



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Proposed tender for the supply of child safety equipment</b>
<b>Date:</b>	20 February 2015
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Siobhan Toland, Lead Operations Officer and Head of Environmental Health, Ext 3281
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### Relevant Background Information

- 1.1 Section 27 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1992 authorises Councils to promote safety in the home, in order to reduce the high number of accidents and injuries. This legislation provides the *vires* for Councils to carry out a range of home safety functions. In recent years, Belfast City Council's delivery of these functions has contributed to the DHSSPS Home Accident Prevention Strategy 2004-2009.
- 1.2 As well as contributing to the work of Home Accident Prevention (HAP)NI, and the Belfast HAP group, activity undertaken by the Belfast Home Safety Check Scheme includes:
- Provision of home safety checks which are primarily aimed at families with children under 5 years of age and older people. Home Safety checks are carried out using the RoSPA digi pen scheme (currently under review by PHA/out for tender)
  - Provision of advice on how to prevent accidents and, if necessary, providing appropriate safety equipment such as child-safety gates, fireguards, and child safety packs
  - Provision of advice and safety equipment including child safety gates, fireguards, lockable medicine boxes and home safety packs (which include plug-socket guards, door-stoppers, toilet locks, cupboard locks and a lock for a DVD/Video player). Touch lamps and 4 gang sockets are also provided to elderly residents.
  - (Equipment provided to householders under the home safety check scheme is currently funded by Public Health Agency via Belfast Home Accident Prevention Group).
  - Educational visits/presentations to older peoples groups, Sure-start group, Church groups, schools, residents groups.

<b>Key Issues</b>	
2.1	The Public Health Agency (PHA) currently funds the equipment scheme and some promotional activities carried out by the Council.
2.2	In 2014-2015 the PHA funded £51,000 to the Council for these activities.
2.3	Due to the success of the scheme and associated promotional events the amount of expenditure on child safety equipment has reached the procurement level for quotations. In the light of Local Government Review it is anticipated that the requests for a Home Safety Check will increase and that the funding from the PHA will increase also. Therefore a tender to procure the child safety equipment will be necessary.
2.4	The scheme is completely dependent on PHA funding therefore the tender contract will be for a single year with 2 x 12 month extension options which are dependent on PHA funding.

<b>Resource Implications</b>	
3.1	Financial It is anticipated that the expenditure on child safety equipment will be approximately £38,000 per annum.( Dependent on funding from PHA)

<b>4.0 Equality Implications</b>	
	None

<b>5.0 Recommendations</b>	
	The Committee is requested to recommend that the commencement of a tendering process for the procurement of child safety equipment.

<b>6.0 Key to Abbreviations</b>	
	PHA Public Health Agency HAP Home Accident Prevention

<b>7.0 Documents Attached</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>