



Policy and Resources Committee – 2 July 2012

Nene Valley News – Procurement of new contract

Purpose of report:

This report seeks nominations for Member representation as part of the procurement process and delegated authority to award the contract for Nene Valley News at the end of that process.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Following consideration of a range of options for Nene Valley News (NVN), the procurement of a new 2 year contract for 2013/15 was approved by the Policy & Resources Committee at the meeting held on 9 May 2012.
- 1.2 Owing to the potential value of the contract, the procurement process follows the procedure and timescales laid down under EU law. The Welland Procurement Unit will be assisting ENC officers with this process.
- 1.3 When the last contract was procured, Members of the Policy & Resources Committee Councillors Wendy Brackenbury and John Richardson MBE were appointed to serve on a Member/Officer Panel to deal with the arrangements. This included assessment of tenders, interview of contractors and the final award of the contract. Member representation is now needed for the current procurement process for the new contract.

2.0 Delegated authority

- 2.1 Delegated authority to award the contract is also required as before, to ensure that timescales are met and the Council's duties under EU rules discharged.

3.0 Equality and diversity issues

- 3.1 There are no equality and diversity issues arising from this report.

4.0 Legal implications

- 4.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report; however EU procurement rules will be followed throughout the procurement process.

5.0 Risk management

- 5.1 A key financial risk relating to the award of the contract for Nene Valley News, will occur if all of the tenders received are outside of the identified budget. In previous tender processes we have mitigated against that risk by negotiating solutions to reduce that cost such as reducing the amount of pages, increasing advertising space room

6.0 Financial implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications arising specifically from the recommendations in

this report; however, as stated above, at the end of the tender process in early 2013, we will have an indication as to whether the tenders will be within the budget provision that has been made.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 Members are invited to:

- Nominate two representatives from the committee to serve on a Member/Officer Panel for the new contract; and to
- Delegate authority to the Panel to award the new contract.

Legal	Power: Local Government Acts 1972 & 1986				
	Other considerations: Public Contracts Regulations 2006 (As Amended) Revised Code of Practice on Local Government Publicity (2010)				
Background Papers: Effective communications & Nene Valley News report to Policy & Resources Committee 9 May 2012					
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Date: 12 June 2012					
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