

Meeting of:	<b>Cabinet</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>Monday, 21 June 2021</b>
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Environment and Regeneration
Report Title:	Highway Maintenance Contract (Emergency & Permanent Defect Repairs)
Purpose of Report:	To award the highway maintenance contract for undertaking emergency and permanent highway repairs for 2021 to 2023
Report Owner:	Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport
Responsible Officer:	Miles Punter - Director of Environment and Housing
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Accountant Neighbourhood Services and Building Committee Reports - Legal Operational Manager - Engineering Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport
Policy Framework:	This report is a matter for Executive Decision by Cabinet.
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This Report seeks the approval of Cabinet to award a new emergency and permanent highway repair contract allowing the highway maintenance team to continue to maintain the adopted highway.</li> <li>• Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980 places a duty on the Council to maintain highways at public expense.</li> <li>• Historically, highway maintenance contracts have run for two years with the option to extend for a further year. It is proposed that the new contract be offered on this basis.</li> <li>• Due to commercial sensitivity, full details of the financial appraisal associated with the contract award listed are detailed in the Part II report later on this agenda.</li> </ul>	

## **Recommendation**

1. That the contents of the report be noted and be considered in connection with the Part II report later in the agenda.

## **Reason for Recommendation**

1. To advise of the proposals for renewal of the Highway Maintenance Contract and to allow the commercially sensitive details of these proposals to be appropriately considered prior to a decision being taken on any award.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 The Council's Highway Maintenance Service uses various contractors from the South East Wales Highway Framework to undertake work on its behalf and this helps to ensure that the public highway can be adequately maintained.
- 2.2 The current contract for Emergency and Permanent repairs will expire on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and as a result tenders have been sought and received in order to renew this contract from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

## **3. Key Issues for Consideration**

- 3.1 Tenders for the Highway Maintenance Contract (Emergency and Permanent defect repairs) 2021 to 2023 were invited from 7 contractors on the South East Wales Highway framework.
- 3.2 The analysis of the tenders was based on a quality / price model with a 30/70 split respectively.
- 3.3 It is proposed that the contract referred to above is initially awarded for a period of two years however the tender was issued with the option to extend for a further one year. Details of the tender analysis are shown in the Part II report later on this agenda.

## **4. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?**

- 4.1 It is necessary to review contracts on a regular basis to ensure best value for the Council. This review is undertaken in the context of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act which requires the Council to consider five ways of working when making decisions.
- 4.2 The Highway Maintenance teams adopts a collaborative approach when engaging contractors, ensuring the minimum disruption to the travelling public and the highest quality work.

- 4.3** A key consideration in undertaking any form of highway maintenance works is thinking for the longer term. The Council's highways continually need repairing to protect the asset and to prevent accidents caused by damage or deterioration to the surface; newly surfaced or surface treated highways serve to prevent highway pot holes appearing and the highway surface further deteriorating. It also reduces the risk of successful third-party claims against the Council for vehicle damage or personal injury.
- 4.4** Highway users are advised in advance of the highways that are due to be repaired, hence integrating the work with the local community and other highway users.
- 4.5** The proposals also seek to further the Council's Well-being Outcomes contained within the Corporate Plan. Good quality highways help to sustain economic growth, allowing both residents and visitors to better enjoy the experience of travelling within and through the Vale of Glamorgan area.
- 4.6** There are no specific climate change implications arising from awarding the contract.

## **5. Resources and Legal Considerations**

### **Financial**

- 5.1** The works will be financed from within the Highway Maintenance 2021 to 2023 Revenue Budgets.
- 5.2** The approved budget for highway maintenance (Emergency and Permanent defect repair):
- for 2021/2022 is £371K, however £300k is also used from the Neighbourhood Services Reserve each year to increase the budget to £671k.
  - The budget for Big Fill for 2021/2022 is £100k, however £400k will be utilised from reserves to increase the budget to £500K.

### **Employment**

- 5.3** There are no Employment Implications associated with this report.

### **Legal (Including Equalities)**

- 5.4** The Council has a duty to maintain the Highway pursuant to the Highways Act (1980).

## **6. Background Papers**

None.