

Finance and Resources Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 20 June 2023

Award of Contract for London Road Capital Improvement Project

Executive/routine Wards Council Commitments	Routine All
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1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Finance and Resources Committee:
 - 1.1.1 Approves the award of the London Road Capital Improvement Project to Hillhouse Quarry Group Ltd, T/A MacAsphalt; and
 - 1.1.2 Notes that the value of the contract award is £2,009,306.07 with works programmed to commence on 10 July 2023.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

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Award of Contract for London Road Capital Improvement Project

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report seeks approval for contract award to Hillhouse Quarry Group Ltd, T/A MacAsphalt, for the on-site construction of all elements associated with the London Road Capital Improvement Project. The contract will be awarded through the Council's existing Roads and Infrastructure Construction Framework (CT2811). The contract value is £2,009,306.07 and the works are programmed to commence on 10 July 2023 and will last approximately six months.
- 2.2 This scheme was selected for investment using our existing prioritisation procedures for carriageway and footway investment.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council currently has a framework in place to appoint suitably experienced and qualified contractors to deliver the Transport Infrastructure Capital Investment Programme.
- 3.2 The majority of projects within the capital renewal programme fall below an award value of £2m, however, the scope of the works for the London Road project incorporates numerous improvements to the streetscape which will, in turn, introduce significant active travel and road safety improvements, in particular, for those walking, wheeling and cycling.
- 3.3 In addition to resurfacing the London Road carriageway between Easter Road and Meadowbank Terrace, the design incorporates upgrades to the three traffic signal controlled junctions on the route (London Road/Montrose Terrace, London Road/Abbey Lane and London Road/Marionville Road). The Montrose Terrace and Marionville Road junctions will now include all stop pedestrian stages (with full facilities for visually impaired and disabled pedestrians) and new kerb lines, which will significantly reduce the time it takes pedestrians to negotiate each junction. Cycle Early Starts will also be incorporated at the junctions where appropriate.

- 3.4 The design also incorporates a new controlled puffin crossing adjacent to the McDonald's restaurant on London Road and the existing controlled crossing adjacent to Cambusnethan Street is also proposed for upgrade.
- 3.5 Various other improvements to cycling infrastructure are proposed, such as the introduction of a new segregated cycle lane along the London Road westbound carriageway (between the junctions of Wishaw Terrace and Marionville Road). This is coupled with a new section of segregated cycle lane along the length of Wishaw Terrace. The Wishaw Terrace cycle lane will tie into the new puffin crossing outside McDonald's, providing a safe cycling route for those coming from Lochend Park and wishing to cross London Road, aiding safer onward travel to Holyrood Park. Advanced Cycle Boxes and Advisory Cycle Lanes will also be incorporated at all signal controlled junctions and crossings.
- 3.6 By incorporating the recommendations within the Edinburgh Street Design Guidance (ESDG), the new street layout and junction upgrades will contribute to achieving the measures set out within the Council's 2030 Transport Vision and City Mobility Plan. Furthermore, the additional elements within the project are in line with the Council's commitments to creating greater and safer pedestrian spaces, in conjunction with enhanced Active Travel infrastructure.
- 3.7 Increasing the scope of this project from a standard road renewal scheme to an innovative ESDG compliant design has resulted in the project costs exceeding the £2m contract award threshold for works contracts under Delegated Authority as per Council Contract Standing Orders (CSOs), therefore, requiring this Committee's approval to proceed with the award of this contract.
- 3.8 All costs for this project will be funded from the approved Transport Infrastructure Capital Investment Programme.

4. Main report

- 4.1 A tender exercise was undertaken in May 2023, advertised via the Public Contracts Scotland (PCS) portal, using Lot 1 of the Council's Roads and Infrastructure Construction Framework 2022-2026 (CT2811) to procure a suitable contractor to undertake the London Road capital improvement project.
 - 4.2 Six Framework suppliers were invited to tender for the works, with two tender returns received. Feedback from suppliers advised over-stretched / committed resources in relation to timing of the works, precluded ability to tender.
- 4.3 Contract award was on the basis of Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) with the supplier's Framework quality scores considered as part of the assessment.
- 4.4 In line with Council Contract Standing Orders (CSOs) as the value of this award exceeds the £2m Delegated Authority threshold, Committee approval is sought to

award the works to Hillhouse Quarry Group Ltd at a contract value of £2,009,306.07.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 Subject to approval of the recommendations in this report the contract for the London Road Capital Improvement Project will be awarded to Hillhouse Quarry Group Ltd.
- 5.2 The work will commence on 10 July 2023 with the work duration estimated at approximately six months.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The value of this contract award is £2,009,306.07.
- 6.2 All costs for this project will be funded from the approved Transport Capital Investment Programme.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 Extensive Stakeholder/Community engagement has been conducted to date in relation to this project. This included Wards 12 and 14 Councillors, Old Town, Leith Central and Craigentenny/Meadowbank Community Councils, Active Travel colleagues, Living Streets, Abbeyhill Primary School, Public Transport providers, Police Scotland and Edinburgh Trams.
- 7.2 Stakeholder engagement will continue throughout the construction phase of the project.
- 7.3 The active travel elements of this project have been agreed following consultation with stakeholders including our in-house Active Travel team, Living Streets and Spokes.
- 7.4 The existing commitment to community benefits will be continued by Hillhouse Quarry Group Ltd. This may include work placements, training and support for return to employment, college visits to the project, participation in the Council's Meet the Buyer events and talks/training to Council staff on legislation and other commercial matters to enhance knowledge transfer.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 None.

9. Appendices

9.1 None.