

Report to Cabinet

9 February 2022

Subject:	Award of Contracts for Horticultural Products and Tools
Cabinet Member:	Cabinet Member for Culture and Tourism – Councillor Danny Millard
Director:	Director of Borough Economy Alice Davey
Key Decision:	Yes ‘incurring expenditure which exceeds that included in any approved revenue or capital budget’
Contact Officers:	Matthew Huggins Interim Service Manager – Parks & Grounds Maintenance Matthew_huggins@sandwell.gov.uk Tim Pitt Operations Manager – Grounds & Estate Maintenance tim_pitt@sandwell.gov.uk

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That the Director of Borough Economy be authorised to award contracts for the provision of Horticultural Products and Tools to the following organisations, at a cost of £475,000 from the period April 2022 to March 2026:



Lot No.	Description	Organisation
Lot 1	Aggregates & Turf	Green-Tech
Lot 2	Feeds, Seeds and Chemicals	Pitchmark
Lot 3a	Herbicides	Nomix
Lot 3b	Herbicides - Premixed	Nomix
Lot 4	Spraying Equipment	Tudor Environmental
Lot 5	Tools & Equipment	Corroy

1.2 That in connection with 1.1 above, the Director – Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to enter into appropriate contracts with these organisations.

2.0 Reasons for Recommendations

2.1 This report seeks approval to award contracts for the provision of Horticultural Products and Equipment to the highest scoring tender organisations outlined in 1.1.

3.0 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	<p>Quality homes in thriving neighbourhoods</p> <p>To support in making Sandwell a better place to live, work, learn and spend leisure time in. The products and equipment contained within these contracts will be used to maintain the various green spaces and communal areas across the Borough including Housing Estates, Parks and Open Spaces, Highways Verges, Sports Pitches, Cemeteries and Crematoria, and Sandwell Valley.</p>
	<p>A strong and inclusive economy</p> <p>The contracts adhere to the council's social value benefits providing opportunities to meet the council's key criteria requirements by providing value for money in terms of generating benefits to society and the economy e.g. employment and skills, health and wellbeing, whilst minimising the impact to the environment.</p>



4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 Sandwell MBC have a responsibility to maintain a broad range of green spaces and communal areas across the Borough, including Parks and Sandwell Valley, Cemeteries/Crematoria, Housing Estates, Industrial Estates, Corporate and Highways Land, etc.
- 4.2 Maintenance of these areas requires the use of products, materials, tools and equipment – some of which are of a specialist nature.
- 4.3 The total expenditure over the four-year life of these Contracts is estimated to be £475,000.
- 4.4 The Contracts were procured in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 following an EU compliant open tender process. Contractors were invited to submit tenders on an 80% price and 20% quality basis.
- 4.5 A specification for a range of ‘Horticultural Products and Tools’ was developed, generated from the needs identified by a number of Council Service areas.
- 4.6 Suppliers were asked to identify and tender for one or more of the available ‘lots’:

Lot No.	Description
Lot 1	Aggregates & Turf
Lot 2	Feeds, Seeds and Chemicals
Lot 3a	Herbicides
Lot 3b	Herbicides - Premixed
Lot 4	Spraying Equipment
Lot 5	Tools & Equipment

- 4.7 In response to the tender advertisement, Eight (8) tender submissions were returned by the deadline of 3rd June 2021.
- 4.8 Tender submissions were scored in accordance with the stated evaluation criteria by officers from the Council’s Corporate Procurement Service, Grounds & Estate Maintenance and Bereavement Services.



- 4.9 The highest scoring tenders for each 'lot' are to be awarded the contract.
- 4.10 Social Value considerations formed part of the evaluation criteria and the commitments made will be monitored during the lifetime of contracts.

5 Alternative Options

- 5.1 Do nothing. The current contracts for Horticultural Products and Tools have lapsed, therefore in order to meet the Procurement Rules, the Council would need to go out for quotation/tender for individual items as and when they are required. This would result in numerous mini procurement exercises being carried out, which would be inefficient, likely to lead to breaches of the procurement procedures and is unlikely to be financially beneficial to the Council.

6 Implications

Resources:	<p>Financial, staffing, land/building implications</p> <p>There are no direct strategic resource implications arising from this report.</p> <p>Purchases are likely to be made from a range of budgets/cost centres, across various service areas where horticultural products, tools and equipment are required.</p>
Legal and Governance:	<p>Legal implications including regulations/law under which proposals are required/permitted and constitutional provisions</p> <p>The procurement exercise has been concluded in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.</p>
Risk:	<p>Risk implications, including any mitigating measures planned/taken, health and safety, insurance implications</p> <p>There are no direct risk implications.</p>



Equality:	<p>Implications for equality (all aspects and characteristics) including how meeting Equality Duty, equality impact assessments</p> <p>There are no equality implications</p>
Health and Wellbeing:	<p>Implications of the proposals on health and wellbeing of our communities</p> <p>There are no health and wellbeing implications.</p>
Social Value	<p>Implications for social value and how the proposals are meeting this (for e.g. employment of local traders, young people)</p> <p>The Contracts will adhere to the Councils social value policy by providing opportunities to meet the Councils key criteria requirements to by providing value for money in terms of generating benefits to society and the economy e.g. employment and skills, health and wellbeing, whilst minimising the impact to the environment.</p>

7. Background Papers

None

