

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 18 November 2021

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director Enterprise, Community & Resources

PORTFOLIO: Environment and Urban Renewal

SUBJECT: Procurement of Services for Capital Funded Highway Improvement Schemes

WARDS: Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to proceed with the procurement of services for the delivery of capital funded highway improvements across the Borough. The existing contract will expire on 5 August 2022.
- 1.2 The current contract is held by Lambros Ltd, a local company, who have delivered schemes such as the Widnes Gyrotory improvements, the cycleway through Astmoor and alongside the Bridgewater Canal, and other elements of the Local Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan. The contract is utilised when lower value capital improvements are undertaken on the highway network, for example new sections of footpath. Higher value schemes undergo a separate and bespoke procurement process.
- 1.3 This contract differs to the Highway Term Maintenance Contract that has been jointly procured with Warrington BC, and is held by Tarmac which covers the repair and restoration of the existing highway network and is funded from the highway maintenance block grant from the Department for Transport and revenue funding.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 2.1 The Board approve a procurement process to secure a delivery contractor for capital funded highway improvement works.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 It is proposed that the new tender is set up for a 3-year period with an option to award a one-year extension. This is in line with current capital funding arrangements through the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) .The anticipated tender date is early February 2022 with a commencement date being 6th August 2022.
- 3.2 Based on current funding via LCRCA, it is anticipated that the annual value of the contracts in total is likely to be in the region of £ 2.0m thus making

the value of a four year contract in the order £8.0m. This figure is above the Public Contract Regulations 2015 threshold value and will be tendered accordingly. The open procedure will be used whereby expressions of interest are first obtained and then assessed.

3.3 The tender submissions will be evaluated on both price and quality; this being on a 30% price, 70% quality ratio and the most economically advantageous tender will be reported to this Board.

3.4 The cost of the works delivered through this contract will be met from approved budget allocations for capital funding received via LCRCA and the Local Transport Plan integrated transport block grant from the Department for Transport.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The method of procurement conforms to the Council's procurement policy. The tender process will be carried out in conjunction with the Procurement Centre of Excellence, using 'The Chest' procurement portal.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The above contract will ensure that we continue to deliver capital funding in a cost effective manner ensuring the Highway Authority fulfils its capital funding obligations statutory duties.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

A primary objective of the present funding cycle is to enhance the transport network to provide access to employment locations in the Borough.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

Improved sustainable links provides residents with opportunities to walk and cycle, and hence live healthier lifestyles

6.4 A Safer Halton

Transport network improvements are designed to improve the safety and comfort of the traveling public with improved crossing points and low energy street lighting.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

Providing improved network links to employment areas and investing in the public realm will improve the attractiveness of the borough, thereby making Halton a desirable location for investors and those who may wish to live here.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

Failure to procure a replacement contract would mean that the delivery of Highway capital funded projects would be delayed, leading to decreased opportunities to secure future funding.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.