

## OFFICER DECISION RECORD SHEET

**Name of decision maker:** Director of Housing and Regeneration

**Service Area:** Planning, Development and Regeneration

**Title of Decision:** To award a contract for consultancy support on the Hemel Garden Communities Programme

**Decision made and reasons:**

**Decision:** To award a contract to Bloom Procurement Services Ltd for consultancy support on the Hemel Garden Communities Programme.

**Background:** Hemel Garden Communities (HGC) is an ambitious development programme that will transform Hemel Hempstead and create attractive and sustainable new neighbourhoods and communities to the north and east of Hemel Hempstead, through the delivery of more than 11,000 new homes and 10,000 new jobs by 2050.

Dacorum Borough Council, working in partnership with St Albans City and District Council, Hertfordshire County Council, Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership and The Crown Estate to deliver the HGC programme, which will provide a variety of benefits to Hemel Hempstead. These include new high-quality homes, of which 40 per cent will be affordable. New neighbourhoods will be set around vibrant local centres, green spaces and play areas, all easily accessed on foot. Sustainable travel such as walking, cycling and public transport will be given priority as we target a greener, healthier environment, which includes open spaces as well as new country and district parks.

HGC will create 10,000 new jobs. Many of these will be in Hertfordshire Innovation Quarter, a new business park with a range of facilities including flexible office and industrial spaces, and a variety of amenities to serve the local community.

**Reason for appointment:** The Council need to provide interim cover for the director role at short notice due to the departure of the previous programme director.

The Council have identified an individual who has previously carried out a similar interim role at Harlow and Gilston Garden Town and is available at short notice.

The individual works for Altair who will deliver the role through Bloom. The Council's contractual relationship will be with Bloom.

The Council are awarding this contract as a direct award from North East Procurement Organisation's NEPRO 3 Framework Agreement. Bloom are the only provider on this framework agreement and have access to a large number of consultancy partners delivering specialist advice and support to the public sector.

**Reports considered:**

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

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Claire Hamilton – Chief Executive Officer  
Mark Gaynor – Director of Housing and Regeneration  
Ben Hosier – Group Manager of Procurement and Contracted Services  
Andrew Linden – Team Leader of Commissioning, Procurement and Compliance

**Financial Comments:**

**Monitoring Officer Comments:**

**Deputy S151 Officers Comments:**

**Financial:**

The total cost for the role will be £900 a day on a 4 day a week basis. This role is in place for a minimum of 12 months at a total of approximately £187,200.

**Options considered and reasons for rejection:**

The Council does not have the internal capability to deliver this role. It requires external support with the right skills and experience to deliver the Hemel Garden Communities programme.

Due to the previous Director leaving the role at short notice, the Council need to appoint an interim as soon as possible so the programme can keep moving forward. If the Council looked to award this through a normal tendering process then it will be a minimum of 3 months before the contract would be awarded. Due to the experience of the individual and speed of appointment required, it makes it appropriate for this to be a direct award contract.

**Officer Signature:**

Date: