

TO EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME CONTRACTS COMMITTEE
DATE: 29 July 2014

**GARTH HILL COLLEGE EXPANSION
AWARD OF CONTRACT
Director Children, Young People & Learning**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval to award the contract for construction works for the expansion of Garth Hill College under the Education Capital Programme previously approved by the Executive.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the contract for the construction works for the expansion of Garth Hill College be awarded to Tenderer A as set out in paragraph 23 of the Restricted Appendix A.**

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The value of this contract requires Executive approval under the Council's Contract Standing Orders.
- 3.1 The recommended tender is affordable within the budget previously approved by the Executive.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 If Garth Hill College were not expanded then North Bracknell secondary pupils would need to be transported to schools in other parts of the Borough.
- 4.2 Expansion of Garth Hill College will provide additional secondary school places for North Bracknell to address the forecast deficit until the new school at Blue Mountain is built.

5. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

- 5.1 The expansion of Garth Hill College forms part of the Education Capital Programme which was approved by the Executive in October 2013. It is also included in the School Capacity Strategy approved by the Executive in December 2013. The expansion will create 350 new school places at Garth Hill College, increasing the capacity from 1,620 to 1,970 and increasing the Published Admission Number from 270 to 312.
- 5.2 In May 2014 the Executive agreed that Contract Standing Orders be waived to enable an executive committee, to be appointed by the Leader, to take the decision in relation to the award of contract for this project.

Post 16 Centre

- 5.3 The expansion of Garth Hill College will be achieved by constructing a new stand alone Post 16 Centre in the north of the staff car park. The former Post 16 spaces and teaching spaces previously timetabled for Post 16 in the existing main building will then be freed up for expansion of Key Stages 3 & 4.
- 5.4 The Post 16 Centre will be modular construction and the recommended contractor has been selected from the Government's GPS Framework for modular buildings on the basis of best value for money through the Council's established procurement and tender evaluation process.

Parking Drop-off and Pick-up

- 5.5 This project also includes the acquisition of the Wick Hill car park which is accessed from Bull Lane. The car park will be retained for use by Garth hill College, and will also be managed to provide drop-off and pick-up facilities to mitigate the impact of vehicle movements at peak times. Additional parking spaces are also being provided within the main school site.

Timescales

- 5.6 The works are due to commence on site in November 2014 for completion in June 2015. The programme is time critical due to DfE grant funding condition requiring the additional school places to be available from the start of the September 2015 academic year.

Costs and Funding

- 5.7 Funding for this contract has already been approved by the Executive as part of the Education Capital Programme, and is drawn from a number of sources including DfE Basic Need Grant, DfE Targeted Basic Need grant and S106 contributions.

6. ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The estimated cost of the works exceeds the threshold for Public Works contracts, but the contract proposed to be awarded will be called off under the terms of a compliant framework agreement so that the requirements of the Public Contracts Regulations will be complied with

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The Borough Treasurer is satisfied that sufficient resources have been allocated to this scheme to fund the contract award proposal and all other anticipated expenditure.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 All new construction will be designed in accordance with Building regulation Part M (Access to and Use of Buildings).

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 Are set out in the attached Restricted APPENDIX A

7. CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 The Principal, Governing Body, staff, pupils, parents and neighbours of Garth Hill College.

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 The Headteacher and Governors have been consulted throughout the design stage development and attended meetings and workshops. A pre-planning consultation was undertaken with staff, pupils, parents and neighbours using leaflets and via the Council's on line consultation portal. An open afternoon/evening was held where plans and drawings were on display and Council officers, The Principal of Garth Hill College and Atkins project manager and designers were available to answer questions.

Representations Received

- 7.3 The web and postal consultation received 545 responses and confirmed overwhelming support for the expansion of Garth Hill College. The specific feedback and comments received from those consulted, were fed back to the design team and incorporated into the final planning application submission lodged on 23rd June 2014. Changes made in response to the consultation included additional drop off/pick up provision and parking. Parking space compliance will be delivered by a combination of increased spaces within the curtilage of Garth Hill College and the spaces available following the agreement to purchase Wick Hill car park from Bracknell & Wokingham College.

Background Information

- 7.4 Restricted APPENDIX A
- 7.5 The Atkins Tender Report – Garth Hill College Expansion – Post 16 Centre, Bracknell Forest Council, July 2014

Contacts for further information

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