

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Neil Baker, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

DECISION NO:

24/00017

For publication

Key decision: YES / NO

Subject Matter / Title of Decision: Professional Services Framework Contract 2024 Award

Decision:

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

- (i) APPROVE the procurement and contract award of a zero value Professional Services framework contract
- (ii) DELEGATE authority to the Director of Highways and Transportation, to take relevant actions to facilitate the required procurement activity.
- (iii) DELEGATE authority to the Director of Highways and Transportation, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, to take relevant actions, including but not limited to, awarding, finalising the terms of and entering into the relevant contracts or other legal agreements, as necessary, to implement the decision.
- (iv) Delegate authority to the Director of Highways and Transportation, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, to award extensions of contracts for commissioned services in accordance with the extension clauses within the contract (4 years + 2 year extension).

Reason(s) for decision:

Highways & Transportation has a duty to ensure the effective discharge of the Council's statutory duties and powers as Local Transport and Highway Authority, including the duty of care to help ensure safe passage for all road users. To deliver its duties to the community, H&T requires a professional engineering consultancy services contract. Kent needs a flexible, resilient mechanism to seamlessly access a source of multidisciplinary technical expertise to guarantee the effective, efficient and timely delivery of projects including schemes, for the fulfilment of H&T's statutory duties as the Highway Authority.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

Members of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee will consider the proposal at their meeting on 7 March 2024.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

- Option 1 Single Supplier Professional Services Contract
- Option 2 Multi Supplier Framework (Split into specialist lots)
- Option 3 Use of established external Framework Agreements from other Local Authorities, CCS, and Central Purchasing organisations such as ESPO to procure individual requirements

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

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signed

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date