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ADDITIONAL CIRCULATION



ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

To: Councillor Dean Convener; and Councillors McCaig (Vice-Convener), Adam, Allan, Boulton, Clark, Corall, Cormie, Crockett, Greig, Jaffrey, Milne, Penny, Robertson and Kevin Stewart.

Town House,
ABERDEEN 27 August, 2009

ENTERPRISE, PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

The undernoted items are circulated in connection with the meeting of the **ENTERPRISE, PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE** to be held here in the Town House on **TUESDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2009 at 2.00 pm.**

RODERICK MACBEATH
HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

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Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Allison Swanson, tel. 522822 or email aswanson@aberdeencity.gov.uk

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE:	Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure
DATE:	1 September 2009
LEAD OFFICER:	Gordon Edwards
TITLE:	Sub-Committees and Working Groups

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To review the list of working groups and Sub-Committees within the remit of this Committee, having regard to the revised Committee structure.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

that the Committee -

- (a) consider the list of Working Groups and Sub-Committees in the appendix and determine which of these groups should be wound up;
- (b) for those remaining, agree the proposed renaming of the groups as either Sub-Committees or Working Groups, also detailed at the appendix ;
- (c) for those remaining, make adjustments to membership and composition if required;
- (d) agree that the Convener of the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure shall be the Convener of the Development Management Sub-Committee; and
- (e) approve a request from the Liberal Democrat Group that Councillor John Stewart replace Councillor Cassie on the Strategic Development Planning Authority.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly out of this report.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

The agreed Committee structure will reflect the new Service structure which has been introduced following comments made by the Accounts Commission on the Best Value Audit.

The incoming Director of Corporate Governance will review the management structure and workload implications of these changes. In the event of groups being wound up, Services will require to report to the relevant parent Committee within the new structure.

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COMMITTEE: Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure **DATE** 1 September 2009

CORPORATE DIRECTOR: Gordon McIntosh

TITLE OF REPORT: Communities in Bloom 2009

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Committee of Aberdeen's entry into the international section of the Communities in Bloom 2009, and to request consideration of attendance at the symposium and awards ceremony to be held in Vaughan, Ontario, Canada in September/October 2009.

The estimated cost for attendance at the symposium and awards including travel and accommodation is £2000.00 per person.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 That Committee notes the Communities in Bloom entry 2009 for Aberdeen and Dyce.
- 2.2 That the committee agrees to send a delegation to Ontario, Canada to represent the city at the symposium and award ceremony at an estimated cost of £2000.00 per person.
- 2.3 The delegation should consist of the Lord Provost, or Chair of Aberdeen in Bloom Working Group, and an appropriate officer determined by the Corporate Director, Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of attendance at the Communities in Bloom symposium and Award Ceremony including travel and accommodation is estimated at £2000.00 per person. The expenditure can be accommodated within the existing Britain in Bloom revenue budget.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

Communities in Bloom involves a wide range of people from within the local community. The community comes together with a goal of enhancing their surroundings in creating a better environment. In the case of the Dyce entry it is largely the efforts of the local community, which has driven the success of the project. Local community groups participate in fund raising to enable them to carry out some of their projects

Initiatives such as Communities in Bloom by providing a safe and attractive environment are considered to contribute to the economic viability of cities. Communities in Bloom showcase the towns and cities from Canada and across Europe that participate in the programme as communities of exceptional quality and worthy of visiting.

This report therefore links to the Single Outcome Agreement and Community Plan in terms of National Outcomes 1 “We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.”¹². “We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations”¹⁴ and “We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production”. It also links specifically to the Council’s policy statement, Vibrant Dynamic & Forward Thinking, as follows:

4.2 Continue support for “Aberdeen in Bloom”

4.3 Promote the city as a tourist destination.

Implementation

Housing and Environment staff , and relevant members of the Aberdeen in Bloom Group will undertake implementation of the judging programme for the Communities in Bloom.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

No risk management issues have been identified through non-attendance at the event. However, attendance will increase Aberdeen’s international profile.

Communities in Bloom objectives help to improve the visual and physical quality of the local environment. The air travel from this trip will produce carbon dioxide

6. REPORT

Communities in Bloom has evolved as an international challenge section of Canada and America in Bloom. Aberdeen and Dyce entered the competition for the first time in 2003 and were both successful in their categories. In 2007 Aberdeen won the criteria award for Floral Displays.

To date the judges have been from America, Canada, Britain and Belgium and have therefore brought a welcome international perspective to their visit and judging. In 2008 the judges were a team from Canada and the United Kingdom.

Judging is undertaken within 8 set criteria ranging from floral displays through to community involvement and environmental awareness. Comprehensive judging notes are provided by the judges and this has provided valuable information on how we might improve in future years. The information is also a valuable source of benchmarking and performance measurement in terms of the quality we are able to provide in comparison to other localities.

During the tour the judges endeavour to meet as many members of the community as practical who contribute to the ongoing Aberdeen in Bloom effort, as they are particularly interested in voluntary participation in all sections of the competition. As well as the natural environment and landscape features the judges are also taken to a range of heritage buildings such as galleries and museums including a tour of the Town House to better understand the long history of Aberdeen.

Attendance at the awards ceremony has also produced valuable contacts and insights into the broader aspects of the competition and how Aberdeen need to be presented if it is to compete as an international city. In 2005 Councillor Clark was asked to provide a letter of support to a Canadian community trying to persuade their local politicians to support Communities in Bloom, therefore an advocacy role is also beginning to develop.

The 2008 Communities in Bloom award ceremony was hosted by Lethbridge, Alberta between 17 – 20 September 2008 and as an entrant we have been invited to attend this year. The ceremonies are composed of an event showcasing all entrants, tours and activities; the event program is linked to an international symposium on parks and greenspace management. The previous speakers at this event have been experts in their field and have provided an insight into the thoughts on parks and greenspace from around the world.

Communities in Bloom have indicated that if delegates from Aberdeen were to attend the symposium this year then they would request that one of the delegates give a 40 minute presentation on the success of the Floral Displays and Gardens of Aberdeen.

One of the key benefits of attending the Communities in Bloom event is the opportunity to learn from the ideas and experiences of a wide range of

communities across North America and Europe. Canadian communities for example are still ahead of the United Kingdom in the effective engagement of local communities in volunteer effort and civic pride. The insight we have gained has been incorporated into our own redirected Aberdeen in Bloom Campaign to engage a broader range of local communities and this is beginning to deliver results in Peterculter, Ruthrieston, Bucksburn and Torry, amongst others.

There will also be opportunity for the Lord Provost or his representative to meet with the Mayor of Vaughan and other business representatives. This may add to the building of business relations in this region of Canada.

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

(i) Aberdeen City Community Plan Update – 2008 And Single Outcome Agreement 2008-2011

(ii) Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement: Vibrant, Dynamic and Forward Looking

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: ENTERPRISE, PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE

DATE: 1 September 2009

CORPORATE DIRECTOR: GORDON McINTOSH

TITLE OF REPORT: Traffic Signal Maintenance Contract 2009-2014 - Contract Award

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report advises the Committee of the outcome of the recent tender exercise for the maintenance of the Intelligent Transport traffic signal infrastructure within Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that Committee approves the award of the traffic signal maintenance contract for the period from 1st October 2009 to 30th September 2012 (with the option for the Councils to extend for a further two years until 30th September 2014) to Siemens Traffic Controls. The contract award is to include the core items contained in Table 1 and the optional items contained in Table 2 of this report. The optional item covering electronic information signs for Aberdeenshire, Table 7 (schedule 7c) of the tender document, is not to be taken up at this time.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The current revenue budget allocation for the traffic signal maintenance contract is £332,000. Current expenditure for the 6 months to September is £165,915.27, with the costs associated with the preferred tender for the remaining 6 months being £134,183.06, giving a total annual spend of £300,098.33. However the remaining budget allocation will be required for future maintenance of the bus lane enforcement cameras in the current financial year. No additional provision will be required in this years budget allocation should the committee approve the acceptance of the Tender submitted by Siemens Traffic Controls as the tendered sum is within the allocated budget. However the contract allows for future index-linked price increases in line with inflation and additional provisions within the revenue budget may be necessary in future years.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

This report is in accordance with the Council's key aims to improve accessibility, social inclusion and promote sustainable transport.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other implications

6. REPORT

6.1 Background

The provision of traffic signal maintenance services for Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray Councils is procured and managed by Aberdeen City for all three authorities.

The current traffic signal maintenance contract was to expire at the end of May 2009. However, due to delays in the tendering process and new procedures for the preparation and finalisation of the contract document the current maintenance contract was extended up to the end of September 2009. The contract to supply traffic signal maintenance services is generally re-tendered every 5 years to ensure the Council continues to receive best value for money.

The new contract is anticipated to come into effect on the 1st October 2009 subject to approval by Committee and will be for a duration of three years with an option for the Councils to extend for a further two years.

6.2 Tendering Process

To comply with EU law and the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 it has been necessary to advertise the contract in the European Journal so that interested parties from within the EU would have the opportunity to express an interest in the tender. Of those companies that expressed an interest only three specialist contractors returned completed pre-tender questionnaires. These were duly assessed and were deemed to comply with the requirements set out in the assessment document. The returned questionnaires were submitted by the three main suppliers of traffic signal equipment/services in the UK; PEEK Traffic, Siemens Traffic Controls and Telent (Roads) Ltd.

The tender documentation for the provision of maintenance services for the traffic signal infrastructure in Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray was issued on the 15th June 2009 to the three contractors. Of the tender documents issued two completed tenders were returned on 28 July 2009 by PEEK Traffic and Siemens Traffic Controls.

The tender submissions were assessed in terms of quality and price. Satisfactory quality proposals were submitted by both tenderers and the outcome of the quality evaluation showed both to be experienced and competent contractors. The quality submissions evaluation placed Siemens in first place with a score of 86.5 and Peek attaining 75.

The financial element of the contract consists of four core elements for the maintenance of traffic signal equipment in Aberdeen, with optional elements covering ancillary items related to the traffic signals in Aberdeen, the signal equipment installations in Aberdeenshire and Moray and Aberdeenshire's electronic information signs.

During the financial appraisal it was necessary to seek clarification from both tenderers on elements of their tender submissions and satisfactory responses were received from both parties.

The four core items within the tender were evaluated both collectively and individually with the optional items within tables 5 to 8 evaluated on their individual merits. Of the optional items priced the costs associated with the electronic signs Table 7 (Schedule7) for Aberdeenshire was not considered to represent best value and with the agreement of representatives from Aberdeenshire Council this element is not to be taken up. It is felt that for this item a more competitive tender could be procured from local general electrical contractors who would be in a position to maintain the less complicated electronic signs within Aberdeenshire.

It should be noted that the maintenance of the bus lane enforcement cameras has not been included within the current contract. However it is anticipated that the maintenance of the bus lane enforcement cameras will be tendered separately following the decriminalisation of the bus lanes. It is anticipated that the maintenance of the bus lane enforcement cameras will be funded in future years from the generated income. An option to maintain the Council's variable message car park guidance system was included within the tender as the original signs are now out of warranty.

As part of the tender evaluation the rates for the current contract were compared with the tender submissions. The tender rates are noted to be competitive showing a reduction across the core items against those of the existing contract.

The table below provides details of the tender submissions and together with the adjusted totals following clarification by the tenderers.

Table 1.

Core Items	Peek Tender submission	Peek Corrected Submission	Siemens Tender Submission	Siemens Corrected Submission
Traffic Signal Equipment	£101,246.99	£101,246.99	£97,760.52	£97,761.17
Optical Maintenance	£111,292.93	£111,303.01	£42,240.25	£42,242.99
Below Ground Detection	£7,026.38	£7,410.81	£78,874.63	£78,875.10
Automatic Traffic Count Equipment	£11,533.08	£11,553.08	£9,695.96	£9,696.06
Core Items Sub-Total	£231,099.38	£231,513.89	£228,571.36	£228,575.32

Table 2.

Optional Items	Peek Tender submission	Peek Corrected Submission	Siemens Tender Submission	Siemens Corrected Submission
Aberdeen City option – Urban Traffic Control system support	£19,941.18	£19,941.18	£9,273.18	£9,273.18
Aberdeen City option – RMS system	£7,294.12	£7,294.12	£4,590.82	£4,590.82

support				
Aberdeen City option – Fault management support	£6,294.12	£6,294.12	£3,740.82	£3,740.82
Aberdeen City option – Variable message signs	£1,779.12	£1,779.12	£5,753.76	£5,753.76
Aberdeen City Optional Items Sub-Total	£35,308.54	£35,308.54	£23,358.58	£23,358.58
Total (Core Items + All Options)	£284,219.36	£284,633.87	£268,358.58	£268,366.12
Aberdeenshire Council option	£14,293.00	£14,293.00	£13,031.36	£13,031.30
Moray Council option	£3,518.44	£3,518.44	£3,397.28	£3,400.92

The outcome of the financial appraisal has shown Siemens Traffic Controls to have tendered the lowest quote for maintaining the core elements and the optional items that are to be taken up.

Following this assessment the combination of price and quality calculation was carried out confirming that the winning tender to be that submitted by Siemens Traffic Controls. Committee is therefore asked to approve the award of the traffic signal maintenance contract to Siemens Traffic Controls.

7. AUTHORISED SIGNATURE

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9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None