



**CABINET PROCUREMENT & INSOURCING COMMITTEE
CONTRACT AWARD REPORT**

Title of Report	Early Years Catering Service Contract Award Report
Key Decision No.	CE S667
For Consideration By	Cabinet Procurement & Insourcing Committee
Meeting Date	2 February 2026
Cabinet Member	Cllr Anntoinette Bramble, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Children Services and Young People Cllr Anya Sizer, Deputy Cabinet Member for Families, Early Years and SEND
Classification	Open with Exempt Appendices
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Key Decision	Yes Results in the Council incurring expenditure or savings which are significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service / function
Implementation Date if Not Called In	11 February 2026
Group Director	Jacque Burke Group Director of Children and Education
Report Author	Ashaki Bailey, Procurement Senior Category Manager, ashaki.bailey@hackney.gov.uk
Contract value (both Inclusive of VAT and Exclusive of VAT (for the duration of the contract including extensions))	Proposed procurement £698,130.38 per year (excluding VAT) £2,094,391.14 for 3 years (excluding VAT) £2,792,521.54 for 3 years plus 1 year extension (excluding VAT)
Contract duration (including extensions e.g. 2 yrs + 1 yr + 1 yr)	Framework agreement: 3 years + 1

1. Cabinet Member's Introduction

- 1.1. This Contract Award report provides details of the procurement of a framework for Early Years Catering provision for Hackney's Children Centres & Family Hubs. The framework will be for three years plus an option to extend by a further year.
- 1.2. The aim is to award a framework contract to a single organisation for the supply of Early Years Catering in line with the School Food Trust recommendations for food & drink for under 5s, Government Buying Standards for Food and Catering and the Council's own public health and sustainability objectives.
- 1.3. The proposed award of this contract is aligned with the Mayoral manifesto commitment to provide "*a bright future for every child and young person*" and supports the wider initiative to tackle food poverty in Education and Sustainability objectives.

2. Group Director's Introduction

Subject matter of the contract

- 2.1. This report seeks to award a framework contract for Early Years Catering services. The new contract will provide healthy, nutritious and balanced meals to Children under 5's attending Children Centres that meet the Early Years Foundation Stage Nutrition Guidance (May 2025) and Government Buying Standards for Food and Catering.
- 2.2. The London Borough of Hackney has a statutory duty under the Childcare Act 2006 to ensure that there is sufficient and accessible high-quality early years and childcare provision to meet local demand. This includes provision of childcare places for children aged between 0-5 years. Children and Family Hubs provide childcare places for children aged between 0-5. The aspiration is for every child to have; i) the best start in life, ii) grow up in a child friendly borough, and iii) receive the support they need when they need. Providing high quality meals to these children is a core part of this provision that meets the Early Years Foundation statutory guidance.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1. **To approve the award to Provider 1 of a single supplier framework contract for the provision of Early Years Catering services commencing on 1st June 2026 with an initial term of 3 years and the option to extend by a further 1 year at the Council's discretion. The maximum value of the contract over four years will be £2,792,522 (excluding permitted uplifts over the lifetime of the contract).**

4. Reason(s) For Decision

- 4.1. An Early Years Catering service was previously procured by Hackney Education to enable Children Centres in Hackney to fulfill the requirement to offer a healthy balanced diet for children under 5 in line with government guidelines. This arrangement was coming to an end and there was a need to reprocure the service in order to ensure its continued provision.
- 4.2. The service complies with the School Food Trust recommendations for food and drink for under 5s, and the Government Buying Standards for Food and Catering which relate to sustainable food procurement
- 4.3. Six of the Children's & Families Hub Centres are managed directly by the Council and 2 are managed by linked schools. Each centre has its own call-off from the framework forming individual contracts with the provider.
- 4.4 Catering services were provided to the following Children's & Families Hub Centres and Nursery Schools, and the new framework will continue to provide catering for these settings:-
- Ann Tayler Children and Family Hub (Council)
 - Clapton Park Children's Centre (Council)
 - Comberton Children's Centre (Council)
 - Fernbank Children's Centre (Primary School - Jubilee)
 - Hillside Children's Centre (Council)
 - Linden Children and Family Hub (Council)
 - Woodberry Down Children and Family Hub (Council)
 - Comet Nursery School (Maintained Nursery School).
- 4.5 The current provider has worked well with the Children's Centres & Nurseries to accommodate the needs of the children by providing varied healthy balanced menus ensuring allergen requirements and special diets are met accordingly
- 4.6 Since the Business Case report was approved by CPIC, Hub Officers & External Catering Consultants have completed a competitive tender process with the support of the Procurement Senior Category Manager for Education.
- 4.7 A Pipeline Notice was published on the 31st January 2025, and a Preliminary Market Engagement Notice was published on 14th April 2025 so bidders could be notified when the tender was published, with 14 organisations registering their interest in the upcoming opportunity. The tender was published on the 1st October 2025 with a return date of 3rd November 2025 with 2 organisations expressing an interest in the opportunity.
- 4.8 Following the completion of a tender exercise Cabinet Insourcing and Procurement Committee is recommended to award the framework to one provider who has extensive experience in Early Years Catering and can manage multi-sites.

- 4.9 The framework contract will be 3 years as long as the required KPIs are being met. The contract will be fixed for 3 years which includes the London Living Wage, if the contract is extended for a further 12 months the CPI will be applied.

5. Background

- 5.1 The Business Case report for the procurement was approved by Cabinet Insourcing and Procurement Committee on 03 March 2025 as Key Decision CE S370

Strategic Policy Context

- 5.2 All early years providers in England are required to follow the [early years foundation stage framework](#), which states that “where children are provided with meals, snacks and drinks, they must be healthy, balanced and nutritious”.
- 5.3 The framework supports the 2022 - 2026 manifesto commitment to ensure every child and young person in Hackney has the best start in life as outlined in Hackney’s [Early Years Strategy](#), 2021.
- 5.4 The proposed procurement will be paid for from within the existing budget and no additional funding will be necessary. The cost of the meals is included within the childcare fees. The framework supplier will be paid directly from each Children’s Centre budget.

Options Appraisal

- 5.5 An options appraisal was completed and is linked as Exempt Appendix 1 below. The conclusion of the options appraisal was that bringing the service inhouse would not represent value for money at this time as it would cost significantly more than the existing service and would be difficult to implement given the level of organisational change currently taking place within Children Centres. Hackney’s network of Children’s Centres have recently undergone a significant period of transformation, introducing four Children and Family Hubs and moving from a model of six strategic hubs to four neighbourhoods. At the same time there has been in consideration a number of proposed changes to Children’s Centres. Furthermore Hackney Education is currently seeking to meet a savings target of £4 million within Children’s Centres by 2026/27. As such bringing the service in house at this time is not recommended.

Consultation/engagement

- 5.6 Meetings were held with the Children’s Centre Managers, City and Hackney Public Health service, Health Visiting and the Climate team. All were able to give their feedback on the specification to ensure that the proposed framework agreement meets current best practice and Council priorities.
- 5.7 Children’s Centres run a bi-annual survey to users of the Children’s Centres. This gives parents and carers the opportunity to provide feedback on the catering provision.

- 5.8 The design of the service has also been informed by specialist consultancy support to ensure that all relevant legislative and regulatory standards are adhered to.
- 5.9 Benchmarking was completed with neighbouring boroughs that fed into the design process.

6 Alternative Options (Considered and Rejected)

- 6.1 **OPTION 1 - Do Nothing:** this was considered and rejected as the centres need to provide catering services to the community to meet their obligations to parents who pay for a service. The Council has a declared commitment to support children and young people, the Centres provide a hub for local families to meet, engage and get support from a range of services, and providing meals to under 5s is a core part of this offer.
- 6.2 **OPTION 2 - Insourcing:** At this time bringing the service back in house is not recommended. A comprehensive options appraisal was completed and considered alongside the preceding Business Case report. The options appraisal noted that bringing the service inhouse would bring increased costs, so would not represent value for money compared to continuing to use an external provider. Children's Centre management do not have the expertise required to manage the service. This means that new posts would need to be recruited to (a Catering Manager and Quality Assurance Manager) to directly manage an inhouse catering service, creating additional costs.
- 6.3 Purchasing of food would cost more as the Children's Centres would not have the purchasing power and economies of scale of an external provider. There would also be additional risks around ensuring compliance with food safety legislation and health and safety legislation to ensure a safe service.

6.4 Hackney Education is currently seeking to meet a savings target of £4 million within Children's Centres by 2026/27. Bringing the catering provision inhouse at a time of a number of significant changes to the Children's Centres and at a time when significant savings would be extremely challenging. Lack of economies of scale, lack of a suitably experienced operations team and lack of a support infrastructure to manage the service safely and effectively would require significant resources to address. Consequently this option was not recommended as it would not represent value for money

6.5 At the CPIC meeting on 2nd March 2025 the preferred option of a competitive procurement process to award a framework contract was approved. However Officers committed to revisit the position on insourcing. At the end of the second year of the framework Officers will review whether circumstances have changed to make insourcing the Catering provision a viable option and will bring an updated statement to CPIC.

7. **Project Progress**

Developments since the Business Case approval

- 7.1 Oldhill Children Centre has been removed from the scope of the framework. Catering provision for Oldhill Children Centre will be managed by Harrington Hill School. However the tender does have flexibility to add or remove further Children Centres to the framework if required during the framework.
- 7.2 The Early Years Foundation Stage Nutritional Guidance was issued in May 2025, after approval of the Business Case at CPIC in March 2025. This brings guidance for nutrition for 0-5s into one place and supersedes previous guidance. The tender specification and tender issued was updated to reflect this change.

Conflicts of Interest Assessments

- 7.3 The tender panel which consists of Procurement, Hub Centre Managers, Sustainability & External Catering Consultants all signed the Declaration of Interest form and no Conflict of Interest was identified or registered.

Whole Life Costing and Budgets

- 7.4 There is no central budget allocation for catering, as each Head of Centre manages their own Children's Centre budget, which includes an allocation for the purchase of catering services. The catering cost for centres managed by schools is accounted for within the delegated school budget funding formula.
- 7.5 The total value for the lifetime of the framework will be a maximum of £2,792,521.54 for 4 years

Year	Framework Price Per Annum	Cumulative Total
Year 1	£698,130.38	£698,130.38
Year 2	£698,130.38 + LLW	£1,396,260.75 + LLW
Year 3	£698,130.38 + LLW	£2,094,391.14 +LLW
Year 4	£698,130.38 + LLW + CPI	£2,792,521.52 + LLW & CPI

The framework allows for an annual uplift to facilitate the payment of the London Living Wage.
Year 4 of the contract will allow a Consumer Price Indexation based on the previous six months.

7.6 Risk Assessment

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Overall	Action to avoid/mitigate risk
Low number of bids received limiting competition	Medium	Medium	Medium	<p>A Pipeline Notice (January 2025) and A Preliminary Market Engagement Notice (April 2025) had been published informing providers of the upcoming tender.</p> <p>The opportunity was also widely publicised to existing and new potential providers.</p>
TUPE transfer	Low	High	Low	TUPE transfer will not be required.
Challenge to the award of contract	Low	Medium	Low	A robust and transparent procurement exercise has been conducted in order to minimise the risk of challenge to the procurement process.
Delay to contract start	Low	Low	Low	As the incumbent supplier has been awarded the contract. Mobilisation period will not be required.
Requirement for Catering at specific children centres changes over the lifetime of the contract	Low	Low	Low	The Centres will issue individual annual call off contracts to allow some flexibility to leave over the framework lifetime.

Contract Modification should a Known Risk Occur

7.8 None.

Future Additional or Repeat Goods/Services/Works

7.9 None.

8. Savings

8.1 Whilst the procurement has not achieved financial savings the framework will provide the Children Centres and Family Hubs with fixed pricing over the next 3 years. Costs for food supplies have increased significantly since this service was initially tendered in 2016, and food cost inflation continues to be a concern. The recommended proposal was assessed on price to ensure competitiveness and represent value for money.

9. Sustainability and climate change

Procuring Green

9.1 The provider is committed to reducing its environmental impact by minimising carbon emissions through sustainable procurement, waste reduction, and efficient logistics. Initiatives include:

- Sourcing seasonal and locally produced ingredients
- Eliminating single-use plastics
- Implementing energy-efficient kitchen practices

9.2 The provider has Environmental and Sustainability policies in place, they ensure minimum food wastage and recycling where possible. They have the Feed our Future project which collaborates with schools in Hackney, Haringey, Tower Hamlets, Essex and Cambridgeshire. They have developed a Food Emissions Roadmap in which they have committed to achieving a 38% reduction in food-related greenhouse gas emissions across all children's centres by 2030.

9.3 The provider has had a good track record delivering and supporting improving school meals' initiatives around healthy eating and has worked with the School Food Trust, Health Education Trust, Garden Organic and the Soil Association as well as working with PSFPI, EFPF, DEFRA, EEDA and LANTRA promoting local sourcing and the agri-food sector. They have worked with the Children Centres and ProVeg to achieve the Bronze level of the School plate Awards which focuses on climate friendly meals, and will work to achieve the Silver level of the School Plate Awards during this contract.

9.4 Although transporting food to Children Centres is a required part of the service that contributes to carbon emissions, the Provider is committed to minimising

the impact of its transport. Measures include limiting deliveries to a maximum of twice a week, sourcing dry and frozen goods from Hackney-based suppliers, and consolidating cleaning material deliveries to one centre for subsequent distribution alongside food. While the need for refrigerated vehicles presents a challenge for using fully electric vehicles, they are actively exploring alternative fuel options. Furthermore, the management and operations teams currently use electric or hybrid cars.

Procuring For A Better Society

- 9.5 The provider will support Hackney's economy through providing a variety of initiatives around food. Engaging directly with local schools and Children's Centres to support healthy eating food education programmes. This will include best practise on nutrition, reducing food waste, and assisting with budgets for food shopping, along with helping children and families build lifelong healthy habits.
- 9.6 The provider is committed to prioritising local recruitment for both operational and managerial roles, targeting at least 85% of new employees within Hackney. They will explore a structured apprenticeship and training programme, especially for young adults, care leavers, and those furthest from the job market. Their goal is to provide paid training pathways leading to recognised catering or food hygiene qualifications, supporting career progression and long-term employability.

Procuring Fair Delivery

- 9.7 The provider is committed to being a fair employer. They will pay the London Living Wage as a minimum as well as ensuring that their workforce reflects the diversity of Hackney. Inclusive recruitment practices and flexible working arrangements will help remove barriers to employment and advancement.

Social Value Benefits

- 9.8 Sustainability and Social Value formed 15% of the tender award criteria. Tenderers were required to outline how they would contribute to Hackney's Sustainability and Social Value policy as part of their tender response. person gaining sustainable paid employment at the end of the program.
- 9.9 The Provider has offered a range of sustainability and social value commitments as detailed in the report.

Equality, inclusion, diversity and belonging (including statutory equality impact assessment)

- 9.10 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) was completed to prepare for the procurement being published ensuring that equality was addressed throughout the tendering process.
- 9.11 The provider has agreed to ensure cultural and religious dietary preferences are catered to such as halal or kosher as well as allergies and children who cannot eat solids or require a medical diet.

10. Tender Assessment

Tender Assessment and Moderation

- 10.1 A competitive tender process was conducted to create a framework for Early Years Catering. The process was run in compliance with the Procurement Act (2023) requirements for Light Touch Contracts using the Competitive Flexible Procedure.
- 10.2 The tender opportunity was published on 18th August on the Central Digital Platform, Finder Tender Service and the London Tender Portal, and closed on 22nd September. A PIN was published in advance of the tender being published so suppliers could be informed of the upcoming tender.
- 10.3 There were 14 expressions of interest, resulting in three tender submissions. At the Procurement Specific Questionnaire (PSQ) stage.
- 10.4 Following the closure of the PSQ stage of the tender, there were three submissions. Procurement carried out initial compliance checks. One supplier had not provided all of the required information and was disqualified from further evaluation. While most of the Procurement Specific Questionnaire (PSQ) was assessed on a pass / fail basis The PSQ also included evaluation questions relating to tenderers' experience in similar contracts to ensure tenderers had the technical expertise to deliver the service. Please see Appendix 2 - Suppliers at PSQ stage: Selected/Deselected Breakdown of Quality, Price and Social Value Score
- 10.5 Two tender submissions were deemed compliant, met the PSQ requirements and were invited to the tender stage. As part of this process site visits were held to allow the tenderers to view the kitchen facilities available to provide the service. However before the tender deadline one tenderer withdrew from the process and did not submit a tender. The remaining tenderer made a tender submission which was evaluated by the Evaluation Panel.
- 10.6 The tender was evaluated on the following award criteria as set out below:

Category	Section of Response	% out of 100%	Minimum Acceptable Score
<u>Technical response</u>			
<u>Quality Questions</u>			
Q1 Mobilisation	Annex C1	3%	2
Q2 Resource & Contract Management	Annex C1	5%	2
Q3 Education Food Standards	Annex C1	3%	2

Q4 Menus	Annex C1	4%	2
Q5 Allergens & Safeguarding	Annex C1	3%	2
Q6 Kitchen & Service Monitoring Bidders must score a minimum of 3 to be considered for contract award	Annex C1	4%	3
Q7 Customer Satisfaction	Annex C1	4%	2
Q8 Staff Training	Annex C1	4%	2
Q9 Cultural Diversity	Annex C1	3%	2
Q10 Service Continuity	Annex C1	2%	2
Quality Questions Sub-Total		35%	
<u>Sustainability and Social Value</u>			
Q.11 Environmental Sustainability Bidders must score a minimum of 3 to be considered for contract award	Annex C1	5%	3
Q.12 Waste Reduction and Transportation Bidders must score a minimum of 3 to be considered for contract award	Annex C1	5%	3
Q.13 Social Value (better society & fair delivery)	Annex C1	5%	2
Sustainability & Social Value Sub-Total		15%	
<u>Food Presentation. Demonstration & Question and Answers</u>			
Presentation (30 minutes) covering at a minimum mobilisation, finances and the food offer Bidders must score a minimum of 2 to be considered for contract award		8%	
Food Demonstration (30 minutes) Bidders must score a minimum of 2 to be considered for contract award		7%	
Question and Answer session (30 minutes) (responses may be used to moderate scores of quality question responses)		n/a	responses may be used to moderate score of quality

		questions where relevant
Sub Total: Food Presentation, Demonstration & Question and Answer session	15%	
Sub-Total : Technical response	65%	
<u>Financial / Commercial Price response</u>	<u>35%</u>	
Financial score	Annex C2	35%
Cumulative score - GRAND TOTAL	<u>100%</u>	

10.7 The Evaluation Panel comprised of the following officers:

- External Catering Consultants
- Climate Manager
- Hub Managers
- Procurement
- Early Year Healthy Coordinator
- Parents

10.8 The Evaluation Panel initially scored the quality questions (method statements) separately and then met together at a Tender Moderation Meeting on 19th November 2025 to agree on overall scores. The tender moderation meeting was facilitated by the Senior Category Manager for Education from the Procurement team.

10.9 As part of the tender evaluation the tenderer was invited to deliver a presentation on their offer and complete a Food Demonstration of an example menu they would provide if awarded the contract. Both were scored and the Food Demonstration and tasting was attended by parents and staff working with the children at Woodberry Down Children Centre. This was followed by a question and answer session so clarification and more detail on the proposal could be obtained,

10.10 Price formed 35% of the award criteria and the tenderer was required to provide a breakdown per Children Centre, and by the different elements making up the price including meal costs, labour costs, uniforms, management costs. The contract price allows for an annual increase in the London Living Wage annually, and Consumer Price Index in year 4 of the contract if the contract is extended beyond year 3.

11. Reason for Recommendation

11.1 The provider detailed in the table is below recommended to be the single appointed operator on the framework.

	Quality	Price	Social Value	Food Demo & Presentation	Total
Provider 1	26.40	35	12	12	85.40

11.2 The provider demonstrated a good level of experience in delivering Early Years Catering to children of zero to five at a high standard and also showed willingness for continuous improvement throughout the supply chain. Overall the panel was satisfied with the provider’s tender submission and presentation.

11.3 A further breakdown of scores can be accessed at Exempt Appendix 3 Breakdown of Quality and Social Value Scores. The recommended supplier's bid was within the maximum available budget and met or exceeded all quality requirements. The evaluation panel was confident that a high quality service will be delivered.

12. Contract Management Arrangements (and Mandatory Use of the Contract Management System)

12.1 The framework agreement will be managed jointly by the Procurement Category Manager for Education and the Children’s Centre Heads.

12.2 The supplier will be required to report on KPIs on a quarterly basis through KPI Monitoring returns. The supplier will also be required to use the corporate Contract Management system once it is in place. Regular meetings will take place to ensure performance levels and KPIs are being met.

Key Performance Indicators

12.3

KPI Indicator		Target	Report Frequency
1	Percentage of meals delivered as agreed	80% and above	Quarterly
2	Number of Annual Kitchen Deep Cleans completed	7	Quarterly
3	Percentage of quality audit/ inspections identifying failings	25% and below	Quarterly

4	Number of complaints/ concerns raised	0	Quarterly
5	Number of accidents/ injuries/ near misses recorded	0	Quarterly
6	Number of annual parent & child surveys completed	6	Quarterly
7	Percentage of annual parent & children survey's identifying dissatisfaction	25% and below	Quarterly
8	Percentage of days sufficient light equipment was not maintained	25% and below	Quarterly
9	Reduce food-related emissions by reporting total annual food purchase data by weight	10% and over	Annually
10	Achieve the ProVeg School Plate Award within 1 year of framework start	100%	Annually

12.4 The Key Performance Indicators will be measured through KPI monitoring returns that will be completed by the awarded provider on a quarterly basis.

13. **Financial implications**

- 13.1 The proposed framework contract for the Early Years Catering Service has a maximum value of £2,792,521 over the full potential 4-year term (3 years plus a 1-year extension). This will be met from existing budgets within the individual Children's and Families Hub Centres and Nurseries.
- 13.2 The competitive tender process was assessed for value for money (35% price weighting). The resulting fixed pricing for the initial three years provides cost certainty for the Centres in the current context of high food inflation.
- 13.3 A significant financial risk is the impact of high food inflation on food quality over the contract period, this will need to be monitored during the course of the contract. The contract includes an annual uplift for the London Living Wage, and the Consumer Price Indexation (CPI) will be applied for the optional fourth year.
- 13.4 The financial options appraisal (exempt Appendix 1) concluded that bringing the service in-house would not represent value for money due to increased costs and the necessity of recruiting new management and operations staff. The continuation of outsourcing is therefore the recommended, financially prudent option.

Financial Implications prepared on behalf of the Group Director Finance & Corporate Resources by Sajeed Patni, Assistant Director of Finance (Children & Education), sajeed.patni@hackney.gov.uk, Date 08 December 2025

14. VAT Implications On Land & Property Transactions

14.1 None.

VAT implications prepared on behalf of the Group Director Finance & Resources by Sajeed Patni, Assistant Director of Finance (Children & Education), sajeed.patni@hackney.gov.uk, 08 December 2025

15. HR/OD implications

15.1 None

HR/OD implications prepared on behalf of the Director of HR/OD by Lolita Brown, Strategic Lead Schools HR & Traded Service (Chief Executives) , Lolita.brown@hackney.govuk , 12 December 2025

16 Legal implications

- 16.1 On 3rd March 2025 Cabinet Procurement and Insourcing Committee approved a Business Case report for the Early Years Catering service framework for three years plus an option to extend by a further year. Therefore this Contract Award Report is being presented to Cabinet Procurement and Insourcing Committee for approval in accordance with paragraph 2.20 of Contract Standing Orders.
- 16.2 Details of the procurement process undertaken by officers to award the framework agreement are set out in this report. If the recommendation to approve the award of this framework is approved, notices will need to be published in the prescribed format.

Legal implications prepared on behalf of the Director of Legal, Democratic & Electoral Services by: Anthony Maddocks, Contract and Procurement Lawyer, anthony.maddocks@hackney.gov.uk , 8 December 2025

17. Comments Of The Procurement Category Lead

- 17.1 This report proposes the award of a single supplier framework contract for the delivery of an Early Years Catering service, commencing on 1st June 2026. The total value of the contract will be up to £2,791,522 to be delivered over a maximum of 4 (3+1) years.
- 17.2 The Business Case report for this procurement was previously approved by CIPC as Key Decision CE S370. The total value of the contract to be awarded is over £2.5m and the Council's Contract Standing Orders require that the award of a contract of this value is approved by CPIC.

- 17.3 The value of this contract is above the Procurement Act 2023 threshold for a Light Touch Services contract (currently £663,540). A Competitive Flexible procedure procurement was completed in line with the requirements of the regulations.
- 17.4 The tenders were evaluated by a panel of suitably qualified officers and the recommendation is to award the contract to the highest overall scoring bidder in terms of quality and price. All requirements were met or exceeded and the evaluation panel was satisfied that a high quality service would be delivered.
- 17.5 Sustainability and social value were incorporated into the award criteria with a 15% weighting and commitments from the recommended bidder include payment of the London Living Wage as a minimum, a target for 85% of recruited employees to be Hackney residents and achievement of Silver Level accreditation of the School Plate awards for climate friendly meals within 1 year.
- 17.6 The proposed KPI and targets are comprehensive and aligned to strategic and operational priorities.
- 17.7 A Contract Award Notice must be issued to confirm the award of this contract and the Council's Contract Register updated at the end of the Stand Still period.

Comments of Procurement Category Lead prepared by: Timothy Lee, Procurement Category Lead for Health and Social Care, timothy.lee@hackney.gov.uk, 12 December 2025

Exempt Appendices

Appendix 1 EXEMPT - Options Appraisal

Appendix 2 EXEMPT - Suppliers at PSQ stage: Selected/Deselected Breakdown of Quality, Price and Social Value Score

Appendix 3 EXEMPT - Breakdown of Quality, Price and Social Value Scores

Reason(s) for exemption

By Virtue of Paragraph(s) 3 Part 1 of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 this report and/or appendix is exempt because it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding the information), it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Background Documents

None