

Appendix 2 – Pen Picture of the Bidders

GLL

Established for over 20 years, GLL is a well-established Charitable Social Enterprise employing over 7,000 staff and a projected 2015 turnover of £200m. GLL currently oversees the management of over 150 public leisure centres across the UK and 27 libraries.

GLL's Libraries Division currently manages library services in the London Boroughs of Greenwich and Wandsworth. It also manages three prison libraries and a youth offenders institute.

In both of the main library contracts GLL state the local authorities benefited from a substantial reduction in cost whilst improving quality and innovation. In the Royal Borough of Greenwich, the entire IT infrastructure has been replaced. In Greenwich opening hours have expanded and it runs the busiest library in London (second busiest in England). Wandsworth has also seen improvements through IT investment, now ranked no.2 in London for stock issues.

Vision

Vision is a registered charity and was established in 2006 as a NPDO to manage sport & leisure. The new company began operating in April 2007 under the name Vision - Redbridge Culture & Leisure. Its portfolio expanded in 2011 and now includes the operation of leisure and culture related services within the London Borough of Redbridge including libraries, parks, sport & leisure and cultural services (inc. museums; arts; community centres; halls and a Grade 2 listed heritage/arts/hospitality venue).

The company is overseen by a Board of 16 Director Trustees including 13 Community representatives and 3 local councillors.

Vision is responsible for the development and operation of library services in Redbridge, which include a large Central Library, 12 branch libraries, a mobile library service and a home library delivery service. It also provides a self-financing subscription based School Library Services; two libraries are integrated Children's Centres and one is an integrated library/fitness facility.

Vivacity

Vivacity is an independent, not-for-profit organisation with charitable status established in 2010. It operates Peterborough City Council's Archives, Arts, Heritage, Libraries and Sports & Leisure services. Vivacity has delivered £1m of savings – half through NNDR and Tax Advantages and the remainder through operational efficiencies and increased income.

Vivacity operates 10 libraries & 1 mobile and has tied the libraries closely with the 'health agenda' bringing more of a sense of the libraries being community hubs. Utilisation, quality and customer satisfaction has increased.

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