

Authority to procure the Mobile Elevated Working Platforms Framework 2024.

Date: 30th April 2024

Report of: Senior Contracts Engineer Procurement

Report to: Chief Officer, Highways & Transportation

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

Brief summary

This report sets out the reasons for recommending that the Chief Officer Highways and Transportation should approve this request to tender the Mobile Elevated Working Platform Framework 2024.

The current Mobile Elevated Working Platforms contract will expire on the 14th of July 2024 with no provisions to extend. A replacement framework is required for the Council to be able to hire mobile elevated working platforms for inspecting bridges and structures at height without the use of scaffold access.

Recommendations

- a) The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is asked to approve the recommendation to tender the Mobile Elevated Working Platform Framework 2024 using the evaluation criteria within the contract documents to assess submitted tenders.

What is this report about?

- 1 The Council being the Highway Authority has a statutory duty to ensure that highway structures are maintained for reasons of public safety under the Highways Act 1980.
- 2 This framework is for the provision of various types of mobile elevated working platforms with or without a supplied operator.
- 3 This framework is necessary to enable staff to carry out “touching distance” inspections of bridges and structures.
- 4 This will be a four-year framework, awarded to all compliant tenderers, there will be no quality or price evaluation, other than to vet the tenderer’s company details and the validity of the suppliers’ rates.
- 5 Tenderers provide a schedule of rates for various plant such as Van Mounted Hoists and Flatbed Mounted Hoists. The Council are then able to call off the framework when they require any of the plant, awarding to the best value supplier using the rates submitted.

- 6 A vehicle recovery item is included within the Schedule of Rates to ensure any immobilised vehicle will be removed from the highway before the end of the working hours attached to any works order.
- 7 Suppliers will be given the opportunity to submit revised rates annually using the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

What impact will this proposal have?

- 8 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.

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

Health and Wellbeing Inclusive Growth Zero Carbon

- 9 Maintenance of bridges and structures links with the Best City Ambition to improve the resilience of the City's infrastructure, particularly bridges which are subject to a statutory inspection regime. Continuing to maintain the highway infrastructure is essential to providing highway users with efficient and safe transport links to drive, walk and cycle on.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected: n/a

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 10 Consultation has taken place with the Bridges Section who have confirmed their need for this framework and the Finance Section who confirmed that funding would be available through the Bridges revenue budget.

What are the resource implications?

- 11 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.
- 12 The estimated value is £160,000 over the 4-year life of the framework.

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

- 13 This Framework will ensure that the Bridges Section will be able to continue to carry out routine or emergency high-level inspections of bridges and structures in an efficient and cost effective way.

What are the legal implications?

- 14 There are no specific legal implications arising for this report and all activities relating to the tendering and award of this contract are being conducted in accordance with the Council's Contracts Procedure Rules 9.1 and 9.2.

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

15 The tender of this contract is an efficient method of providing the Bridges Section with this plant hire resource which is essential to their service.

How will success be measured?

16 The Bridges Section have used this and previous contracts for many years and they have proved to be an effective way of gaining access to bridges and structures, this framework is intended to provide the same outcome.

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

17 The current contract expires on the 14th July 2024, the Highways Procurement team will aim to have the new framework in place to commence on the 15th July 2024 to provide continuity in the service.

Appendices

- n/a

Background papers

- n/a