

## OFFICER DECISION RECORD SHEET

**Name of decision maker:** Assistant Director of Housing

**Service Area:** Property & Place

**Title of Decision:** To award a contract for Fire Safety Works to be carried out at the Ashlyns Estate in Berkhamsted

**Decision made and reasons:**

**Decision:** To award a contract to Ventro Group to carry out Fire Safety Works at the Ashlyns Estate in Berkhamsted. This estate is made up of 14 mid-rise blocks of flats,

**Reason:** In line with the Fire Safety Policy the council carry out Fire Risk Assessments (FRAs) to our council owned blocks of flats. These FRAs identify compartmentalisation works that are required to prevent the spread of fire.

Consequently, the council has commissioned additional Fire Compartmentation Surveys to be undertaken at the 14 blocks of flats located in the Ashlyns Estate, Berkhamsted.

The outcome of the surveys is that fire safety works need to be carried out to ensure they are up to the required standard.

The Council has utilised the Efficiency East Midlands (EEM) Framework Agreement to appoint Ventro Ltd to carry out the works. This is deemed the best route to ensure the works are carried out as quickly as possible rather than going through a lengthy tender process.

**Reports considered:**

PH-016-18 – Delegation to award contracts for fire safety works and asbestos surveys and removals for Council owned housing stock  
Fire Safety Policy

**Officers/Councillors/Ward Councillors/Stakeholders Consulted:**

Assistant Director of Housing  
Mechanical and Electrical Team Leader, Property & Place  
Compliance / Risk & Health & Safety Officer, Property & Place  
Team Leader, Commissioning, Procurement & Compliance

**Financial Comments:**

There is sufficient budget within DBC commissioned capital works programme to cover the above award.

Lucy Tash  
Accountant (Housing)

**Monitoring Officer Comments:**

Officers will need to ensure that the award is fully compliant with the terms of the framework agreement and complete the required works contract before works on site commence.

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**Deputy S151 Officers Comments:**

These services are being procured through an approved framework, and the cost of works is budgeted for as part of the HRA capital programme.

**Implications:**

**Value for Money:** Ventro Group were appointed to the EEM Ltd Framework Agreement for Fire Door Sets. Ventro Group went through a robust tender process, based on price and quality, to be appointed to the Framework Agreement and were the number one contractor for fire safety works.

**Financial:** It is estimated that the cost to complete these works will be approximately £300k.

**Risk:** If this contract is not awarded then there will be a delay in having the works carried out. Following the events at the Grenfell Tower in June 2017 and in line with our own Fire Safety Policy, it is important that the Council ensures our properties are brought up to the required building regulations.

To carry out a tender process will mean there could be a further delay of 6-9 months.

**Officer Signature:**

Date: