

Report to:	Cabinet	Date of Meeting:	Thursday 3 December 2015
Subject:	Procurement proposals for Winter Service Bureau and Forecasting Services	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Report of:	Head of Locality Services - Commissioned		
Is this a Key Decision?	Yes	Is it included in the Forward Plan?	Yes
Exempt/Confidential	No		

Purpose/Summary

To seek approval to complete a tender exercise for Winter Service Bureau and Forecasting Services in association with Liverpool City Region Authorities

Recommendation(s)

- i. The procurement of the contract for Winter Service Bureau and Forecasting services be agreed using the tender process referred to in paragraph 2.1
- ii. That the tenders are evaluated using the criteria referred to in paragraph 2.2
- iii. That the Head of Service – Locality Services Commissioned be authorised to award the contract to the highest scoring tenderer.

How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		✓	
2	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
3	Environmental Sustainability	✓		
4	Health and Well-Being	✓		
5	Children and Young People		✓	
6	Creating Safe Communities	✓		
7	Creating Inclusive Communities		✓	
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy	✓		

Reasons for the Recommendation:

The recommendation is made in accordance with the Liverpool City Region Authorities constitutions

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

The contract could be tendered as a ‘Sefton only’ contract which would negate the need to follow OJEU requirements. However, this could increase costs considerably and we would no longer have the resilience of sharing information with the rest of the Liverpool City Region Authorities.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

The service will be funded from the existing Highway Management Revenue budget

(B) Capital Costs

None

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Legal The authority has a statutory duty to provide a winter service and can only adhere to this duty by procurement of this service.		
Human Resources None		
Equality		
1.	No Equality Implication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.	Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact of the Proposals on Service Delivery:

The proposed contract is due to commence immediately following the expiry of the current contract to maintain Service Delivery.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Chief Finance Officer (FD.3908/15) and the Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD.3191/15) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting

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Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 Liverpool City Region Authorities (being Sefton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens and Wirral Councils) provide a winter service which is aided by the provision of weather forecasting and bureau services. The bureau services include the weather stations and computer software on which to view and interpret both the forecast and actual real time weather conditions data. Both are supported by 24 hour consultancy service.
- 1.2 The bureau and forecasting service has traditionally been procured collectively across the Liverpool City region to ensure value for money and minimise costs to each individual authority. There is also the added benefit of being able to share access to each other's forecast and site data which can be valuable in considering prevailing conditions.
- 1.3 The existing contract expires on 14th July 2016 and there are no further opportunities for this to be extended.
- 1.4 Sefton Council has been requested by TAG (Transport Advisory Group) to undertake the procurement exercise for the new contract on behalf of all five authorities.

2.0 Proposed Tender Process

- 2.1 Due to the overall value of the proposed contract, the process will be the subject of OJEU requirements. The tender exercise will follow the OJEU Open Procedure. Approval is requested for Chief Officer delegated authority to award the contract at the end of the tender process.
- 2.2 The tender will be assessed on a price/quality basis. The split will be 85% price and 15% quality.
- 2.3 The current specification will be reviewed and agreed by the 5 Liverpool City Region Authorities prior to the tender being advertised.
- 2.4 The new contract will run for an initial period of three years from 15th July 2016 with the option of two further one year extensions.

2.4 Indicative time line

15 th July 2016	Contract start date
1 st June 2016	Award and seal contract
13 th May 2016	Commence mandatory standstill period
1 st April 2016 - 12 th May 2016	Evaluate bids and moderation
1 st April 2016	Closing date for tenders
29 th February 2016	Publish ITT on the chest and in OJEU
16 th December 2015	Call in expires
3 rd December 2015	Cabinet meeting
16 th October 2015 - 28 th February 2016	Cabinet report, Forward plan. Review specification, T's and C's, Questions, pricing schedule and ITT document

3.0 Financial Implications

- 3.1 The total costs of the forecasting services element of the contract will be shared equally across the 5 Liverpool City Region Authorities. The majority of the bureau services costs will also be shared equally, however, there will be slight differences to this depending on the type and number of weather stations each authority owns.
- 3.2 Sefton's costs will be funded from the existing Highway Management revenue budget.