

## OFFICER DECISION FORM

**DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:** DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

**KEY DECISION** YES

**DIRECTORATE:** REGENERATION AND PLACE

**WARDS AFFECTED:** ALL

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**SUBJECT:** STRATEGIC TRANSPORT CONTRACT

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### **1.0 DECISION:**

The Director of Finance has decided to approve the direct award of a contract for strategic transport support services to Mott MacDonald Limited pursuant to Lot 7 of the Multi-Disciplinary NHS Shared Business Services Healthcare Planning Construction Consultancy and Ancillary Services Framework, to run for a period of 24 months from 8 July 2024.

### **2.0 REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

- 2.1 To provide consistency of high quality consultant support across key projects in line with the timescales required for the deadline of March 2026 as set by the Simplification Pilot, and to ensure that the Council has the required flexibility to secure specialist consultant support, where increased capacity or specialist technical skills including transport modelling are required, in order to achieve the development and delivery of regeneration and transport projects within the Borough. It is considered the bringing a new contractor into support the service at this time could add risk to the regeneration programme.
- 2.2 To ensure that the Council develops and delivers schemes which will deliver increased levels of sustainable and active travel as set out in the emerging Local Plan, Birkenhead 2040 and to support actions required to address the Environment and Climate Emergency and the target in the Cool2 Strategy to 'a complete transition to fossil fuel free local travel by around 2030'.
- 2.3. The contract does not provide the supplier with any guaranteed level of work and alternative procurement exercises can still be undertaken for projects if deemed to be appropriate, however the contract enables the Council to

secure services where required to respond at pace or where internal capacity is not available or specialist skills are required to support project delivery. Given the scale of the transport and regeneration programme and the required pace of delivery an option to secure additional capacity and technical support in this manner is essential.


- 2.4. The Council has previous experience of support from Mott MacDonald Limited and has been satisfied with the quality, pace and flexibility of support provided and notably Mott MacDonald Limited has supported the Council to secure significant funding for a number of key regeneration projects.

### **3.0 STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

- 3.1 The recommendation is made further to legal advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. It is also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been completed. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

### **4.0 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

- 4.1 None

<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p><b>Signed:</b></p> <p><b>Officer: Matthew Bennett</b></p> <p><b>Title: Director of Finance</b></p> <p><b>Date: 27 June 2024</b></p>
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### **A list of background papers on this issue is held with:**

Contact Officer:

Julie Barnes

Lead Commissioner Transport and Technology  
Regeneration and Place Directorate,

[juliebarnes@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:juliebarnes@wirral.gov.uk)

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