

By: Terry Whitlock, Building Maintenance and Minor Works Manager, Property Group CED

To: Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Corporate Support Services and Performance Management

Subject: Property Group Asbestos Inspection and Testing and Treatment and Works Framework Agreement

Classification: Unrestricted

SUMMARY: To seek approval to the letting of Asbestos Inspection and Testing and Treatment and Works Framework Agreement Frameworks to provide service to all Kent County Council (KCC) directorates

1. Background

1.1 Under the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006, KCC has a legal duty to prevent or reduce exposure to asbestos 'so far as is reasonably practicable'; however anyone with a responsibility for the property also has a duty to manage asbestos risks.

1.2 As part of Property Group's support to directorates, the Building Maintenance and Minor Works Team is responsible for the procurement of Asbestos Inspection and Testing and Treatment and Works contracts.

1.3 In accordance with Property Group's Business Plan 2009/10 Page 12 under item 5 'Procurement', 'Review and Renew Service Desk Contractors' we have tendered the following services:

Lot 1 – Asbestos Inspection and Testing
Lot 2 – Asbestos Treatment and Works

2. Process

2.1 An Official Journal of European Union (OJEU) contract notice was placed on the Simap web-site and the South East Centre of Excellence (SECE) web-site on **Monday 24th May 2010**. Firms expressing an interest were sent a Pre Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ). These were evaluated and contractors invited to prepare a priced tender.

2.2 Tender documents were sent out on **Tuesday 20th July 2010** and asked to return them to Property Group on **Friday 10th September 2010**.

2.3 All tenderers were required to attend interviews where a series of questions based on the selection criteria were discussed.

2.4 The evaluation focussed on examining how each tender proposes to deliver the contract against the said criteria.

2.6 Each member of the Evaluation Team evaluated the tenders independently and this was checked by second member of the team.

2.7 Basis for Award:

The evaluation of the tenders is based on MEAT (Most Economically Advantageous Tender) which will offer the Council best value for money.

3. Budget

3.1 The budget is dependent on directorate spend as the money is not devolved to Property Group. There is no workload guarantee within this contract. There are however statutory guidance about managing asbestos. The decision to let the contract is outlined in Property Group's business plan along with the KCC Forward Plan.

4. Proposal

4.1 The successful tenderers will be placed on a framework (framework providers). The framework tender will run for a period of 4 years from **1st April 2011** although this could be sooner by arrangement.

4.2 The most successful tenderer (ie highest scoring contractors for each lot and known as the 'preferred bidder') will then be called off the framework to provide services to KCC buildings (KCC provider). The remaining contractors may be called off by this or other authorities or public bodies given access to the framework.

4.3 Once the calls off have been made for the preferred contractors to carry out the work to Kent County Council properties, the contracts will be administered and monitored by Property Group along with its' team of building maintenance consultants. The results of preferred bidder and framework status are shown in the attached document.

5. Conclusion

5.1 The tender and selection process has been undertaken in accordance with the required OJEU tender process and the Council's own procedures as set out in the Code of Practice – Spending the Council's Money. The tenders have also been assessed against the technical ability of each company to undertake this work and to do this within the principles of providing best value for money.

6. Recommendation

6.1 The Cabinet Member for Corporate Support Services and Performance Management is asked to:

(i) approve that the successful contractors detailed in the appendix to this report be placed on the Property Group Asbestos Inspection and Testing and Treatment Works Framework

and,

(ii) the Interim Director of Property be authorised on behalf of the County to Council to execute all necessary contracts on behalf of the Kent County Council.

Background Documents: None.

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