

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT PLANNING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE		
DATE:	3 rd July 2017	AGENDA ITEM:	10
TITLE:	MINOR ROADS SURFACING CONTRACT 2017 / 2018: SPEND APPROVAL AND DELEGATED AUTHORITY FOR CONTRACT AWARD		
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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to inform Councillors of the procurement process for the Minor Roads Surfacing Contract 2017/2018 and to seek spend approval and delegated authority to enter into a contract with the successful tenderer after the tendering process in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Strategic Environment Planning & Transport Committee provides spend approval for the Minor Roads Surfacing Contract 2017/2018.
- 2.2 That delegated authority is given to the Head of Transportation & Streetcare in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport, the Head of Legal & Democratic Services and the Head of Finance to enter into a contract with the successful tenderer for the Minor Roads Surfacing Contract 2017/2018.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 To secure the most effective use of resources in the delivery of high quality, best value public service.
- 3.2 To make travel more secure, safe and comfortable for all users of the public highway.

3.3 To provide a public highway network as safe as reasonably practical having due regard to financial constraints and statutory duties.

4. THE PROPOSAL

4.1 The Council as the Local Highway Authority has a statutory duty under the Highways Act 1980 to maintain the public highway network.

4.2 Each autumn, as part of its highway maintenance programme, the Council enters into a contract with a suitable contractor for the maintenance of Minor Roads within the Borough.

4.3 The contract works involve the laying of a Micro-Asphalt material on top of the existing carriageway surface on the minor roads within the Borough ('C' Classified roads and the Unclassified residential roads).

4.3 This contract is tendered on an annual basis with the majority of the work carried out during the autumn months, utilising cooler weather and part of the autumn school half term to reduce traffic disruption.

4.4 The contract is Grant funded from the Capital Local Transport Plan Award for 2017/2018. Spend approval for the LTP Bridges & Carriageway three financial year award commencing 2016/17 through to 2018/2019 has been granted following a report to full Council on 24th February 2015.

4.5 The proposed Minor Roads Surfacing scheme list was approved at Traffic Management Sub-Committee on 9th March 2017.

4.5 Specific scheme approval and delegation is required to enter into a contract with the successful contractor who submits the most economically advantageous tender following the tender process for each contract.

4.4 The proposal is to tender for a contract with works scheduled to take place during the autumn of 2017.

Procurement

4.6 In accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the principles of the Open Procedure in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 ("the Regulations") a single stage open procurement process is being undertaken to appoint a contractor to deliver the Minor Roads Surfacing Contract 2017/2018.

4.7 In accordance with the Council Contract Procedure Rules, the opportunity was advertised on the Council's electronic tendering portal as well as via 'Contracts Finder'.

4.8 It is intended to enter into a contract based upon the most economically advantageous tender in accordance with the criteria stated within the specification.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 The Highway Maintenance Update and Programme 2017/2018 will contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan 2016 - 2019 objectives of:

- Keeping the town clean, safe, green and active
- Providing infrastructure to support the economy
- Remaining financially sustainable to deliver these service priorities

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

6.1 The approved Minor Roads Surfacing Contract 2017/ 2018 Committee report was released into the public domain in the lead up to the meeting.

6.2 The approved Highway Maintenance Capital Programme report to Traffic Management Sub-Committee has been published in advance of the 9th March 2017 Committee meeting.

7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 In addition to the Human Rights Act 1998 the Council is required to comply with the Equalities Act 2010. Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 requires the Council to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

7.2 The Highway Maintenance Programme 2017/2018 consists of improvement work to the Council's existing public highway network. There is no overall change to service delivery at this time. Should any future updates/amendments be required, which result in service delivery changes, an equality impact assessment will be carried out.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 It will be necessary to enter into a contract with the successful tenderer.

8.2 The tender process is being undertaken in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the principles of the Open Procedure in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and it is intended to enter into a contract based upon the most economically advantageous tender.

8.3 Reading Borough Council, as Highway Authority, has a duty under the Highways Act 1980 to maintain the public highway.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The costs associated with the Minor Roads Surfacing Contract 2017 /2018 will be met from the Transportation and Streetcare Capital LTP Grant funded budget.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Council Budget Report 24th February 2015

10.2 Traffic Management Sub-Committee report 9th March 2017