

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY

Neil Baker, Cabinet Member – Highways & Transport

DECISION NO:

23/00118

For publication

Key decision Yes

Subject: Procurement and award of contract/s for Highway Arboriculture Programmed works

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation, I agree to:

APPROVE the procurement of the Arboriculture Programmed Works Contract and in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation delegate authority to the Director of Highways and Transportation to approve the award of the subsequent contract to the preferred bidder and to take other relevant actions, including but not limited to finalising the terms of and entering into required contracts or other legal agreements, as necessary to implement the decision and;

- in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation DELEGATE authority to the Director of Highways and Transportation to award extensions of the Arboriculture Programmed Works Contract in accordance with the possible extension clauses within the contract.

Reason(s) for decision:

The current Highway Arboriculture Programmed Works contract comes to an end on 31st August 2024 with no provision for further extension periods. In order to ensure continuity of service, new arrangements need to be in place from September 1st, 2024.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The Environment and Transport Cabinet committee will consider the proposal decision at its meeting on the 11th January 2024.

Any alternatives considered:

- **Do Nothing** - Discounted as The Council has a legal duty to carry out safety critical maintenance of its trees.
- **Procure one provider to deliver the county.** This option is unlikely to access SME providers and does not provide as much resilience as multiple providers but could deliver a more competitive price.
- **Procure multiple providers across district grouped lots.** This is a similar model to other tree contracts E.g., Emergency Tree Contract. Provides more resilience throughout the County but may not deliver the most cost-effective solution.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

.....
signed

.....
date

Name: