

REPORT TO: Executive Board Sub-Committee

DATE: 8th July 2010

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director Environment and Economy

SUBJECT: Street Lighting and Illuminated/Unlit Traffic Signs Term Maintenance Contract

WARDS: Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Executive Board Sub of the recent advertisement of the Street Lighting and Illuminated/Unlit Traffic Signs Term Maintenance Contract.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

The report be noted and the Strategic Director for Environment & Economy in consultation with the Executive Member for Transportation be authorised to accept the tender for the Maintenance of Street Lighting and Illuminated/Unlit Traffic Signs Term Maintenance Contract.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The current Street Lighting Term Maintenance Contract is due to expire on 31st October 2010. The existing contract is for 5 years with an option to extend the contract by up to 5 years with the agreement of both parties. The Authority would support an extension; however the current contractor is unable to agree to an extension for commercial reasons.

3.2 The current value of the new contract will be about £700k pa mainly from revenue budgets. The new contract will therefore have a value of £3.5 million over 5 years. The contract has therefore been advertised following the rules defined in the EU Procurement Regulations.

3.3 The expressions of interest will be evaluated taking into account quality and sustainability issues. Tenders will be invited in early July and evaluated following their return in early August. It is planned to notify the successful tenderer in early September 2010.

3.3 The new contract will commence on Monday 1st November 2010.

3.4 There is a small team within the Highways, Transportation and Logistics Department, which operates and regulates the Contract and is responsible, for example, for issuing repairs, routine maintenance (replacement of lamps every 3 years for columns), electrical testing (all fixed electrical installations require regular testing), structural repairs

(replacement of age expired equipment/damaged equipment), Silver Jubilee Bridge Floodlighting, sign repairs/schemes.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial Implications:

Due to recent increases in material costs (i.e. steel, copper, aluminium, etc.), and new waste regulations, it is anticipated that there will be an increase in contract rates compared with the current contract following evaluation of the tenders. The majority of the work is carried out from Revenue Budgets within the Environment & Economy Directorate, although some rechargeable work is carried out for external organisations (e.g. housing associations and developers). The contract will include the supply and installation of new equipment, where available, to reduce energy consumption (thus reducing CO² emissions) and reducing ongoing maintenance costs, for example, use of LED lanterns.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

The existing contractor's staff will be covered by the TUPE Regulations to protect their employment rights.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

None

6.4 A Safer Halton

The maintenance of the highway electrical equipment assists in providing a safe and attractive neighbourhood.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

Street lighting is a key part of a number of regeneration schemes.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

The absence of a Term Maintenance Contract for the maintenance of Highway Electrical Equipment will have an impact on the Authority's ability to fulfil its statutory duties to maintain a safe environment. A full risk assessment is not required.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None