

Report of	Record of	Date
Director of Planning and Development Introduced by Executive Member (Homes and Housing)	Executive Member Decision	21 January 2022

Is this report confidential?	No
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Is this decision key?	No
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Chorley Council Registered Provider Partnership Framework – Selection of Partners

Purpose of the Report

1. To formally agree the Registered Providers (RPs) that have been selected as partners of the Registered Provider (RP) Partnership Framework following the selection panel meeting on 9th December 2021.

Recommendations

2. To approve the following RPs as partners of the RP Framework:
 - Bolton at Home
 - Chorley Council
 - Jigsaw Homes
 - Onward Housing
 - Places for People
 - Progress Housing
 - Trafford Housing Trust

Reasons for recommendations

3. A selection panel meeting was held on 9th December 2021 to agree which RPs that applied to be a partner of the Framework should be accepted. It was agreed that all seven applicants should be accepted as partners.

Other options considered and rejected

4. None.

Corporate priorities

5. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all	A strong local economy
Clean, safe and healthy communities	An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area

Background to the report

6. A RP Partnership Framework is a strategic partnership between a Council and the RPs who wish to develop within their boundaries. It sets out an agreed framework for the delivery of affordable homes secured through s106 agreements and provides Council's with direct control of the allocation of these affordable units.
7. A draft Framework was consulted on between 13th November and 11th December 2020. 84 organisations were consulted including developers, RPs and agents operating in the borough.
8. All responses received were considered before finalising the Framework. Legal advice was sought in relation to some of the responses received and as a result several changes were made to the Framework.
9. The final version was approved for implementation at Executive Cabinet on 17th June 2021.
10. Following approval of the final version, RPs were invited to apply to be a partner of the Framework. In total seven applications were received.

Selection of partners

11. A selection panel meeting was held on 9th December 2021 to agree which RPs that applied to be a partner of the Framework should be accepted. The selection panel was made up of Council Officers, the Executive Member for Homes and Housing, the Leader of the Council and an independent panel member.
12. Prior to the meeting all selection panel members individually scored the applications received in line with Appendix 1 of the RP Framework. These scores were discussed at the meeting and collective scores for each RP were agreed. The collective scores are identified below in descending order:

RP	Score (out of 25)
Jigsaw Homes	23
Progress Housing	21
Chorley Council	20
Bolton at Home	19
Onward Housing	19

Trafford Housing Trust	19
Places for People	18

13. It was agreed that all seven applicants should be accepted as partners of the RP Framework.

Next Steps

14. A formal contract will be drawn up for each RP setting out the requirements of Framework. The Framework will then be implemented, and the requirements set out in all s106 agreements requiring affordable housing provision.

Climate change and air quality

15. The work noted in this report does not impact the climate change and sustainability targets of the Councils Green Agenda and all environmental considerations are in place.

Equality and diversity

16. N/A

Risk

17. N/A

Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

18. There are no direct financial implications of this report.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

19. There is no contract evident from the arrangements which will oblige the council to incur expenditure, so Contract Procedure Rules do not apply. Payments of £500 per unit will be made to the Council and not the other way round. Nonetheless at least for reputational reasons the decision and scoring criteria should be transparent and fair to all Registered Providers (RP's) who wished to participate. Control of housing allocation and eligibility criteria e.g. a requirement for local connection is achieved through nomination rights in favour of the Council in a section 106 agreement. The Appendix to this report refers to a Partner Agreement which would oblige the RP amongst other things to recycle shared ownership receipts within the borough. Such recycling obligations would be subject always to any conflicting obligations of the RP arising from a Homes England Grant and/or relevant legislation.

Background documents

Chorley Council Registered Provider Partnership Framework.

Appendices

Appendix A: Chorley Council Registered Provider Partnership Framework

Report Author:	Email:	Telephone:	Date:
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Following careful consideration and assessment of the contents of this report, I approve the recommendation(s) contained in Paragraph 2 of the report in accordance with my delegated power to make executive decisions.



Dated 21/01/22

Councillor Peter Gabbott
Executive Member Homes and Housing

This decision will come into force and may be implemented five working days after its publication date, subject to being called in in accordance with the Council's Constitution.