

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMMUNITIES and HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD

12 November 2018

Report of the Director of Street Scene, Leisure & Technical Services

Part 1- Public

Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet - Key Decision

1 EXTENSION TO GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

The report brings forward a proposal to extend the Council's current Grounds Maintenance Contract for a further five year period.

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 The current Grounds Maintenance contract is delivered on the Council's behalf by Landscape Services Ltd and was awarded on the 1 January 2015. The contract was awarded for a five year period, with the option of a further five year extension. The initial five year contract period is due to expire on the 31 December 2019.

1.1.2 At a current annual cost of £552,447 (2018/19 nett cost) the contract covers grounds maintenance of the following areas:

- Tonbridge Castle Grounds and Cemetery
- Sports Grounds in Tonbridge
- Amenity Areas, Public Open Spaces and Play Areas across the Borough in the Council's ownership

1.2 Review of Extension

1.2.1 As highlighted above the Contract was initially awarded for a five year period that is due to expire on the 31 December 2019. The Conditions of Contract do, however, allow for the contract to be extended for up to a further five years '*subject to satisfactory performance*'. Any extension would be subject to the same terms and conditions and by agreement of both parties.

1.2.2 The current performance of the contractor has been reviewed and is considered to be satisfactory. It is also felt that the Council currently receives value for money. Taking this into consideration it is proposed that the Contract be extended for the full five year period.

1.2.3 In accordance with Contract Conditions liaison has taken place with the incumbent contractor, Landscape Services Ltd, and subject to Council approval it has agreed to the five year extension.

1.3 Legal Implications

1.3.1 The proposed extension is being progressed in liaison with the Council's Director of Central Services and in accordance with the Conditions of Contract.

1.4 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.4.1 The current annual cost of the Council's Grounds Maintenance Contract is £552,447 (2018/19 nett cost).

1.5 Risk Assessment

1.5.1 Whilst the outcome of any potential re-tender is unknown, given the previous relatively low tender from the existing contractor, there is a risk of increased costs to the Council should the extension not be approved and the contract be subject to an open market tender.

1.6 Equality Impact Assessment

1.6.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

1.7 Policy Considerations

1.7.1 Asset Management and Procurement

1.8 Recommendations

1.8.1 It is **RECOMMENDED TO CABINET** that the Council's current Grounds Maintenance Contract with Landscape Services Ltd be extended for a further five years from the 31 December 2019 in accordance with the Conditions of Contract.

Background papers:

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Nil

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