



**Report to Chief Officer Highways and Transportation**

**Date: 19 November 2019**

**Subject: Underwater Maintenance Contract 2020 / 2024 - Approval to Tender**

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Has consultation been carried out?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary**

**1. Main issues**

The current Underwater Maintenance Contract comes to an end on the 3 December 2019 and a replacement contract is required for the Bridges team to continue to carry out this important function.

**2. Best Council Plan Implications** (click [here](#) for the latest version of the Best Council Plan)

Maintenance of bridges and culverts links with the Best Council Plan objectives to improve the resilience of the City's infrastructure particularly bridges adjacent to waterways from potential flood events which may increase due to climate change.

**3. Resource Implications**

Consultation has taken place with the Finance Section who confirm that funding would be available through the Bridges revenue budget.

**Recommendations**

The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is asked to approve the recommendation to tender the Underwater Maintenance Contract 2020/2024 using the evaluation criteria within the contract documents to assess submitted tenders.

## **1. Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 This report sets out the reasons for recommending that the Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) should approve this request to tender the Underwater Maintenance Contract 2020/2024.

## **2. Background information**

- 2.1 The Bridges Section manage the general repair of existing bridges, culverts and other structures spanning various watercourse in Leeds to ensure their structural integrity is maintained. These works are programmed based on the recommendations contained in inspection reports.

## **3. Main issues**

- 3.1 The existing Current Underwater Maintenance Contract expires on 3rd December 2019 and there is no further extension provision.
  - 3.1.1 The Bridges Section have used this and previous contracts for many years and they have proved to be an effective way of repairing and maintaining structures adjacent to watercourses.
- 3.2 The current contract was awarded to four contractors who have successfully carried out maintenance works.
- 3.3 The total value of works carried out to date on this current contract is £344,205 approximately £86,000 per annum. The number of orders issued is 73no. at an average of £4,715, the lowest value order being £781 and the highest value order £20,080
- 3.4 It is proposed that the next contract will also be awarded to up to four contractors who are able to demonstrate they can carry out these vital functions.
- 3.5 Contract period will be 4 years and the contractors will be offered the chance to uplift their rates annually by a maximum of not more than the General Index % increase of the Consumer Price Index over the previous year.

## **4. Corporate considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and engagement**

- 4.1.1 Consultation with key stakeholders was undertaken when this particular procurement route was chosen.

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

- 4.2.1 Due consideration has taken place as part of the Corporate Procurement process and it is currently not applicable for an Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration screening / impact assessment to be undertaken at this time.

### **4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan**

- 4.3.1 The proposed tender of this contract will provide an efficient method of procuring these essential works.

- 4.3.2 Although this contract is primarily to meet the needs of the Highway & Transportation Bridge Section the contract will be available for the other members of the Yorkshire Highway Alliance to use as and when required.

#### Climate Emergency

- 4.3.3 This contract is to maintain Leeds City Councils existing and proposed structural assets, including bridges associated with rivers and watercourses which may be subject to more than normal expected flooding events resulting from possible climate change events in the future.

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

- 4.4.1 The tender of this Contract is an efficient use of Council resources and is judged to be value for money in comparison to issuing tenders or orders for each individual work instruction.

#### **4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in**

- 4.5.1 There are no specific legal implications arising for this report and all activities relating to the award of this contract are being executed in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and the Leeds City Council Corporate Procurement Rules, CPR 9 – Over £100K High Value Procurements.

#### **4.6 Risk management**

- 4.6.1 The existing contract expires on the 3rd December 2019 and if this contract is not tendered there will be risk to continued provision of underwater bridge maintenance taking place without an agreed alternative being in place.

#### **5. Conclusions**

- 5.1 The tender of this contract is an efficient method of providing the Bridges Section with this maintenance resource which is essential to their service.

#### **6. Recommendations**

The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is asked to approve the recommendation to tender the Underwater Maintenance Contract 2020/2024 using the evaluation criteria within the contract documents to assess submitted tenders.

#### **7. Background documents**

- 7.1 None