



Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001326
Date 14 July 2017

Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement

Request:

I am researching the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement programme for my MSc and would very much appreciate a response to the following questions.

On what date did your Council decide whether or not to join the SVPR programme announced by the Prime Minister in October 2015

[N/A](#)

At what level within the Council was this decision made? Please select from [Leader of City of Wolverhampton Council](#)

Please provide a copy of the report or briefing note that was considered in order for the decision to be made (or link to web page if already in public domain)

Please provide a copy of the minutes of any meeting where this decision was debated or considered (or link to web page if already in public domain)

If you did make a pledge to resettle Syrian families, how many did you pledge to take individuals

[20 per year over the 5 years](#)

If you did make a pledge to resettle Syrian families, what was your original plan for timing of arrivals

All in year 1

[Evenly spaced over years 1 -5](#)

What is your current plan for timing of arrivals

[Evenly spaced over years 1-5](#)

If your plan for timing of arrivals has changed, please explain how and why

[There was a slight change in timings due to a delay in awarding the contract](#)

If you did join the programme, and have had arrivals, were any of the following issues experienced – please answer yes, no or not known to each

Concern that government grants would not cover costs [No](#)

Lack of available housing in the area [No](#)

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Unable to accommodate physical health needs (primary care) No
Unable to accommodate physical health needs (secondary care) No
Unable to accommodate mental health needs No
Unable to accommodate education needs (children) No
Unable to accommodate ESOL needs No
Unable to accommodate social care needs No
Unable to provide adequately for support & integration needs No
Local communities were not supportive No
Community tension No
Suspected radicalised/extremist individuals arriving No
Threats to safety of Syrian families No
Syrian families may have had negative impact on local communities No
Syrian families may not have had positive impact on local communities No
Other – please describe No

More information can also be found at:

<https://wolverhampton.cityofsanctuary.org/>

Individual Executive Decision Notice

Report title	Award of Contracts for Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme	
Decision designation	GREEN	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Sandra Samuels	
Wards affected	All	
Accountable director	Linda Sanders, Strategic Director - People Directorate	
Originating service	City Housing	
Accountable employee(s)	Anthony Walker Homelessness Strategy and External providers	
	Tel	01902 51631
	Email	Anthony.walker@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report has been considered by	PLT SEB	Cabinet Resources 13 th Sept 2016

Summary

Delegated authority to award the contracts for the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme was granted to the Cabinet Member for Adults in consultation with the Strategic Director for People at the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on 13th September 2016.

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

That the Cabinet Member for Adults, in consultation with the Strategic Director for People, gives authorisation award the contact to Refugee Migrant Centre. The contract duration will be up to 5 years (including extension options for 1+1+1+1 years) from 13 February 2017 to 12 February 2026 for a total contract value of £1,410,000.

Signature – Cabinet Member for Adults. Date:

Signature – Strategic Director for People. Date:

Signature – Director for Finance. Date:

Signature – Cabinet Member for Resources. Date:

1.0 Contract Information – New Contract

Contract Information – New Contract	
Contract Name	Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme
Ref No:	PP16063
Provider	Refugee Migrant Centre
Decision Type	New Contract Award
Corporate Plan Aim	People live longer, healthier lives
Originating directorate	People
Originating service	Housing Support
Accountable officer	Anthony Walker Homeless Strategy and External Relationships Manger 01902 551631
Directorate Leadership Team approval	Linda Sanders
Accountable Lead Cabinet Member	Cllr Sandra Samuels, Cabinet Member for Adults (01902) 551009
Date Lead Cabinet Member briefed	29 June 2016
Procurement Advisor	Parvinder Uppal, Assistant Category Manager (01902) 554029
Type of procurement process	Open
Evaluation scoring balance	Quality 50% Price 40% Social Value 10%

2.0 Background

2.1 The Government is working to resettle up to 20,000 Syrian refugees, in need of protection, in the UK by the end of this Parliament, under its Syrian Vulnerable Person

Resettlement scheme. Wolverhampton’s offer is to provide accommodation and support to 20 people (possibly 6 families) each year for the 5 years of the scheme.

- 2.2 The resettlement would require the provision of support in one overall service split into three specific elements:
- Accommodation ; the provision of accommodation that is of a suitable size, in a suitable area, meets legal and local standards, of a suitable price, furnished and ready to use.
 - Housing Support; for the first year, new arrivals will be provided with intensive assistance in resolving housing issues (e.g. repairs, utilities, issues with bins, neighbour disputes).
 - Integration casework support needs to be provided for a period of the clients’ stay in the city. It is expected to facilitate refugees’ orientation into their new communities. Integration casework support includes all aspects of integration, from ensuring access to income through employment and benefits, access to primary and secondary care, dentists and opticians to compulsory and further education, ESOL and integrating with host communities.
- 2.3 The above support will be provided at a local level, within the Each resettlement client would be funded by the government over a period of five years, with full funding in year one and the funding rate reducing year on year thereafter. Funding is attached to the client and would end if the client left Wolverhampton, but the City Council would be funded for all support delivered to that date

3.0 Contract Award

4.0 Tender Process

- 4.1 A PIN (Prior Information Notice) was published on 19th October 2016 in OJEU (notice number 2016/S 202-365915).
- 4.2 The opportunity was advertised using the Council’s e-tendering portal on 14th October 2016 with a submission date of 23rd November 2016. The opportunity was also advertised on Contracts Finder and on Twitter.
- 4.3 The procedure followed was a single stage Open tender process.
- 4.4 Fifteen (15) organisations registered an interest and 4 submitted tenders.
- 4.5 The evaluation team comprised;

Name	Job Title	Organisation (if not WCC)
Anthony Walker	Homeless Strategy and External Relationships Manger	

Dave Newall	New Communities Strategic Lead	
Elizabeth Mickiewicz	Citizenship Language and Learning Teacher Advisor	
Sue Mckie	NHS Facing - Health Improvement Principal	

5.0 Evaluation Results

5.1 The table below shows the scores for each of the providers:

5.2 The evaluation concluded that Refugee Migrant Centre should be awarded the contract.

6.0 Financial implications

6.1 The funding for these services will be received retrospectively from the Home Office, who has identified a set amount for each individual for each of the five years support they may require.

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7.0 Legal implications

7.1 The procurement process was carried out in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

[-RB/19122016/J]

8.0 Schedule of background papers

8.1 Procurement Report to Cabinet Resource Panel 13 September 2016.

Contract Information – Delegated Authority	
Contract name	SYRIAN VULNERABLE PERSONS RELOCATION SCHEME
Ref no:	PP16063
Decision Type	Delegated Authority to Award a Contract
Corporate Plan aim	Improving City Housing Offer Enabling Vulnerable Adults to Live More independently
Originating directorate	People / Place
Originating service	Housing Support
Accountable officer	Anthony Walker Homeless Strategy and External Relationships Manger 01902 551631
Directorate Leadership Team approval	28 th September 2016 (TBC)
Accountable Lead Cabinet Member	Cllr Peter Bilson: City Housing and Assets
Date Lead Cabinet Member briefed	20-07-2016
Procurement advisor	Parvinder Uppal (01902) 554029
Type of procurement process	Open
Evaluation scoring balance	Quality 50% Price 40% Social Value 10%

Background

The Government is working to resettle up to 20,000 Syrian refugees, in need of protection, in the UK by the end of this Parliament, under its Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement scheme. Wolverhampton's offer is to provide accommodation and support to 20 people (possibly 6 families) each year for the 5 years of the scheme.

The resettlement would require the provision of support in one overall service split into three specific elements:

Accommodation ; the provision of accommodation that is of a suitable size, in a suitable area, meets legal and local standards, of a suitable price, furnished and ready to use.

Housing Support; For the first year, new arrivals will be provided with intensive assistance in resolving housing issues (e.g. repairs, utilities, issues with bins, neighbour disputes).

Integration casework support needs to be provided for a period of the clients' stay in the city. It is expected to facilitate refugees' orientation into their new communities. Integration casework support includes all aspects of integration, from ensuring access to income through employment and benefits, access to primary and secondary care, dentists and opticians to compulsory and further education, ESOL and integrating with host communities.

The above support will be provided at a local level, within the City of Wolverhampton by a contracted provider. Each resettlement client would be funded by the government over a period of five years, with full funding in year one and the funding rate reducing year on year thereafter. Funding is attached to the client and would end if the client left Wolverhampton, but the City Council would be funded for all support delivered to that date.

The Home Office have been contacted and it is planned that the City Council will receive 20 Syrian Refugees in November 2016. Regular contact is being made with the Home Office in relation to the overall process

The overall development of how Wolverhampton will provide services for the clients is in its final stage with a completed service model designed in conjunction with stakeholders. This is the basis of the specification that will be issued with the tender documentation to procure the services of a provider. The appointed provider will be required to have extensive local knowledge and to be able to work in partnership with local organisations that deliver specific services, for example ESOL.

Two initial market-warming events have been undertaken with potential providers and stakeholders to brief them on the impending tender process.

The delivery of the scheme will be overseen by the New Communities Group as well as via normal routes of contract monitoring.

Evaluation Criteria

Award of this contract will be on the basis of the most economically advantageous submission offered to the Council.

There will be 5 Evaluation questions related to quality and 1 related to social value. These will form 60% of the overall evaluation mark.

Price will be evaluated on the basis of total cost of the service. This will form 40% of the overall evaluation mark.

Procurement Process

A single stage open process will be followed with adverts placed in OJEU and Contracts Finder, on Twitter and the Council's e-tendering portal.

The evaluation will comprise of written questions and an oral presentation on service implementation.

The evaluation team will be;

Name	Job Title	Organisation (if not WCC)
Anthony Walker	Homeless Strategy and External Relationships Manger	
Dave Newall	New Communities Strategic Lead	
Mark Smith	Citizenship Language and Learning Team Leader	
Sue Mckie	NHS Facing - Health Improvement Principal	
Manjeet.Garcha	Director of Nursing and Quality - Wolverhampton CCG	NHS WOLVERHAMPTON CCG

Financial Implications

The funding will be received directly from the Home Office for the delivery of the contract therefore there will be no impact on the revenue budget.

Legal implications

The contract will be awarded in accordance with relevant legislation related to procurement and the Council's constitution.

Equalities implications

The provider appointed will have their own equalities policies.

Environmental implications

There are no environmental implications related to this contract at this stage.

Corporate landlord implications

There are no corporate landlord implications related to this contract at this stage.

Schedule of background papers

Home Office Guidance and briefing paper attached for background information.

Recommendation

Cabinet (Resources) Panel is recommended to delegate authority to the Cabinet Member for City Housing and Assets, in consultation with the Strategic Director for City Housing, to approve the award of a contract to provide services for the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme when the evaluation process is complete.