



Department for Communities and Local Government

Shehla Husain

**Department for Communities and Local
Government**

Eland House
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5DU

E-Mail: Shehla.Husain@communities.gsi.gov.uk
www.communities.gov.uk

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The Chief Executive
Cherwell-South Northants-Stratford

Dear Sue Smith

Cherwell / South Northamptonshire / Stratford-upon-Avon

TRANSFORMATION CHALLENGE AWARD - BID OUTCOME

I am delighted to inform you that your bid for £366,932 for Programme Office resources to drive and manage the changes associated with extending shared services working across three authorities has been selected for funding from the Transformation Challenge Award. We received 145 bids totalling over £66 million and so the scheme was heavily over-subscribed. Despite this your entry caught our eye for a number of reasons. We felt the bid you made could lead to frontline service transformation and we were enthused by your continued commitment to public service transformation through increasing shared services and the expansion of partners to include Stratford-upon-Avon. Given the geographic and administrative scope of the partners involved in this bid, we felt your approach to shared service delivery could be an exemplar for other authorities in different areas wanting to work together.

One of the key criteria for this scheme was the ability of the proposal to be a strong exemplar for other councils to follow. Accordingly we are seeking to build on the good practice demonstrated by all the bids. There is therefore a strong expectation that recipients of this funding will take part in and support some of the activity we are planning on service transformation and efficiency. That might include providing and maintaining a case-study, presenting at conferences or attending workshops.

A formal offer letter setting out the final terms and conditions of funding will be sent to you shortly. If you represent a consortium, it will be the responsibility of the lead bidding authority to communicate this offer to the other members of the consortium.

Once an offer has been accepted, no allowance can be given for any subsequent increase in overall project costs. Payment will be approved via the issue of a grant determination under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003. The timing of payments will be to a profile which will be set out to successful bidders in the formal offer letter. Where payments are spread over two years, we reserve the right to request additional information year on year about how money will be spent.

Yours sincerely,

Shehla Husain