

# **NORTH YORKSHIRE AND EAST RIDING COMMUNITY LED HOUSING HUB – MOVING THE CURRENT GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS ONTO A NEW LONG- TERM SUSTAINABLE FOOTING LED BY COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES**

## **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INVITED FROM INTERESTED ORGANISATIONS**

### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Expressions of interest are sought on behalf of the North Yorkshire, York and East Riding Housing Partnership for suitably qualified and experienced community based organisations to guide and manage the transition of the current Local Authority based Community Led Housing Hub – ‘REACH’ - to a more sustainable community led model.

### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 In 2016 all of the Local Authorities in North Yorkshire who received an allocation from Round 1 of the Community Housing Fund (CHF), plus Selby DC, contributed to a central pot to develop a Community Led Homes ‘Hub’. The purpose of the Hub was to provide services which are not core Local Authority functions, require specialist expertise and/or additional capacity (such as legal advice, architectural and planning services), and avoid duplication of effort in relation to community led housing and make efficient use of skills and resources.

2.2 For the first 12 months the Hub had an external ‘co-ordinator’, performed by JLL/Start Regeneration, who undertook awareness raising activities, set up a website <http://www.reachcommunityhousing.co.uk/> and established panels of technical advisors. Alongside the co-ordinator, local Housing/Planning Officers, Rural Housing Enablers and Rural Community Councils provided, and continue to provide, advice and services to community groups.

2.3 In 2018, the Housing Partnership Board decided not to continue with the consultants’ role and, after a final refresh of the advisor panels, the Hub administration was handed back to the Partnership i.e. Local Authority led. It was decided to continue to work with BeWonder (the web designers) for the short/medium term to host, edit and maintain the website whilst next steps were developed.

2.4 There are around 25 CLH groups in existence in the area. As well as the information and advice on the website, the REACH Hub advisor panels have been accessed by groups across the sub region.

2.5 The Strategic Housing Partnership Board have agreed to continue to support the REACH Community Led Housing Hub covering North Yorkshire and the East Riding in the medium to longer term but with a different model – in essence, a move away from a Local Authority managed model to a more sustainable community based model with an independent governance arrangement.

2.6 This has created a need to appoint an organisation with the appropriate skills, expertise and experience to manage this transition by utilising part of the remaining REACH budget of approximately £90,000 and any other funding streams which may be available for that purpose.

2.7 The Housing Partnership does not wish to be over prescriptive in terms of this transition or the governance model adopted but key desired outcomes are highlighted in the following section.

### **3.0 Key Outcomes**

3.1 Organisations expressing an interest will need to show how the following key outcomes will be achieved:

- A) Deliver an independent governance model for the REACH Hub to ensure true community ownership and future sustainability with a view to the new governance arrangements being in place by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.
- B) Keep the Housing Partnership updated on progress via quarterly reports to the Housing Partnership Board.
- C) Clearly account for any spending against the Hub budget.
- D) Wherever possible, attract other funding streams as appropriate.
- E) While the transition is underway to keep the Website and associated advisor panels up to date to ensure that the Hub continues to support community groups throughout the transition.

### **4.0 Assessment of expressions of interest**

4.1 Expressions of interest will be assessed by a panel of 3 officers appointed by the Housing Partnership who will evaluate each submission via:

- I. Initial evaluation of written submissions
- II. Evaluation of the submissions via a presentation to the panel followed by a question / answer session.

4.2 The Housing Partnership requires those submitting expressions of interest to indicate their approach to the following key areas in the written submission:

Question 1	<p>Management Structure, Processes and Experience</p> <p>Please provide details of your:</p> <p>A) Management and organisation structure, including relevant experience of undertaking community engagement work and any associated governance development work</p> <p>B) Detail your communication and escalation proposals, specifically in reference to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How you will manage difficulties in attracting community representatives to be part of the new governance structure</li> <li>• How will you manage any projected overspends against the ‘dowry’</li> </ul>
Question 2	<p>Timescales and resources</p> <p>A) Outline how you will deliver the new governance model within the timescales set out</p> <p>B) Outline what resources you will deploy to ensure the timescales are met</p> <p>C) In % terms, outline the estimated amount of dowry that will be used to create the new governance model and the amount to be used to maintain the current Hub arrangements i.e. the website and advisor panels</p>
Question 3	<p>Other funding sources</p> <p>Please outline any of your current internal resource and any external additional resource you anticipate using in terms of this project</p>
Question 4	<p>Sustainability</p> <p>A) Outline the measures you will put in place to ensure the new governance arrangements are sustainable in the long term</p> <p>B) Outline how you will ensure the new governance model maintains true community ownership</p> <p>C) Outline what measures you will put in place to maximise housing projects coming forward across the partnership geography</p>

## 5.0 Submission

5.1 Any questions on this tender should be addressed to Sharon Graham, YNYER Strategy Manager: [Sharon.graham@hambleton.gov.uk](mailto:Sharon.graham@hambleton.gov.uk) by 5pm on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Where appropriate questions and answers may be circulated to all interested tenderers.

5.2 The deadline for submissions is noon on 20th November 2020. Any responses received after this time will not be considered. Submissions should be made via email to: [Ailish.Henehan@Richmondshire.gov.uk](mailto:Ailish.Henehan@Richmondshire.gov.uk)

## 6.0 Timetable

Issue of Invitation to Tender	<b>5<sup>th</sup> November 2020</b>
Questions submitted	<b>5pm 14<sup>th</sup> November 2020</b>
Completion and return of electronic tenders	<b>Noon 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020</b>
Interviews for short listed consultants	<b>1<sup>st</sup> December 2020</b>
Notify organisations of outcome	<b>By 4th December 2020</b>
Service commences	<b>14<sup>th</sup> December 2020</b>
Project set-up meeting	<b>w/c 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020</b>