

OFFICER DECISION RECORD SHEET

Name of decision maker: James Doe, Strategic Director- Place

Service Area: Planning

Title of Decision: Approval to extend Hyas' contract to provide Hemel Garden Communities with planning, design and landowner engagement support

Decision made and reasons:

Decision: That a 9 month extension of Hyas Associates is approved to secure planning, design and landowner engagement support for the Hemel Garden Communities programme.

Reason:

In 2019, the government working with Homes England, designated Hemel Hempstead a Garden Town after a successful transformational garden communities bid.

The HGC partners – Dacorum Borough Council, St Albans City & District Council, Hertfordshire County Council, Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership and Hertfordshire Innovation Quarter are working together with The Crown Estate and other strategic landowners to deliver the proposal alongside Local Plan processes.

Since 2019, the authorities have provided annual funding for the programme and Hemel Garden Communities has been supported by further capacity and capital funding from the Government and Homes England.

Over the last 24 months, the programme has benefitted from specialist Garden Town skills and knowledge through support from Hyas Associates and it has helped accelerate the programme in many key areas and deliver additional funding.

Over the next 9 months, the programme has a key priority to support the delivery of the Local Plans for both Dacorum and St Albans City and District Council. The cost for the proposed work is around £110,000.00 with a combined total cost with the new proposal of £325,871.70.

Further resource from Hyas Associates is sought to allow the delivery of continued progress of some key milestones, including supporting the authorities with key workstreams to secure the submission of both Local Plans next Spring.

Reports considered:

Cabinet Report, 30 July 2019 – Hemel Hempstead Garden Town and Hemel Garden Communities. Sets out in further detail how the authorities will seek to progress work on these projects, including a two year spending plan for the funding received.

Cabinet Report, 21st July 2020 - Hemel Garden Communities Memorandum of Understanding – the Cabinet endorsed the Memorandum of Understanding of the partners, including the Terms of Reference for the Governance of the programme including the Delivery Board.

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Commercial Board, 25th July 2024 – Paper to consider the extension of the contract via a Framework Contract.

Officers/Councillors/Ward Councillors/Stakeholders Consulted:

James Doe, Strategic Director - Place
Catherine Silva Donayre, Strategic Director – Corporate and Commercial Services
Ben Hosier, Head of Commercial Development, Commissioning, Procurement and Compliance
Phillipa Zieba, Programme Director Hemel Garden Communities
Nathalie Bateman, Programme Manager Hemel Garden Communities
Sue Foster, Procurement Manager
Darren Flanagan, Accountant

Financial Comments:

Monitoring Officer Comments:

The Council's procurement Standing Orders permit the extension of contract in these circumstances.

Deputy S151 Officers Comments:

No comments to add to the report.

Implications:

Value for Money:

Hyas Associates have specialist Garden Town knowledge to support the team in a variety of work areas and their costs are competitive.

Financial:

The cost for the proposed work is around £110,000.00 with a combined total cost with the new proposal of £325,871.70. The costs will be met by the Hemel Garden Communities programme budget.

Risk:

The delivery of this specialist support is necessary to maintain our progress and failure to maintain this momentum will have programme implications for Hemel Garden Communities and the Local Plans.

Officer Signature:

Date: