

COUNCILLOR STUART WHITTINGHAM CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS AND INFRASTRUCTURE	CABINET MEMBER DECISION REPORT 19 OCTOBER 2016 AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR ARBORICULTURE SERVICES - TREE MAINTENANCE
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REPORT SUMMARY

This report seeks approval to award the contract for Arboriculture Services – Tree Maintenance to Mancoed VM Ltd for an initial two year period with an option for a further 1 year extension; in accordance with the terms of the contract.

12 tenderers submitted tenders for the service and following the necessary evaluation of the submissions Mancoed VM Ltd scored highest in both price and quality.

The maintenance of highways, including highway trees is a statutory duty.

This is a Key Decision.

RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member is requested to:

- (1) Note the contents of the report; and
- (2) Approve the award of the contract for an initial two year period commencing on 1 November 2016.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 The Cabinet Member is requested to approve the award of the contract in accordance with the Council's Constitution, Part 3 Schedule 5, Delegation of Functions to Individual Cabinet Members *General (vii) Accept tenders relating to their Portfolio up to the value of £5,000,000 where the tender is considered the most economically advantageous, the tender complies with all the price, quality, safety, sustainability and any other criteria set out in the tender document; and the tender value is below the figure set out in the relevant budget in consultation with the relevant Chief Officer, the Director of Resources (and/or section 151 Officer) and Monitoring Officer.*

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 None.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Streetscene Services Arboriculture Contract is for the management and maintenance of approximately 26,500 highway and public open space trees. The contract includes for a planned tree maintenance programme for works identified in a tree condition survey to be undertaken between November 2016 and April 2017. Planned maintenance reduces risk by prioritising tree maintenance based on the condition of the tree at the time it was assessed.
- 3.2 The purpose of the tree condition survey is to identify specific maintenance work that when completed reduces both the potential risk to the public and also the Council's exposure to third party insurance claims. Prioritising maintenance work ensures the most efficient use of tree maintenance resources through the proposed contract and also results in a well-managed tree asset.
- 3.3 The contract to be awarded also includes for reactive maintenance work such as the removal of fallen trees and branches and the clearance work required after gales and severe storm events.
- 3.4 A 365 day/24 hour emergency call out service is also included in the contract together with a facility for surveying and assessing trees where the condition of a tree shows visible deterioration since it was last surveyed.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The annual highway revenue tree maintenance budget is £220,000.
- 4.2 To allow for the Contractor to plan their labour and equipment resource throughout the whole of the year the annual budget is divided equally for the year. £180,000 is set aside for routine maintenance work both planned and

reactive amounting to approximately £15,000 per month with the remaining £40,000 for individual tree condition assessments and for the clearance work arising from potential storm events. The total contract value for the two years, plus one year optional extension is £660,000.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no specific legal implications; the Council has a statutory duty to maintain the highway, including those trees on the highway.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

- 6.1 There are no resource, ICT or staffing or asset implications directly as a result of its publication.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 Failure to maintain highway trees would mean that the Council is not able to fulfil its statutory duty.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 There are no implications associated with this report.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no equalities implications associated with this report.

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APPENDICES

None

REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
None.	