

INVITATION TO TENDER - QUEEN ELEANOR STREET/LONDON ROAD/HIGH STREET JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT WORKS

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Executive Summary:

This report is seeking approval to commence the tender process in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and Financial Regulations and seeks authority to delegate the decision to accept tenders and to place relevant orders to the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways, subject to consultation with the Council S151 Officer and head of Strategic Procurement.

Milton Keynes Council's existing Highways Small Works Framework Contract includes three contractors under a schedule of rates pricing mechanism. This schedule of rates will be used to select the contractor for provision of a roundabout and associated traffic islands at Queen Eleanor Street/London Road/High Street junction, Stony Stratford.

1 Recommendation(s)

- 1.1 That the commencement of the tender processes from the Highways Small Works Framework for the procurement of Queen Eleanor Street/London Road/High Street junction improvement works be approved.
- 1.2 That authority to award the Contract to the preferred bidder for the Queen Eleanor Street/London Road/High Street junction Improvement works be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways, in consultation with the Council's S151 Officer and the Head of Strategic Procurement.

2 Issues

- 2.1 The Council's Constitution requires all procurement in excess of £100,000 to be approved by Cabinet Procurement Committee. This includes both the decision to formally award contracts and the decision to authorise officers to commence tender processes.
- 2.2 This report requests approval to proceed with a mini-tender exercise using the three contractors on the council's existing Highway Small Works Framework contract for the provision of a roundabout and associated traffic islands at Queen Eleanor Street/London Road/ High Street junction, Stony Stratford. The funding for the requirement will be met from the capital budget allocated within 2012/2013 years.

2.3 Subject to consultation with relevant Officers authority is requested for a delegated decision to award the tender for the Queen Eleanor Street/London Road/ High Street junction improvement to the preferred contractor on the Highways Small Works Framework Contract provided the value of the order does not exceed the Cabinet approved expenditure of £135,000.

2.3 Consultation and Policy

2.3.1 The award of this contract will progress the following priorities/outcomes within the Corporate Plan 2012-16:

- CP14 – To have an efficient transport and highways infrastructure
- CP15 - To promote sustainable movement through the borough of Milton Keynes

2.3.2 The draft specification has been developed in partnership with the relevant Cabinet Member and the following key stakeholders:

- Stony Stratford Town Council
- Ward Councillors
- Thames Valley Police

2.4 Specification

2.4.1 The procurement seeks to deliver the following service objectives set out in Local Transport Plan 3:

- Reduction in journey times at peak hours
- Reduction in numbers of people killed or seriously injured through road accidents
- Improvement of the quality of life

2.4.2 The Specification can be summarised as:

- Construction of a roundabout to replace existing junction layout.
- Construction of a traffic island on London Road approach and Queen Eleanor Street approach to the new roundabout to effect vehicle speed reduction

2.5 Evaluation Criteria & Panel

2.5.1 The MEAT evaluation of tenders will be as follows:

- (a) Price @ 100%

2.5.2 Tenders submitted will be evaluated by a panel comprising of the Head of Highway Services, Traffic Management Team Leader and Programme Manager. Colleagues within Finance and Legal and Corporate Procurement will be engaged to support the tender process.

2.6 Contract Terms and Conditions

2.6.1 Tenders will be sought from the three contractors on the Highways Small Works Framework which runs until June 2014.

2.6.2 The Terms and Conditions in the Milton Keynes Council's existing Highways Small Works Framework will be used.

2.6.3 The Council's Senior Client Officer for the procurement will be the Assistant Director of Highways & Transportation

3 **Alternative Options**

The following options appraisal has been conducted:

3.1 To go to open tender for the schemes, however it was considered this would add considerable additional cost and time to the council in delivering the schemes as well additional costs to the contractors in preparing detailed bids. It would also extend the period to procure the works with the council's procurement rules.

4 **Implications**

4.1 Policy

The tenders seek to implement the Contract Procedure Rules adopted by Milton Keynes Council Corporate Procurement in respect of this service.

4.2 Resources and Risk

4.2.1 'The costs of this contract are met from the 2012-13 LTP Capital Programme. The resource allocation is £135,000. The costs identified within this exercise can be contained within the agreed budget.

4.2.2 The Risk Assessment for this contract is available if requested or directly via Members access to GRACE. In summary:

- The key OPPORTUNITY secured by this contract is a fair competition for the provision of the services that will provide good value for money, whilst also providing a safer road network by reducing the risk of vehicle accidents. It is assessed that the delivery of this contract provides a likelihood that will secure the opportunity defined providing MKC with a HIGH positive Impact.
- The key THREATS for this contract have been assessed as:

- Delays in the commencement of the contract due to tender returns being higher than the available budget.
- Delays in the commencement of the contract due to adverse weather.

The governance measures set out in 2.4.2 above provide a basis to conclude that these threats, properly managed represent a LOW Likelihood with a MEDIUM Impact.

Y	Capital	Y	Revenue	N	Accommodation
N	IT	Y	Medium Term Plan	N	Asset Management

4.3 Carbon and Energy Management

N/A

4.4 Legal

The requirement for this tender will meet the Council's statutory obligations under Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980, Section 16 and 17 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and Section 39 of The Road Traffic Act 1988.

This recommendation complies with MKC rules, UK and European legislation.

4.5 Other Implications

Y	Equalities/Diversity	Y	Sustainability	N	Human Rights
N	E-Government	Y	Stakeholders	N	Crime and Disorder
N	Carbon and Energy Policy				

Background Papers: None