



DECISION OF DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

DECISION NO. 16/17 DE 178

SUBJECT: Traffic Data Collection Collaborative Call-Off Contract

Background:

Highway authorities undertake a variety of manual and automated surveys to collect data on traffic types, flow rates, routes, etc. to assist with understanding highway usage. Collaboration between south west highways authorities, facilitated by the South West Transport Data Group and supported by South West Highways Alliance has led to the development of proposals for joint use of a framework contract for transport data collection.

Under the proposals, Devon County Council is to procure a multi-contractor traffic data collection framework contract for a period of two years with the option of two, one year extensions.

Participating highway authorities in the south west region are invited to use the contract on a collaborative basis with the opportunity of sharing best practice whilst benefiting from increased purchasing power.

DECISION:

To delegate authority to officers to enter into and sign agreement to participate in the collaborative framework contract for traffic data surveys.

Reasons:

Whilst the majority of the council's transport surveys are currently undertaken in-house, the contract would provide resilience to a service that is often stretched by the demands of developing major transport schemes.

Access to the collaborative framework presents opportunities to reduce costs and provides a platform with which to assess and share contractor performance for evaluation purposes.

The tender process and contract terms have been approved by NSC procurement officers.

Other Alternatives Considered:

Joint working within WoE has been considered but there is currently a lack resource across the region to respond to additional work.

Risk Assessment:

This is a call-off contract with no obligation to purchase and no restrictions to use alternative contractors outside of the agreement.

Financial Implications:

Use of the contract offers the opportunity to make savings on outsourced traffic data surveys.


Annual spend on traffic surveys can be variable and are largely driven by demands for major scheme development, e.g. Weston town centre regeneration, Portishead railway. Costs are invoiced to the corresponding capital budgets.

Whilst we currently do not anticipate heavy use of the contract, the increasing pressure on staffing is making the possibility of contracting out increasingly likely. As a guide we have spent approximately £5k this year (revenue budget DTA010) on services within the scope of proposed contract and the traffic surveys team has carried out works internally of an estimated commercial value exceeding £25K. On that basis we would expect that during the first year the value of works put through this contract is unlikely to exceed £25k.

There is no obligation to purchase any services through the contract and it does not restrict the use of alternative suppliers.

Implications for Future Years:

The framework contract is for a period of two years with the option of two, one year extensions.

Signed.....  Director of Development and Environment

Dated..... 