

Report to extend the sole supplier contract for the Supply of, and Occasional Installation, of Fixed Play Equipment.

Date: 22nd March 2024

Report of: Head of Greenspace Operations

Report to: Chief Officer Climate Energy and Greenspace

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

Brief summary

- This report seeks consent to extend the contract covering the provision of Supply and Installation of Fixed Play Equipment until 31st March 2025.
- The contract was awarded on the 1st April 2021 for a period of one year with the provision of extending the contract for up to 3 times as either one full 3-year extension or 3 consecutive yearly extensions.
- Following a decision taken last year to extend the contract for the 2nd time, it is now due to expire on the 31st March 2024. As such approval is sought to utilise the option to extend the contract for the third and final time. Permission is sought to enter into a 12-month extension period until the 31st March 2025 in accordance with Contracts Procedure Rules (CPR) 21.2.

Recommendations

The Chief Officer, Climate Energy and Greenspace is recommended to note the contents of this report and approve a 12-month extension of the existing contact for the supply and occasional installation of fixed play equipment covering the period between 1 April 2024 until the 31 March 2025 with Kompan LTD as our preferred supplier.

What is this report about?

1. In November 2020 a competitive procurement exercise was undertaken for the provision of a single supplier of fixed play equipment. Inclusive within the contract was the occasional installation of equipment to support in the provision of fixed play city wide. Competition was undertaken against Lot 2 of the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation's (ESPO) Framework Agreement (115) and Kompan Ltd was successfully appointed on the 1st April 2021. Within the contract, was the option to undertake 3 one-year extensions. This report request permission to extend the contract for a third and final time from the 1 April 2024 until the 31 March 2025.

What impact will this proposal have?

2. Extending the contract will ensure the delivery of both new playground schemes and the continuation of procuring goods and supplies for the existing playgrounds across Leeds. The Climate Energy and Greenspace service is at present acting as internal service provider for greenspace improvement projects for a number of key strategic investment schemes namely works linked to the Morley Towns Deal and more recently funding secured through the central government levelling up fund for Holbeck, This contract will allow the service to continue to support these strategically important schemes as well as undertake work to sustain, maintain and improve existing fixed play provision.

How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

Health and Wellbeing Inclusive Growth Zero Carbon

3. Leeds City Council provides circa 174 children's play areas across the city. A survey of over 17,000 local children and young people in 2017/18 revealed that over 75% of primary school children and 66% of secondary school children had visited a local park or playground in the past four weeks. Therefore, children's play within parks plays a vital role in the development and health of the city's children and young people. Furthermore, the development of schemes such as this can make a significant contribution to the outcomes of 'Enjoying healthy lifestyles' and 'Have fun growing up' that are set out in the council's Children and Young People's plan.
4. Good quality play provision and the promotion of playful spaces is a key determinant of the quality of a greenspace. Therefore, the provision of improved play will enhance overall quality and in doing so not only improve Health and Wellbeing but also support the positive relationship between a greener city, healthier people, and a stronger economy.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected: This is a city wide contract

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

Consultation was undertaken as part of the initial contract award.

What are the resource implications?

5. There are no specific resource implications linked to this report. However, as highlighted in paragraph 2 above, the services role in supporting with the implementation of key strategic funding linked to greenspace improvement coupled with ongoing investment via section 106 funding means that the level of spend under this contract is likely to be significant. The robust procurement process undertaken at the contract's inception and the call of the from the ESPO framework provides reassurance that value for money is still being obtained.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

6. The key risk should the contract not be extended is that this will detrimentally affect the services ability to procure goods or deliver new playground schemes until a new contract is in place. This will have implications in terms of the budget, health and safety and the service's ability to act as internal service provider on key cross council initiatives with green space elements.
7. Risk has been minimised as a result of the initial decision at inception of the contract to access via the ESPO framework and the expectation that the provider is expected to deliver services

commensurate with the ESPO Specification and to the standard required by legislation which to this point has satisfactorily been occurring.

8. Can we add in a risk about if we can't source something from Kompan what can we do – thinking specifically about the inclusive play issues

What are the legal implications?

9. This report is a Significant Operational Decision since it is the consequence of a previous Key Decision, and a link is provided below. Legal officers have been consulted on the contract and the principle of extending it and no issues have been highlighted.

[Council and democracy \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://leeds.gov.uk/council-and-democracy)

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

10. As the service moves through this final period of contract extension, a programme of work will be established with the council's contracts and procurement team to consider what options should be implemented for a new contract from the 1 April 2025. Decision making for this work will have separate and independent governance beyond this report and will include within it a full options appraisal that revisits the decision taken at the inception of the existing contract and determines the best course of action moving forward. The contract extension sought in this report provides the time and scope to undertake this decision making with appropriate due diligence.

How will success be measured?

11. The utilisation of the sole supplier is enabling the service to deliver quickly and efficiently new schemes without the need to go through a full tender process. The contract supports in terms of officer efficiency and is consequently leading to improved play spaces that should ultimately provide better play opportunities within communities.

What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?

12. The existing contract is due to expire on the 31 March 2024. Approval is sought to extend the contact to the 31 March 2025.
13. The Head of Parks Operations is responsible for implementation.

Appendices

- Equality Assessment

Background papers

- None