

OFFICER DECISION RECORD SHEET

Name of decision maker: Assistant Director – Planning, Development & Regeneration

Service Area: Development

Title of Decision: Approval to award 2 contracts including:
Lot 1 – The Strategic Growth Locations Study; and
Lot 2 – The Multi Modal Study

Decision made and reasons:

Decision: The approval to award contract for:
Lot 1 – The Strategic Growth Locations Study to David Locke Associates;
And
Lot 2 – The Multi Modal (transport) Study to Integrated Transport Planning Limited

Reason:

Both requirements were tendered on a collaborative basis with other Hertfordshire authorities including: Hertsmere, St Albans, Three Rivers, Watford and Hertfordshire County Council with Dacorum Borough Council leading on the procurement process.

The procurement process fully complies with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and the Council's own Standing Orders. The Evaluation team comprised of representatives from all the authorities names above

The Authorities prepared a "Memorandum of Understanding" in 2018 setting out their strategic priorities for joint working. This MoU sets out how cooperation between the five LPA's along with Hertfordshire County Council will be managed in respect of strategic planning issues.

The Strategic Growth Locations Study (SGLS) is being commissioned as part of a suite of studies that will assist in informing the statutory plan-making process across South West Hertfordshire.

It is envisaged that sustainable transport will be a key driver of the strategic approach to future development across South West Herts. The Multi Modal Study should therefore work alongside and inform the outcomes of the SGLS

The two studies will need to work iteratively together with their purpose being to develop and then test a series of strategic spatial options to explore the potential for increasing the supply of housing and employment across South West Herts. It will also identify what kinds of benefits, impacts, risks, infrastructure costs and policy implications arise from pursuing each of these options.

Reports considered:

Two procurement reports are attached for Lot1 SGLS and Lot 2 MMS

Officers/Councillors/Ward Councillors/Stakeholders Consulted:

Assistant Director – Planning, Development & Regeneration.

Group Manager, Strategic Planning and Regeneration

Joint Strategic Plan Director

Procurement Officer

Officers from other authorities:

Head of Planning Policy & Projects (Three Rivers DC)

Planning Strategy Manager (Hertsmere BC)

Planning Policy Section Head (Watford BC)

Principal Spatial Planning Officer (St Albans City & DC)

Transport Planning & Data Manager (Hertfordshire CC)

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Financial Comments: This expenditure can be funded from annual £40k contribution from the 6 planning authorities in the partnership.

Monitoring Officer Comments:

Officers should ensure that an appropriate service contract or terms and conditions are agreed and signed prior to commencement of the work.

Deputy S151 Officers Comments:

The DBC element of this contract award is budgeted for and will be funded through the Local Development Fund.

Implications:

Value for Money:

Both tenders were evaluated against criteria headings including Price, Quality and Technical Ability (with particular emphasis on the technical aspects of the work required). This ensures that the Council does not look solely at the lowest priced tender, but takes into account other aspects of the requirement to ensure true value for money.

Financial:

The successful tendered price for each of the lots is based on the total price for all six authorities for the project period.

The projects will be supported by a dedicated budget held by DBC on behalf of the 6 partner Councils and is based on a Planning Delivery Fund award made to DBC on behalf of the partnership in January 2018. Each of the six councils, via an agreed MOU, is committed to further annual contributions into the fund.

Estimated cost allocation over two years:

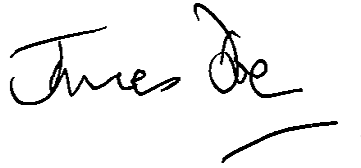
19/20: £250k split £100k multi modal study and £150k SGLS; and
20/21: £100k -SGLS.

Risk:

Both the Strategic Growth Locations Study and the Multi Modal Study are key technical pieces of work that all the named SW Hertfordshire authorities require to prepare their individual local plans.

If this contract is not awarded, there may be a risk that MHCLG, who provided the grant funding, may seek to recover unspent monies. The risk of this is generally low, as the funds granted were for Joint strategic planning between the partners, and the contract awards which are the subject of this ODRS are only a part of this wider project.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James De", with a horizontal line underneath.

Officer Signature:

Date: 14 August 2019