

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
CABINET – 5 November 2024
REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (RESIDENT SERVICES AND CLIMATE
CHANGE)

AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR ARBORICULTURE SERVICES

1 Executive Summary

1.1 The current contract for Arboriculture Services expires at the end of December 2024 and this report considers its replacement.

2 Recommendation(s)

2.1 That Cabinet agrees to award the following contracts for an initial three year period (with an optional one year extension) commencing on 1st January 2025:

- Lot 2 (Maintenance of Young Trees) is awarded to: Maydencroft Limited
- Lot 3 (Maintenance of Woodland trees) is awarded to Maydencroft Limited

2.2 That in accordance with clause 31.2g (Alternative procedures in prescribed circumstances), Cabinet agree to extend the current contract with Maydencroft Limited for a period of three months for maintenance of urban trees (Lot 1).

2.3 That Cabinet agree a new procurement can commence for Urban Tree Maintenance (lot 1) and be evaluated 50% on price and 50% on quality.

3 Explanation

3.1 The council is responsible for the maintenance of 30,000 trees across the Borough and manage this responsibility through a contract that includes lots for

- a) Maintenance of Urban Trees
- b) Maintenance of Young Trees
- c) Maintenance of Woodland Trees

3.2 The current contract expires at the end of December 2024 and following approval by the Executive Member, a new procurement has been undertaken. The procurement was undertaken on the basis of the three lots as above, but for lot 1, two contractors will be appointed with the work split between them on a geographical basis. The contract has provision that if one contractor underperforms, more work can be given to the other contractor.

3.3 The results of the tender process and pricing is included in the Part 2 report.

Implications

4 Legal Implication(s)

- 4.1 The procurement process was carried out in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations and the council's Contract Procedure Rules. In relation to Lot 1 the council has a discretion not to award a contract. Further details are contained with the part 2 report

5 Financial Implication(s)

- 5.1 Further details are contained with the part 2 report

6 Risk Management Implications

- 6.1 As with any procurement of this nature there is a risk of challenge from unsuccessful tenderers.

7 Security and Terrorism Implication(s)

- 7.1 None directly associated with this recommendation

8 Procurement Implication(s)

- 8.1 The Procurement has been undertaken in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015

9 Climate Change Implication(s)

- 9.1 Part of the tender evaluation was allocated to climate change initiatives. Responses from the winning bidders included:

- main office is equipped with solar panels.
- We have a number of electric vehicles and the entire vehicle fleet is no less than Euro 6 and compliant with the new ULEZ standards.
- Prevent pollution, reduce waste and ensure that, wherever practical, measures are implemented to protect and preserve natural habitats, flora and fauna.
- Promote good environmental practices to minimise our impact on the environment and where at all possible, make a positive contribution to enhancing biodiversity.
- Investment in electric hand tools such as hedge cutters, pumps, strimmers, chainsaws
- Recycling of green waste including wood chippings for power stations

10 Human Resources Implication(s)

- 10.1 None directly associated with this recommendation

11 Health and Wellbeing Implication(s)

- 11.1 None directly associated with this recommendation

12 Communication and Engagement Implication(s)

- 12.1 None directly associated with this recommendation

13 Link to Corporate Priorities

- 13.1 The subject of this report is linked to the Council's Corporate Priority 'To run an effective council and make financial decisions to deliver efficient and quality services

14 Equality and Diversity

- 14.1 An EqIA was not completed because this report does not propose changes to existing service-related policies or the development of new service-related policies.

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