



# EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION

<b>REPORT OF:</b>	Executive Member for Growth and Development
<b>LEAD OFFICERS:</b>	Strategic Director of Environment & Operations
<b>DATE:</b>	30 June 2023

**PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:** Growth and Development  
Environmental Services

**WARD/S AFFECTED:** (All Wards);

## SUBJECT:

### EMD - Bridge Maintenance Schemes Framework

Procurement strategy for the provision of Bridge maintenance and strengthening schemes for up to four years 2023-2027.

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council intends to tender for suitably qualified and experienced contractors to qualify for inclusion in a framework of contractors who can be invited to tender for bridge maintenance and strengthening schemes.

This framework would facilitate the efficient procurement of maintenance works for highway structure assets using established and quality contractors to provide works at competitive prices.

## 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Member:

- Approves the proposed procurement strategy for the provision of Bridge maintenance and strengthening schemes for a two year period with the option to extend for up to a further two years.

## 3. BACKGROUND

The Tender will be advertised through the Chest as an open tender advertised on Find a Tender (FTS) in line with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

There are sufficient organisations in the market, including local companies who can meet our requirements and can respond to this invitation to tender.

Tenders will be evaluated on 85% Quality and 15% Social Value.

The Framework is designed to provide a wide range of high quality call off services. All appointed

Companies must be registered and qualified organisations. We encourage applications from a broad supply base.

The Framework Partners will be contracted to deliver Projects in accordance with details set out in the tender documents with partners being invited to participate in a mini tender.

The Contract will be established to operate for two years, with the option to extend for further periods of one year up to a maximum of a further two years.

This framework provides opportunities for local contractors and workforce engagement and employment and represents the most cost efficient way of procuring works. The contract supports the Councils' priorities to provide a good place to live where people enjoy a good quality of life and building happier, healthier and safer communities

The contract also includes measures to monitor, report on and reduce carbon usage and greenhouse gas emissions to aid in our aspirations of becoming carbon neutral by 2030 to establish a healthier greener future for communities.

Successful contractors will also have to outline how they intend to add social value to our communities with a direct input being made into the local community on an appropriate level to help those most in need. This will be determined on a scheme by scheme basis with the amount of input being dictated by the size of the scheme being delivered.

#### **4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS**

There is currently no specific highway structures framework or contract in place. We are currently relying on external frameworks which are not entirely suitable and do not include enough local, highway structures contractors. We also have little control over the terms and conditions of these contracts which are already pre-set.

Relying on these contracts often leads to the use of large contractors who are based some distance away, resulting in inflated prices as the contractors on the frameworks have large preliminary and set up costs to undertake relatively small works and schemes. The larger contractors on these frameworks often sub-let the contract upon award to one of their sub-contractors who may not be suitable for us, which represents a lack of control for the Council as the client.

Relying on procuring each scheme individually through an open tender process currently provides the most cost effective option however, this requires a large input from officers in highways and procurement and a lengthy tender and appointment period with each scheme requiring its own evaluation and qualification process and is an inefficient use of our resources.

The introduction of this framework would give greater control over our terms and conditions, it would enable the Council to employ more local and suitable contractors and workforce with the pre-evaluated skill sets we require. It would greatly reduce the officer input into procuring schemes and would provide greater efficiency and overall value for money.

#### **5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

None

#### **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Estimated contract value of up to £700k per year with funding from the LTP programme for Bridgeworks and Highway Structures maintenance.

Each scheme will be priced via a mini tender and analysed on an individual basis to demonstrate the best value for money.

## 7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The invitation to tender will be advertised through the Chest as an open tender advertised on FTS in line with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The Procurement process will be managed by the Procurement Team.

## 8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

## 9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

**Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.**

Option 1  Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2  In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3  In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

## 10. CONSULTATIONS

None

## 11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

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

## 12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded and published if applicable.

**VERSION:** 1

<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Mark Berry</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	
<b>BACKGROUND PAPER:</b>	