

Report of	Record of	Date
Director (Planning and Development) (Introduced by Executive Member (Planning and Development))	Executive Member Decision	9 June 2022

Is this report confidential?	No
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Is this decision key?	No
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Foxcote Play Area Contract Award

Purpose of the Report

1. This report sets out the procurement process and recommendations to award the contract for the refurbishment of the play area at Foxcote, Astley Village.

Recommendations

2. To award the contract of £43,996 for the play enhancements at Foxcote to HAGs.
3. To approve the budget of £44,572 funded entirely from S.106 to be added to the capital programme.

Reasons for recommendations

4. A compliant competitive intermediate value procurement exercise has been followed.
5. The play area and open space enhancement was tendered direct to companies specialising in play equipment installation and groundwork construction. Three tender proposals were submitted on time.
6. These submissions were evaluated carefully against robust criteria by an evaluation team of Open Space Strategy Officer, Streetscene Manager and Play Inspector. HAGs scored the highest points owing to having the ability to deliver all the elements of the project for the budget available. They have a proven track record of examples of similar projects delivered and robust H&S information.

Other options considered and rejected

7. Three compliant bids were received by the deadline in response to the ITQ. Each bid was carefully considered against the evaluation criteria by an evaluation team. The bids which scored below 87 were rejected at this stage, pending the shortlisted bidder providing more detailed information. The bid was found to be compliant with the criteria.

Corporate priorities

8. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

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

Background to the report

9. The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy sets out the Councils plans to invest in local community assets using a mix of section 106, external funding and Council resources. The programme for improvement was based on robust assessments of the quality and value of all assets, identifying those requiring improvements and replacement.
10. Foxcote play area was identified in the action plan and over the past 6 months there has been engagement with ward members, Astley Village Parish Council and the local community to draw up a design for the site.
11. An Invitation to Quote (ITQ) document was prepared and issued on the North West Procurement Chest to selected suppliers in May 2022 for a period of four weeks for a maximum budget of £44,000. 3 responses were received on time and were considered against the evaluation criteria of 100% Quality.
12. Three designs were submitted and evaluated for robustness, equipment selection and value with Streetscene and Open Space Staff. This provided a range of knowledge backgrounds and skills in order to make an informed decision.
13. Based on the evaluation it is recommended that the design and play equipment installation contract is awarded to HAGs. The HAGs design was chosen owing to it using both wood and metal materials in a bound mulch surfacing with leaf design to fit with the natural green setting on the play area. The design went the extra mile to also provide new trim trail equipment and the layout had no hiding places or items that would cause future maintenance issues.
14. The total budget available for the project was £44,572 and a small amount of money has been retained to purchase signage and knee rail to finish off the site once the new play equipment is installed.
15. If this recommendation is approved, the contract to deliver the play area refurbishment will start as soon as possible and is proposed to be complete by the end of September 2022.

Climate change and air quality

16. The work noted in this report impacts on the following areas of climate change and sustainability targets of the Councils Green Agenda: reducing waste production, working with sustainable and green accredited companies, improving green areas and biodiversity.
17. The following remediations have been undertaken to limit the environmental effect: The metal of the old play equipment has been recycled, the old wet pour has been retained on site rather than taken it to landfill and used as an underlay to the new safety surface. Outside the scope of this budget, wildflowers and native shrubs have been planted in the woodland edge to the Foxcote open space by a local resident prompted by the resident engagement that has taken place.

Equality and diversity

18. The Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) and Equality Act implications show a positive impact for Chorley residents with regard to equalities, health, and sustainability.

Risk

19. A pre-construction information pack was issued with the tender specification along with service plans for the site. The design has taken this information into account along with site visits. The H&S information including risk assessments and method statement has been submitted prior to contract award by HAGs. There are limited risks identified.

Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

20. The budget for this scheme will be added to the capital programme for 2022/23 and monitored as part of the Play and Open Space programme.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

21. The proposed contract award is compliant with the council's contract procedure rules, this was an intermediate value procurement. An appropriate tender exercise has been carried out. Formal contract documentation will be entered into in due course.

Background documents

There are no background papers to this report

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Following careful consideration and assessment of the contents of this report, I approve the recommendation(s) contained in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the report in accordance with my delegated power to make executive decisions.



Councillor A Morwood
Executive Member for Planning and Development

Dated 09/06/2022

This decision will come into force and may be implemented five working days after its publication date, subject to being called in in accordance with the Council's Constitution.