

**Report to Chief Officer (Culture & Sport)**

**Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2018**

**Subject: Light Night Leeds Centrepiece Projections**

Are specific electoral wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of ward(s): Little London & Woodhouse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	× No
Is the decision eligible for call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	× No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	× No

**1.0 Summary of main issues**

1. Leeds has hosted Light Night Leeds since 2005 and for the last six years has showcased centrepiece projections as part of the annual event. Due to the technical specifications it has been difficult to source three quotes as many companies are able to offer the high-tech equipment, knowledge, and expertise needed to project such large scale artworks
2. The Light Night team made contact with three potential providers but only received back one quote. Two companies did not respond as the work was deemed too complex to deliver.

**Recommendations**

3. The Chief Officer Culture and Sport is recommended to:
  - (a) approve the invocation of the following Contract Procedure Rule:
 

8.1 & 8.2 - to enter into a contract with a value of between £10K and £100K without seeking full competition.
  - (b) Appoint QED Productions Ltd to undertake the necessary projection works for light night Leeds 2018 to provide three centrepiece projections across the

city centre for the Light Night Leeds event.

## **1.0 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 To seek approval to waiver CPR's 8.1 & 8.2 and proceed with QED Productions Ltd on the basis that officers have only been unable to obtain two quotes. Contact has been made with numerous companies with the requirements and only one supplier responded with a quote. It is thought that the nature of the work is deemed too technically complex.

## **2.0 Background information**

- 2.1 Light Night Leeds has been running since 2005 and has rapidly grown in scope over the past five years, both in the number of visitors attending and the volume and quality of the artworks shown. This increase of scale has coincided with Light Night showcasing a centrepiece projection on the face of the Civic Building, and in the last two years with a secondary projection onto the Queens Hotel.
- 2.2 For the past three years Light Night Leeds has worked with QED productions to deliver the centrepiece projection, having approached various companies and confirming QED provided the best value quote in terms of price and technical and artistic knowledge. Together Light Night Leeds and QED have managed to deliver multiple successful artworks.

## **3.0 Main issues**

- 3.1 In 2018 Light Night Leeds contacted three potential providers for the light projections but only QED supplied a full quote. The two other companies contacted failed to provide a quote due to technical limitations.

## **4.0 Corporate considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and engagement**

- 4.1.1 No external consultation is required.

### **4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration**

- 4.2.1 No equality issues have been identified at this stage.

### **4.3 Council policies and best council plan**

- 4.3.1 This proposal is consistent with the aims contained within the Council's Priority Plan and Business Plan. This delivers Value for Money whilst enabling the City to

host World Class Events and digitally enhancing the offering of the City.

#### **4.4 Resources and value for money**

4.4.1 The services required are very specialist in this field and from the initial contact made with major companies and subsequent lack of take up this approach was deemed to be the more efficient to save on staff time, as opposed to a full procurement exercise. The quote which has been received is very competitive and comes in under the original estimated value for the work. QED also have extensive knowledge of working the Light Night event having delivered the same work for the past two years, and has the high-tech equipment needed to project onto buildings such as the Civic Building and Queens Hotel

#### **4.5 Legal Implications, access to information and call in**

4.5.1 The report does not contain any exempt or confidential information and is not eligible for call in under the Access to Information Rules.

#### **4.6 Risk management.**

4.6.1 The report contains no Risk Management implications

#### **5.0 Conclusion**

5.1 The proposed solution is the option which offers best value for money. The proposed solution will attract further World Class Events to the location whilst increasing the profile of Leeds.

#### **6.0 Recommendations**

6.1 The Chief Officer Culture and Sport is recommended to:

(a) approve the invocation of the following Contract Procedure Rule:

8.1 & 8.2 - to enter into a contract with a value of between £10K and £100K without seeking full competition.

(b) Appoint QED Productions Ltd to undertake the necessary works for the Light Night Leeds event in the city centre to provide three centrepiece projections across the event.

#### **7.0 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

7.1 None.

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

## **Appendices**

**8.0**

8.1 None.