

REPORT TO: CABINET

DATE: 14 OCTOBER 2021

TITLE: SPLASH PARK CONTRACT AWARD

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: COUNCILLOR RUSELL PERRIN, PORTFOLIO
HOLDER FOR FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

LEAD OFFICER: SIMON FREEMAN, DEPUTY TO THE CHIEF
EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
(01279) 446228

CONTRIBUTING OFFICERS: DEAN JAMES, OPERATIONS MANAGER
(01279) 446687

BOB PURTON, HOUSING OPERATIONS
MANAGER (PROPERTY) (01279) 446995

This is a Key Decision
It is on the Forward Plan as Decision Number I012905
Call-in Procedures may apply
This decision will affect Staple Tye Ward.

RECOMMENDED that:

- A** The most advantageous tenders in consideration of price and quality combined, for both options as submitted by Contractor B, is accepted in the sum of £490,580.99 (Option 2) for the delivery of splash park/paddling pool conversion with retained paddling pool element, subject to contract and planning permission being granted.

REASON FOR DECISION

- A** To enable the Council to enter into a contract for these works in compliance with Contract Standing Orders for the delivery of a new splash park/paddling pool facility at Staple Tye.

BACKGROUND

1. On 18 February 2020 the final report from the review of the five paddling pools and one splash park in Harlow was presented to the Scrutiny Committee. It was recommended to Cabinet that a pilot scheme at Staple Tye to introduce toilet and changing facilities, along with a splash park facility alongside the paddling pool.

2. A budget illustration was presented to Scrutiny Committee when making their decision and this included for the Splash Park provision at a cost of £203,000 (against a set aside sum of £750,000).
3. The original set aside sum for the health and safety works to paddling pools and the splash park pilot was £750,000, however the reserve has risen in value due to receipts from Ram Gorse development to £1.5 million. The paddling pool health and safety works were delivered for £333,000 meaning there are enough funds to deliver the splash park, plus cost of toilet and changing block within the reserves.
4. The project brief for contractors to tender against focussed on the need to present to the Council two options; a standalone splash park facility alongside the paddling pool (Option 1) and paddling pool conversion to splash park retaining a paddling pool element (Option 2). This is in line with the feedback provided by the initial public consultations.

ISSUES/PROPOSALS

5. The works have been subject to a competitive tender process, in line with the Council's procurement procedures. The selected form of contract is JCT Intermediate Form of Contract with Contractor's Design 2016 (ICD16). In view of the works will be consumable by members of the public on an annual basis, tenders were evaluated against a 60 percent quality and 40 percent price evaluation model.
6. Four suitably qualified contractors were invited to submit tenders, each of which were selected from a framework created by Braintree District Council (Playground, Gym and Urban Play Equipment PROC20-0107) for the design and build of splash parks. Three compliant tenders were received by the deadline.
7. Bids were evaluated against a pre-determined evaluation model. Quality evaluations were assessed and concluded by a panel of three, prior to the release of any pricing information.
8. A detailed tender analysis has been undertaken. As part of this process several qualifications, clarifications; and where appropriate, amendments were sought from tendering contractors.
9. The final prices, scores and rankings are shown below:

Option 1 – Standalone Splash Park

Contractor	Quality Ranking	Total Price £'s	Overall Ranking
Contractor A	3	308,275.00	3
Contractor B	1	498,255.97	1
Contractor C	2	499,614.45	2

Contractor D	No Bid		
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Option 2 – Paddling Pool conversion to Splash Park with retained paddling pool element

Contractor	Quality Ranking	Total Price £'s	Overall Ranking
Contractor A	3	289,031.00	3
Contractor B	1	490,580.99	1
Contractor C	2	499,918.26	2
Contractor D	No Bid		

10. Contractor B has submitted the most economically advantageous bid, when taking into consideration price and quality elements in line with the pre-defined scoring mechanism of the tender. The conclusion of the tender analysis is that this bid provides good value for money and demonstrates that the contractor should be capable of delivering the works to the standard required by the Council. It should be further noted that Contractor A failed to meet the quality score threshold of the tender evaluation and was disqualified.
11. In addition, whilst Option 2 is more financially viable than Option 1 by just under £8,000, additional revenue required in order to maintain the paddling and a standalone splash park far exceed the minor differences in costs between the two options. Therefore, Officers recommend that a contract is awarded for Option 2. Designs for Option 2 are set out in Appendix A to the report.
12. The Council should seek to award the contract as stated above and a Bid Acceptance form is sent to the preferred contractor.
13. It has been determined that a lead-in period of at least 12 weeks is necessary in order for designs to be finalised before the contractor can commence works on mobilising their supply chain ready for construction. It is anticipated that works will commence on site in February 2022.
14. The successful Contractor will be required to provide a Performance Bond equal to 10 percent of the contract sum.

IMPLICATIONS

Environment and Planning (Includes Sustainability)

It is likely that there will be a requirement to secure planning permission for the development and it is recommended that a pre-application discussion is held with Planning officers as soon as possible to facilitate the submission and determination of an application.

Author: Andrew Bramidge, Director of Strategic Growth and Regeneration

Finance (Includes ICT, and Property and Facilities)

As set out in the report.

Author: Simon Freeman, Deputy to the Chief Executive and Director of Finance

Housing

As contained in the report.

Author: Andrew Murray, Director of Housing

Community Wellbeing

None specific.

Author: Jane Greer, Director of Communities and Environment

Governance (Includes HR)

Contract is being let in accordance with the Council's Procurement practices.

Author: Simon Hill, Director of Governance and Corporate Support

Appendices

Appendix A – Contractor B designs for Option 2 Staple Tye Splash Park

Background Papers

None.

Glossary of terms/abbreviations used

None.