

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	3840
Author:	Mark Lethbridge
Department:	Development and Growth
Contact:	Mark Lethbridge (Job Title: Technical Expert - Highway Systems, Email: mark.lethbridge@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 876 5766)
Subject:	Invitation to tender for the installation and maintenance of traffic loop detectors
Total Value:	Up to £750,000 over 5 years (Type: Capital and Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	<p>1) To allow Nottinghamshire County Council to lead on a procurement process on behalf of both authorities, in order to establish a framework agreement for 3+1+1 (up to 5 years) and identify a single supplier to be appointed to maintain and install Traffic Loop Detectors and associated equipment. Nottinghamshire and Nottingham will then enter into individual call off contracts with the supplier as and when required under the framework.</p> <p>2) To approve Nottingham City Council's spend under this framework which is estimated to be up to £750,000 over the maximum 5 year period.</p> <p>3) To delegate authority to Nottingham City Council's Traffic Manager, to award any required contracts on behalf of Nottingham City Council under the Framework during the term</p>
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>Traffic signal junctions and crossings require detection loops cut into the carriageway leading up to the traffic lights to ensure they work as efficiently as possible. These loops communicate with the controller to signify how many vehicles are queuing at the junction and from this information the controller can make intelligent decisions on traffic flows. The current contract expires on the 31st March 2020. Not repairing or maintaining these loops will lead to congestion at the junction and poorer air quality in the surrounding area.</p> <p>Last year Nottingham City Council spent approximately £150,000 maintaining and repairing traffic signal loops and associated equipment, this cost included civil works and traffic management. Loops will be repaired when reported via the UTC computer system and checked if members of the public report the junction behaving erratically.</p>
Briefing notes documents:	Briefing Note Traffic Loop Detector Feb 2020.docx

Other Options Considered:

1) Not to participate in the joint procurement - Loops are embedded into the carriageway so by the very nature of their operational life they will be subject to damage. Loops are vitally important to the efficiency of the junction and without their input the traffic signal become inefficient which leads to unnecessary congestion which in turn leads to poor air quality in the area. There are alternative detection devices available but these are still very unreliable and often fail and are more expensive than traditional loops. We won't preclude other detection technologies in the future should they provide a viable alternative to traditional loops if their performance and reliability improves. Until the technology improves these options have been rejected at the present time

2) Continue to monitor the market for other forms of technology such as above ground and camera technology. If these forms of technology become more cost effective and reliable then we may look to phase out loops on the highway. This contract does not tie us in to use loop technology and will allow NCC to explore alternative detection solutions. Until the technology improves these options have been rejected at the present time

3) To undertake our own procurement process. Traffic control is jointly funded between the authorities and it so it would not make sense or acheive the efficiencies and economies of scale that a joint procurement will provide by procuring it in isolation, for these reason this option has been rejected at the present time.

Background Papers: None

Published Works: None

Affected Wards: Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests: No Interests

Consultations: Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications: None

Equality: EIA not required. Reasons: This decision will not have an impact on the delivery of existing service, for which an EIA has already been completed

Social Value Considerations: By maintaining and replacing faulty and damaged loops the traffic signal junctions continue to run at optimum efficiency, this in turn helps to ensure air quality in the area does not deteriorate and maintains our 'Let's Keep Nottingham Moving' committment.

Decision Type: Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In: Yes

Call In Expiry date: 27/03/2020

Advice Sought: Legal, Finance, Procurement

Legal Advice:

The proposals in this report raise no legal issues and are supported.

The City Council will work with the County Council in procuring a new supplier including participation in the tender and evaluation process to ensure the framework establishes value for money for the Council.

The framework will provide the City Council with a method of calling-off for the supply and installation as required during the Framework Term subject to associated requirements.

Legal services will assist colleagues as necessary. Advice provided by Dionne Claire Screamon (Solicitor) on 07/02/2020.

Finance Advice:

The tendering process led by Nottinghamshire County Council for the supply, installation and maintenance of traffic loop detectors on behalf of Nottingham City Council with the chosen supplier is estimated to cost up to £750k (capital and revenue) over the next 5 years (financial years 2020/21- 2024/25).

As Nottingham City Council will jointly evaluate the tenders submitted with Nottingham County Council and also jointly decide on the chosen supplier to award the contract to, this will ensure that Nottingham City Council have influence over the contract to be awarded and enable the best value to be achieved for the council.

The repairs and maintenance (revenue costs) associated with the supply of loop detectors will be met from Traffic & Safety revenue budget. The capital costs of purchasing and installing loop detectors on new sites will be met from identified existing approved and future capital schemes.

As Nottingham City will enter into individual call off contracts with the chosen supplier as and when required under the framework, commitments will only be made once funding has been secured and it is the responsibility of the Traffic & Safety department to ensure that commitments are not made prior to identifying how the costs are going to be met. This will reduce the risk of there being unfunded costs to the council.

Procurement Advice:

Joint procurement arrangements with other authorities are allowed for under clause 4.4.1.1 of Contract Procedure Rules. On the understanding that Nottinghamshire County Council will be leading on this procurement, and will be carrying it out in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations, there are no issues with this decision. Advice provided by Jonathan Whitmarsh (Lead Procurement Officer) on 16/01/2020.

Signatures

Adele Williams (Portfolio Holder for Adult Care & Local Transport)
SIGNED and Dated: 19/03/2020
Chris Henning (Corporate Director for Development and Growth)
SIGNED and Dated: 17/03/2020