



CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
& PETERBOROUGH  
COMBINED AUTHORITY

ODN15-2018

Report Author: Pearl Roberts, Programme Manager  
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**OFFICER DECISION TITLE:**  
**Combined Authority Housing Programme Support**

**NAME OF OFFICER EXERCISING DELEGATED POWERS:**  
**Chief Executive**

**DATE OF OFFICER DECISION:** 19 February 2018

Responsible Director:	Martin Whiteley, Chief Executive
Is this a public report? If a key decision, it will be a public report and will be published on the CA website.	No
Does the report have any annex that contains exempt information?	No

Decision taken	<p><i>Please provide an overview of the decision taken.</i></p> <p>The Chief Executive agreed to engage 31ten Consulting Ltd to provide Housing Programme support to the acting Director of Housing pending the recruitment of the Director of Housing</p> <p>Award of Contract to: 31ten Consulting Ltd</p> <p>Contract Sum: £13,500 plus VAT and expenses.</p> <p>For the provision of:</p> <p>Phase 1 Health Check – an evidence based review of the status of the Combined Authority's housing programme. The output of the review will be a 'check and challenge' workshop presentation of the findings / themes.</p> <p>Phase 2 Operational Plan Support – will develop an Action Plan that will form the basis for the future operational support to the housing programme.</p> <p>Contract Period: From 26 February 2018 for total of 15 days, at £900 per day, billed on completion of the work.</p> <p>The allocation of days for the work will be kept under review as</p>
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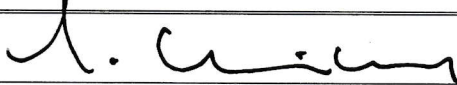
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	the Phase 1 Health Check progresses and any potential amendments to the resource days will be discussed and agreed.
Authorisation ( <i>delete as appropriate</i> )	The Chief Executive has delegated authority under the constitution to authorise expenditure up to £500k
Background Information	<p>The Combined Authority has put in place a number of initiatives / projects to advance its ambitions to further the housing agenda since March 2017. These have included, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holding a Housing Summit bringing together members of the region's housing industry to help develop future plans for the region's housing needs;</li> <li>• Establishing programmes to allocate the £170m funding for infrastructure and housing;</li> <li>• Stakeholder engagement across the region to understand and help unlock major Strategic Sites;</li> <li>• Site review to help identify and unlock other sites; and</li> <li>• Working with Homes for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, a partnership of Housing Associations</li> </ul> <p>Whilst these steps have begun to unpack the housing challenges facing the CPCA, it has yet to develop a comprehensive Housing Strategy and to develop a programme of interlinked initiatives that deliver against this. The Devolution Deal acted as a very clear set of objectives and acted as a "Call to Arms" for the Councils across the region, however, this has yet to be crystallised into a clear Housing themed programme that delivers against its commitments.</p> <p>Over the last 6 months the Interim Housing Director has made progress in some areas. However, with his departure in early February 2018, the Combined Authority wishes to engage specialist consultants to review and understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current status of the Housing agenda across the Authority;</li> <li>• The programmes and initiatives that are currently underway and their status;</li> <li>• The planning that has taken place to address the agenda over the short and medium term</li> </ul> <p>Due to capacity challenges and the desire to initiate the review immediately direct award to 31ten Consulting provides a quick and effective way for the CPCA to make progress using the specialised experience and expertise required at this crucial stage</p>



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	of development.
Alternative options considered.	<p><b>Do Nothing.</b> This option was discounted on the basis that the CPCA requires the health check review and operational support in place without delay.</p> <p><b>Seek Quotations.</b> This option was discounted on the basis that the advice required by the CPCA is urgent.</p>
Consultation	<p><i>List any relevant consultation undertaken in relation to the decision. For example portfolio holders, other Chief Officers.</i></p> <p>The Mayor has been consulted about the relative merits of using a specialist consultancy organisation to support the Housing programme</p>
Declarations / Conflicts of Interests (only if the decision falls under the 'Express Authorisation' category)	<i>None</i>
Supporting documentation	

<b>Officer signature</b>		<b>Date</b> 21/2/2018
<p><b>Once signed please file in the electronic file Documents/Governance/ office decision notice and enter details in the register.</b></p> <p><b>If a public report, pass to Democratic Services and we will arrange publication.</b></p>		