

DECISION NO: PCCG-2022-001

OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

LEAD CHIEF OFFICER: Nigel Stephens – ACO Resources

TITLE: Provision of Traditional Forensic Services via West and South Coast Forensic Consortium Contract

DATE: 29th March 2022

TIMING: Decision needed by 6th April 2022

PURPOSE: Approval to proceed required.

1. RECOMMENDATION

1.1 It is recommended that we agree to the award of the new contract.

2. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

2.1 Gwent Police are currently part of the 19 Force consortium for the provision of Traditional Forensic Services (Decision PCCG-2017-002). The current contact ends on June 30th 2022.

2.2 Dyfed Powys Police acted as the lead force for the procurement process and will act as host force for the ongoing contract management. They will act on behalf of 15 forces who now make up the consortia going forward.

2.3 The tender was published via ETender Wales on 10th January 2022 with a tender return date of 18th February 2022. A total of five(5) suppliers submitted bids. The contract is split into 10 lots.

Lot
PACE
CS DNA
Casework DNA
Fire Investigation
Drugs
Questioned Documents
RTA Toxicology
Casework Toxicology
Casework
Marks & Traces

3.	<u>ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION</u>										
3.1	The contract duration is for a period of three (3) years with the option to extend for up to a further two(2) years. During this time the Forensic Capability Network dynamic purchasing system will go live. Consideration of this option for future use will be made during the initial contract term.										
3.2	Tenders were evaluated using the following criteria: <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">Quality / Service Provision</td> <td style="text-align: right;">45%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Price</td> <td style="text-align: right;">35%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social Values</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capacity</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">100%</td> </tr> </table>	Quality / Service Provision	45%	Price	35%	Social Values	10%	Capacity	10%	TOTAL	100%
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3.3	Evaluations of bids received were completed by a team made up of Forensic Procurement professionals from various forces (including Gwent/South Wales).										
3.4	Gwent will use the same suppliers as South Wales Police as part of the Joint Scientific Investigation Unit.										
4.	<u>NEXT STEPS</u>										
4.1	Confirmation to proceed will be communicated to Dyfed Powys Police.										
4.2	Dyfed Powys will issue feedback to suppliers and enter a standstill period. Following the end of the standstill period the contract will be awarded w/c 25 th April 2022 for a go live date of 1 st July 2022.										
5.	<u>FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS</u>										
5.1	Gwent Spend for : FY 20/21 was £992,540. FY 21/22 £793,948,00 (as at 29/03/2022)										
5.2	On average there is a 20.5% price increase across all lots. This will require an increase in budget of circa £180,000. The exact impact cannot be predicted as each lot has different % increases and the volumes submitted to the providers will fluctuate. Only limited provision for this increase was accounted for in the 2022/23 budget setting round, therefore the majority of this increase is a new pressure.										
6.	<u>PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS</u>										
6.1	Not applicable										
7.	<u>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</u>										
7.1	The tender was reviewed by a third party legal organisation.										

8.	<u>EQUALITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS</u>
8.1	<p>This report has been considered against the general duty to promote equality, as stipulated under the Strategic Equality Plan and has been assessed not to discriminate against any particular group.</p> <p>Consideration has been given to requirements of the Articles contained in the European Convention on Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998 in preparing this report.</p>
9.	<u>RISK</u>
9.1	If we do not agree to proceed the force will be left without a Forensic Service which a business critical and legislative requirement. Having no forensic service will not allow the force to carry out their work for convictions, arrests and crime solving.
10.	<u>PUBLIC INTEREST</u>
10.1	This report cannot be published until after the standstill period ends. Details of the contracts will be published on the Bluelight Procurement Database. https://www.blpd.gov.uk
11.	<u>CONTACT OFFICER</u>
11.1	Sian Gunner, Procurement Manager
12.	<u>ANNEXES</u>
12.1	None.

For OPCC use only

Office of the Chief Constable

I confirm that JCPS0153 - Provision of Traditional Forensic Services via West and South Coast Forensic Consortium Contract report has been discussed and approved at a formal Chief Officers' meeting.

It is now forwarded to the OPCC for approval purposes.

Signature:



Date: 04/04/22

Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

I confirm that I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct.

The above request has my approval.

Signature:



Date: 06/04/2022