

Acis Group Framework Procurement and Collaborative Working for the Decent Homes Programme



Client: Acis Group Ltd
Project: Housing – Mobilise and Procure
Purpose: Framework Procurement and collaborative working for the Decent Homes Programme

The Challenge

Acis Group won a contract for the refurbishment of 1800 properties in Sheffield as part of a stock transfer bid from Sheffield City Council when six Sheffield areas opted not to take up an ALMO (Arm's Length Management Organisation) option. The work involves extensive refurbishment over and above the Decent Homes standard, environmental works & remodelling.

What CWC Did

CWC was appointed to conduct all pre-contract activities, seeking from the outset to make the approach to procurement as collaborative as possible, advising Acis Group to hold industry days with potential Contractors at a very early stage. We also encouraged Acis Group to seek Contractors who would provide a high degree of knowledge and experience in this area of work. Contractors were encouraged to respond with innovative solutions to working in a collaborative manner with Acis Group, minimizing duplication and assisting in the skills transfer process to Acis Group's staff, who had not previously managed this type of work.

The Benefits

We drew upon our extensive team of highly experienced Consultants, many of whom had been practitioners in the social housing sector. We worked closely with the Acis Group team board and with tenants' groups, giving expert support and assistance in all key phases of the process. An accelerated procurement process emerged from the highly collaborative approach, a three-month reduction in the timescale when compared to a traditional process. Open Book Cost Management (OBCM) ensured that highly competitive prices were obtained against the market. Developing close working relationships with the main stakeholders early in the process led to smooth decision making, while establishing a detailed understanding of the Client's objectives helped us truly to tailor the procurement process to Acis Group's needs.

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