

TO: EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
18TH APRIL 2018

**BERKSHIRE INTELLIGENT TRANSPORT SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT
PROCUREMENT PLAN**

Director of Environment, Culture and Communities

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To approve the plan for a joint Berkshire procurement of an Intelligent Transport Systems maintenance contract.

2 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 That the BFC procurement plan is approved.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 The existing Berkshire-wide traffic signal maintenance contract (let over 10 years ago by Reading Borough Council) has been extended but must now be re-procured and modernised to meet current needs.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None. Failure to award a replacement contract, would result in the traffic signal infrastructure not being maintained, furthermore urgent signal outages etc., would not be attended in line with tight performance indicators putting road users at increased risk.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 Current ITS infrastructure within Berkshire is reliant on reliable telecoms systems, traffic signals equipment, cctv systems, real-time passenger information systems and variable message signs. Development growth in recent years is increasing the level of investment in ITS infrastructure which is necessary to manage the increased demand placed upon road networks. The existing Berkshire-wide traffic signal maintenance contract (let over 10 years ago by Reading Borough Council) has been extended but must now be re-procured and modernised.

This contract is currently with Siemens and has been in place since 2006. The contract is administered by Reading Borough Council and has been subject to number of short term contract extensions. Some areas of the existing contract quality have varied over the contract duration due to increasing running costs and an undervalued service on initial setup. In addition a significant increase in both the number of signal installations throughout Berkshire and the addition of more varied ITS equipment, with its inherent complexity, have exacerbated this issue.

Clearly procurement of a new contract is overdue and the Berkshire Authorities have agreed that a joint arrangement would be advantageous to all parties involved. However it is necessary to broaden the scope and specification of the contract to meeting the current and increasing needs and to ensure improved service levels.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The Borough Solicitor's advice and comments have been incorporated in the procurement plan.

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The Borough Treasurer's advice and comments have been incorporated in the procurement plan

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 An Initial Equalities Screening Record Form has been completed and is attached. The screening has determined that a full Equality Impact Assessment is not required.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 A project team will regularly review the project plan and discuss progress/ issues, in order to identify and mitigate against emerging project risks.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 Council Officers, including the Head of Procurement, Borough Solicitor and the Borough Treasurer were consulted in the drafting of this plan plus the Service Efficiency Group.

Background Papers

None

Contact for further information

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NB: This procurement started under CSO prior to 28th February 2018 and the internal decision process will follow the old rules to completion so the procurement plan will be approved by Executive Member and the aware will be approved by the Executive.