

Authority to Extend the Highways and Transportation Cost Consultancy Services Contract

Date: September 2024

Report of: Assistant 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 seeks the approval of the Chief Officer, Highways and Transportation to extend the Highways & Transportation Cost Consultancy Services Contract to 16th October 2025.

The current contract expires on the 16th October 2024 and this extension will ensure that the Highways & Transportation section is able to continue to access specialist expertise and resources to ensure that the Council obtains the best value for money when undertaking large schemes; not currently available in-house.

Recommendations

- a) The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is asked to approve the request to extend the Highways & Transportation Cost Consultancy Services Contract to the 16th October 2025.
- b) The extension of the Contract would mean that we retain access to the services of Matthews Constructions Consultants Limited.
- c) The contract extension will commence on the 17th October 2024 to 16th October 2025.
- d) The total estimated value of the contract is £1million per annum.

What is this report about?

- 1 This report seeks the approval of the Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) to extend the Highways & Transportation Cost Consultancy Services Contract for 12 months, the first of 2 x 12 month extensions.
- 2 Matthews Construction Consultants Limited have accepted the extension offer and have elected to increase their people cost hourly rates in accordance with the contract in line with the published Consumer Price Increase (CPI) rate. The provisional CPI for July is 2.2%.
- 3 The contract has so far proven successful with Matthews Construction Consultant Services offering support on large scale schemes such as Dawsons Corner, Woodhouse Gateway and East Leeds Extension.

What impact will this proposal have?

- 4 Extension of the contract will ensure that the Highways and Transportation department is able to continue to access the specialist expertise and resources from Matthews Construction Consultancy Limited to achieve the best value for money when carrying out large schemes.
- 5 The continuation of the contract will contribute to the city and the council's ambitions by providing assistance in delivering the capital programme of the Highway Authority but also in overseeing the delivery of planned infrastructure whilst addressing the key pillars within the Council Plan.
- 6 An Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration screening/impact assessment was undertaken as part of the original approval to tender and no direct impact was found. No further screening documentation has been undertaken or is required at this time.

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

- Health and Wellbeing Inclusive Growth Zero Carbon

- 7 Several City Centre schemes which require cost management aim to improve transport links for walking and cycling. This would make the city more accessible and more affordable, allowing people access to facilities and opportunities within the city. Travelling by foot or cycling can improve physical and mental health. The projects will also improve air quality and reduce CO2 emissions.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected: n/a

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 8 The Council have confirmed their need for this contract to be able to deliver the service.

What are the resource implications?

- 9 The contract extension will ensure that Highways and Transportation continue to have access to the appointed contractors and their expertise.
- 10 The contract will also continue to offer the opportunity to support training and mentoring in-house of our quantity surveyor apprentices.

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

- 11 The contract will provide consultancy expertise in cost management services with the ability to offer agile and reactive working arrangements to support the Council.
- 12 The cost management services associated with this commission will provide an independent assurance and audit role to supplement the Council's governance protocols.

What are the legal implications?

- 13 There are no specific legal implications arising for this report and all activities relating to the extension of this framework are being conducted in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.
- 14 The report and DDN for approval to extend the framework will be published.
- 15 The report does not contain any exempt or confidential information under the Access to Information Rules.

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

- 16 The extension of this framework is an efficient method of procuring the service required and is judged to be value for money in comparison to procuring individual contracts.

How will success be measured?

17 Success will continue to be measured over the life of the framework and how effective the frameworks' ability is to deliver the planned programme of infrastructure schemes.

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

18 The Highways Procurement team will be responsible for the implementation of the extension, working alongside the Procurement and Commercial Services team. The extension will be administered and in place in advance of the 16th October 2024.

Appendices

- None.

Background papers

- None.