

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Planning and Development (Introduced by the Executive Member for Planning and Development)	Executive Member Decision	June 2021

Contract Award for Carr Brook Natural Flood Management Wetland Construction

Purpose of report

1. This report sets out the procurement process and recommendations to award the contract for the construction of a natural flood management (NFM) wetland at Carr Brook Linear Park, Clayton-le-Woods.

Recommendation(s)

2. To award the contract for the construction of a natural flood management wetland to Conservation Contracts North West (CCNW)

Executive summary of report

3. A procurement exercise has been carried out for the construction of a natural flood management scheme at land off Clover Field, Clayton-le-Woods within Carr Brook Linear Park. Detailed specifications and construction drawings have been tendered for the NFM scheme to future proof the flood plain ensuring that houses which bound the linear park and downstream are mitigated from future threat from flooding while in turn creating new wildlife habitat to increase biodiversity.
4. The funding for this project has been awarded from the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE): Water Environment Grant (WEG). The funding is specifically to address physical modification, pollution from wastewater, pollution from towns and cities and transport, invasive non-native species (INNS), changes to natural flow and level of water in the North West River Basin District. A grant of £92,953.50 was awarded and is 100% funded. The grant is administered through the Environment Agency (EA).
5. It is proposed to award the contract sum of £24,917 to CCNW. This sum is within the budget figure set out in the project plan of £25,500.
6. This report sets out the procurement process which has been followed, together with the evaluation method and scoring, and makes a recommendation to award the contract.
7. Planning permission was granted on the 28th April with various conditions to discharge. A permit has also been granted from the EA to allow the works to take place. The contract is proposed to start in August 2021 after the bird nesting season.

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No
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Key Decision? Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No
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Reasons for recommendation(s)
(If the recommendations are accepted)

8. The recommendations are based on a competitive procurement process. Four companies all with specialist knowledge of wetland creation and environmental works were invited to tender and given one month to quote. Owing to the fixed budget of the proposed works being on the low value threshold of the procurement process, the specialist nature of the works and the works being a 100% externally funded project competitive quotes were obtained.
9. Three tender returns were received by the deadline of the 12th March. These tenders were evaluated by Chorley Council Open Space Strategy Officer and River Ribble Trust Project Manager from the project team. CCNW scored highest on the evaluation. CCNW have carried out numerous projects on behalf of Chorley Council to a very high standard. They have excellent experience of similar types of work. CCNW are a local north west company.

Alternative options considered and rejected

10. On tender evaluation of the price and quality criteria, it was agreed by the evaluation team that CCNW scored highly on quality and cost and therefore, the work could be awarded. The bids which scored below 91 were rejected at this stage, pending the shortlisted bidder providing more detailed information.
11. No alternative options have been considered as the works are agreed and funded through the WEG grant agreement and the works are also critical to the future enhancement of the river corridor.

Corporate priorities

12. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all	✓	A strong local economy	
Clean, safe and healthy homes and communities	✓	An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area	✓

Background

13. An Invitation to Quote (ITQ) document was prepared and issued to selected suppliers specialising in wetland creation and ecological works on the 15 February 2021 for a period of four weeks. 3 responses were received on time and were considered against the evaluation criteria of 80% Cost and 20% Quality.
14. The total cost quoted for the works varied between the region of £25,000 and £38,000.
15. The quality criteria which the tender has been evaluated against are set out in Table 1 and assessed the bidder's approach to the project, programme of works, method statement and previous experience of similar projects.

16. A score of 91% was awarded to the winning quotation submission. A score of 82% was awarded to the 2nd bidder and 65% to the third bidder.
17. The evaluation was carried out by Chorley Council Open Space Strategy Officer and Project Manager from the River Ribble Trust. This provided a range of knowledge backgrounds and skills to make an informed decision.
18. Based on the evaluation it is recommended that the contract is awarded to CCNW. Contract award was delayed while the planning application was determined due to this being critical to the project viability. The start on site is also delayed owing to conditions of the planning permission and avoidance of bird nesting season.
19. The shortlisted contractor has also passed the Suitability Assessment Questionnaire and has successfully provided more detailed information such as Environmental Action plan, risk assessments, method statement, programme of works and insurance prior to Contract Award.

Table 1

Criteria	Total Maximum Potential Score
COST (80%)	80
QUALITY (20%)	
(i) A description of the approach to this contract illustrated in a program of works and the methodology to be employed, including proposals for mitigating identified risks.	10
(ii) Examples of similar work (maximum of 3) demonstrating experience of the type of work, scale of project and work location/ environment. Where relevant indicate the role undertaken with regard to the CDM Regulations.	10
TOTAL SCORE	100

20. It is proposed to award the contract sum of £24,917 to CCNW. The sum will be paid through the WEG process.
21. If this recommendation is approved, the contract would start on site in August 2021 (subject to the call-in period and discharge of planning conditions) and be complete by end of September 2021. During this period the contractor will provide regular reports to the client who will keep Ward Members updated.

Implications of report

22. This project enhances elements of the public open space to reduce the risk of further riverbank erosion, create water storage when the river is in high flows and enhance the biodiversity of the area. The project is 100% match funded so it is critical to follow the governance rules of the grant.

23. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance	✓	Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal	✓	Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area		Policy and Communications	

Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

24. The total budget for this project is £92k funded through grant contributions as detailed above. This is included in the current capital programme.

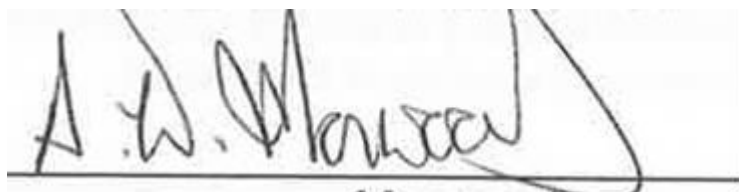
Comments of the Monitoring Officer

25. The procurement exercise undertaken is appropriate to this value of contract. The procedure used complies with Contract Procedure Rules. The award of the contract is in accordance with the Council's best value duty contained in the Local Government Act 1999.

Jonathan Noad
Director of Planning and Development

Report Author	Ext	Date
Lindsey Blackstock	5218	18/05/2021

Following careful consideration and assessment of the contents of this report, I approve the recommendation(s) contained in Paragraph 2 of the report in accordance with my delegated power to make executive decisions.



Dated 2 July 2021

Councillor Alistair Morwood
Executive Member for Planning and Development