

Approval to Extend the Bridges Maintenance & Masonry Repairs 2019 – 2021 Contract to 2022

Date: 16 November 2021

Report to: The Chief Officer (Highways & Transportation)

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions

- This report seeks approval from the Chief Officer (Highways & Transportation) to extend the Bridges Maintenance & Masonry Repairs Contract for a further 12 months to 30/11/2022 in accordance with Contract Procedure Rule 21 and utilising Clause 80 incorporated within the Contract.
- The contract extension will start from 1st December 2021 for a one-year period until the 30th November 2022 with the incumbent contractors (Hinko Construction Ltd, Coating Services Ltd, RAM Services Ltd and Route One Infrastructure Ltd) – who have each agreed to the proposed extension.
- This extension would include an Annual Price Change Mechanism, as per the contract, by which the appointed contractors have the opportunity to review their rates and any increase shall not exceed the percentage offered. This is currently calculated at 3.2%.
- The proposed extension will allow the Council to keep using the compliant contractors procured at the first time of tendering under the same terms and conditions. Retendering is not expected to bring any further savings and would incur costs associated with a new tender process.
- The proposed extension therefore serves as an efficient way of procuring these ongoing works, while ensuring the approach is consistent with the aims contained in the Council's Spending Money Wisely Policy.
- This contract exists to carry out general repairs and refurbishment including painting, to existing bridges, bridge parapets, retaining walls, traffic signal mast arms, gantries and other highway structures on a labour, plant and materials basis. Carrying out this type of regular maintenance on our structures helps minimise the risk of further structural failings which could potentially result in a risk to life and potential highway closures due to lengthy extensive repairs.

Recommendations

- a) The Chief Officer (Highways & Transportation) is requested to approve the recommendation to extend the Bridges Maintenance and Masonry Repairs 2019 – 2021 Contract for a further 12 months to 30th November 2022 with Hinko Construction Ltd, Coating Services Ltd, RAM Services Ltd and Route One Infrastructure Ltd. The estimated cost of the 12-month extension for Leeds City Council is approximately £300,000.00.

Why is the proposal being put forward?

1. As part of the Council's statutory duty to maintain the publicly adopted highway, it is essential that necessary maintenance and repairs are carried out to highway structures. The extension of this contract is judged to be value for money and an effective use of council resources, which will allow the Authority to continue carrying out essential maintenance and repair works.
2. The Contract was originally awarded in 2019 for a 2-year period. Under Clause 80, there is an option to extend the contract twice leading to a total contract period of 4 years. This is the first of the 2 possible 12-month extensions.
3. The proposed extension would allow the Authority to continue using the compliant contractors that were procured at the first time of tendering to carry out the essential maintenance and repair works as they are needed. To date, the Contract has proved to be an efficient and cost-effective way of ensuring these essential works are carried out. Extending the Contract would enable this to continue.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 2 The proposals requested in this report have no direct impact on any of the equality characteristics as it is purely an administrative function and therefore it is not applicable to carry out an equality, diversity, cohesion and integration screening at this time.
- 3 During the original tender of this Contract, it was also considered not applicable for an equality, diversity, cohesion and integration screening assessment to be undertaken.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 4 Consultation has taken place with the Bridges team who have confirmed their need for this contract to be able to deliver the service and that they are satisfied with the performance of the incumbent contractors.
- 5 The other West Yorkshire Authorities who use the contract have expressed their desire for the contract to be extended to allow them to carry out essential maintenance to their structures.

What are the resource implications?

- 6 The proposal to extend the Contract is judged to be value for money and is an effective use of Council resources. Re-tendering is not expected to bring any further savings and would incur costs associated with a new tender process.
- 7 The estimated annual contract value is £550,000.00 for the combined authorities.
- 8 Leeds City Council's estimated spend is around £300,000.00 per annum.
- 9 It has been considered and confirmed that appropriate funding provision is available from revenue budgets as and when the service is required.
- 10 If the Contract is not extended, there is no compliant alternative in place and would therefore be unable to carry out the maintenance and repair works that may be required.

What are the legal implications?

- 11 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report. All activities relating to the proposed contract have been executed strictly in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.
- 12 Extending the contract is a direct consequence of the initial authority to procure and should be treated as a significant operational decision, as such it is not eligible for call in.

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

- 13 This contract ensures that the Council has the ability to maintain its structures to a satisfactory standard and also respond to urgent issues to avoid further damage and potential risk to the general public.

Does this proposal support the council's three Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth Health and Wellbeing Climate Emergency

- 14 Continuation of this contract ensures that health and wellbeing is promoted by providing ongoing maintenance which can prevent more serious engineering failures and mitigate the need for lengthy disruptive traffic management. With less requirements for traffic management allowing vehicles to flow freely throughout the city helps keep vehicle emissions to a minimum.
- 15 This contract abides by the Council's Climate Emergency commitment by way of carrying out regular maintenance of existing structures, this helps prolong their life reducing the need for extensive refurbishment work and replacing large sections of existing structures.

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

- 16 The extension of this Contract is an efficient use of Council resources and is judged to be value for money in comparison to preparing quotes for any individual repairs.
- 17 The extension will allow Leeds City Council to keep using the compliant contractors procured at the first time of tendering on the same terms and conditions and retendering is unlikely to result in any additional savings.

How will success be measured?

- 18 Following consultation with the Bridges team, it has been confirmed that the previous 2 years in which this Contract has been active have proved to be successful. The contractors have remained compliant and their merit will continue to be measured on the same basis going forward.

What is the timetable for implementation?

- 19 The contract extension needs to be in place before the contract expires on the 30th November 2021.

Appendices

20 n/a.

Background papers

21 n/a.