longer-term arrangement with Capita Business Service Ltd is not a feasible option as it would breach the procurement regulations.

2.10 To undertake a Havering led full open procurement process.

A sole Havering Open Market tender was considered; however, it is unlikely Suppliers will bid, as most Suppliers are vetted accepted on major frameworks and will apply their time and effort in securing business through these routes, rather than participate in a bespoke procurement process which would take a minimum of 6 months.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

Provision for the cost of procurement, purchase and implementation has been made in the existing Capital Housing IT budget, and provision of ongoing software licencing costs have been made in the Housing IT revenue budget.

Indicative implementation services and licencing costs were previously identified by the soft market engagement. As set out in the CCS Mini-competition rules, all Suppliers on the VAS Framework for Lot 3 will be invited to submit prices. These will then be assessed and contractually binding for the successful supplier.

Legal implications and risks:

The Council has a general power of competence under Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 to do anything an individual can do, subject to any statutory constraints on the Council's powers. None of the constraints on the Council's s.1 power are engaged by this decision and the decision is in line with the Council's powers.

The Council has power under s111 of the Local Government Act 1972 which permits the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of its functions. The Council is acting in pursuit of its statutory powers and duties and the recommendations in this report are within its powers.

The Crown Commercial Services Vertical Application Solutions (VAS) framework is a Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015) compliant framework which is open to all public authorities to call off from. The procurement process complies with the requirements of the PCR 2015.

For the reasons set out above, the Council may commence procurement as set out in this report.

The Council's legal team will provide advice relating to the required contract extensions as required.

Human Resources implications and risks:

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable HR risks or implications that would affect either the Council or its workforce.

Equalities implications and risks:

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to:

- (i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
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- (iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

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An EqHIA (Equality and Health Impact Assessment) is usually carried out and on this occasion, this isn't required.

The Council seeks to ensure equality, inclusion, and dignity for all in all situations.

There are not equalities and social inclusion implications and risks associated with this decision

Health and Wellbeing implications and Risks

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable health and wellbeing risks.

Environmental and Climate Change implications and Risks

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable environmental and climate change risks.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

<https://democracy.havering.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?id=7948&LLL=0>

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