

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY

Bryan Sweetland, Cabinet Member – Environment, Highways & Waste

DECISION NO.

12/01935

If decision is likely to disclose exempt information please specify the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

Subject: Approval of the award of the Technical and Environmental Services Contract(s) (TESC) to the preferred bidder.

Decision: As Cabinet Member of Environment, Highways and Waste, I agree that the Technical and Environmental Services Contract be awarded to Amey, as the preferred bidder.

Reason(s) for decision

On 12 January 2012, the Environment, Highways & Waste Policy Overview & Scrutiny Committee resolved that a small working group be established to explore the options available for the Highways & Transportation consultancy contract and advise the Service Director on their preferred option. The findings and recommendations of the IMG were reported to the EHW Policy Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 14 March 2012. Committee Members agreed that 'in house' expertise would be supported by a new core contract where general commissions would be secured.

The Technical and Environmental Services Contract will have a "significant" effect on KCC's services and is a major contract with a value of approximately £5M per year. The preferred bidder has been identified by following a robust procurement and tender evaluation process, which conforms to a series of strict selection criteria around cost, quality and value for money to generate the chosen contractor. Regular progress updates and decision meetings have taken place with the relevant KCC Procurement and Programme Boards and Cabinet Committee meetings.

The contract will enable the provision of a wide range of consultancy services to the Enterprise and Environment Directorate covering Transportation Engineering (including public transport); Highway Engineering (including maintenance, design, construction supervision, health and safety); and Environmental Support (including air quality, noise, landscaping, planning, regeneration, ecology and waste). The contract runs for an initial period of a maximum of five years, with a possible extension based on performance criteria.

The TESC is designed to drive economic prosperity in Kent, in line with a major strand of Bold Steps for Kent and the Policy Framework, by utilising local supply chains and employing Kent apprentices; it will attempt to emulate the success of the Enterprise Term Maintenance contract in these areas.

The contract will use key indicators to drive performance with financial penalties if standards are not met. At the PQQ stage, part of the assessment which applicants underwent was designed to identify experience at attracting inward investment/funding for successful transport schemes and strategies. The Highways and Transport department (H&T) will look to utilise this knowledge through the new contract.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation

As stated above on the 12 January 2012, POSC Members agreed to set up an Informal Member Group (consisting of Roger Manning, Alice Hohler, Richard Pascoe, Malcolm Robertson) to explore the options available for any future consultancy service provision. During the life of the IMG Members were supportive that future service provision should contain the highest level of expertise available, whilst retaining value for money.

In addition to the work of the IMG the process has been closely monitored via the councils formal and informal, officer and Member governance arrangements and in accordance with the council's constitution the basis of the decision has also been considered, on more than one occasion, by the Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee.

The EH&W Cabinet Committee has been updated throughout the tender process and on 20 September 2012, it resolved that: "(a) the contents of the report be noted; (b) the next steps as detailed in the report be agreed, thereby authorising the Cabinet Member to sign and award the future contract; and (c) that a small group of Members help with both the Bidders Clarification Day and assessment of the Tender Presentations.

At its next meeting on 15 November 2012, the Committee received further information for consideration and it resolved to note the continued progress and timeline that would lead to the award of contract in early 2013.

Any alternatives considered

The IMG looked at all the requirements for a future consultancy service. The future requirements were:-

- Value for money from Day 1 with ongoing improvements
- Services available at a moments notice
- Briefs discussed and agreed, with innovative solutions delivered as agreed
- Ability to procure in many different ways
- Transfer of risk to consultants
- Use of local SME's
- Flexible and easy to use

From these requirements an options model was produced. Each option within this model was considered by the decision maker and benefits and disbenefits were identified. It was agreed that to procure a core contract with specialist lots would meet the service requirements identified in the most efficient manner.

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

None

Supporting Documents

'Highways & Transportation Consultancy Services' - Restricted report to EHW Policy Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 12 January 2012

'Highways & Transportation Professional Consultancy Services – options' Restricted report to EHW Policy Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 14 March 2012

'Technical & Environmental Services Contract (TESC)' report to EHW Cabinet Committee – 20 September 2012

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s34114/Item%20B9%20%20Technical%20and%20Environmental%20Service%20Contract.pdf>

'Technical & Environmental Services Contract (TESC)' – report to EHW Cabinet Committee – 15 November 2012

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s36423/Item%20B2%20-%20TESC.pdf>

signed



date: 21/12/ 2012

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Decision Referred to Cabinet Scrutiny			
YES		NO	

Cabinet Scrutiny Decision to Refer Back for Reconsideration			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration Record Sheet Issued			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration of Decision Published			