

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	4338
Author:	Martin Williams
Department:	Growth and City Development
Contact:	Martin Williams (Job Title: Commercial And Governance Manager, Email: martin.williams@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158764226)
Subject:	Engagement of Financial Advisors
Total Value:	upto £250,000 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	1) To approve funding of up to £250,000 to continue to engage Ernst Young to provide financial advice in relation to transport matters through the Crown Commercial Service Framework; 2) To delegate authority to Director of Major Projects to award and sign the call-off contract.
Reasons for the Decision(s)	To continue to engage with Ernst Young in providing support to the Authority on future transport proposals, including the providing information and advice on complex PFI issues. The procurement exercise (undertaken in late 2020) utilised a compliant CCS Framework agreement and a mini competition was undertaken, this allows for further works to be carried out within the parameters of the specification for works. As a result, this decision is only seeking approval for additional funds to spend as required on providing future support.
Other Options Considered:	In-house options for providing the required advice were considered, but the necessary skill set were not available. As such this option was rejected
Background Papers:	None
Published Works:	None

Affected Wards:	Citywide
Colleague / Councillor Interests:	None
Use of Consultants	Number of Days:131
	Rate per Day:1900
	Total value:250000
	Start date:19/07/2021
	End date:30/06/2022
Reason for using a consultant:	This is a complex and specialist field, the use of a consultant will ensure that any reviews will be robust and detailed to allow the Council to have confidence in any decision made in the future.
Other options considered:	In house advice but the necessary skill set is not available.
Name of consultant:	Ernst & Young
Reason for selection?	Following a procurement exercise in July 2020, Ernst Young were successful and have worked with us since on providing financial advice on Transport projects.
Has the consultant previously completed work for the City Council?	Yes, they have been providing advice for the last 12 months.
Specific activities to be undertaken by the consultant are:	Financial advice on transport related projects including but not limited to advice on post covid responses for the Tram and changes in financing due to the removal of LIBOR.
Period of engagement:	Not know at this point in time
By what process was the consultant selected?	The consultant was selected via a mini tender through the Crown Commercial Services Framework.
Consultations:	Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.
Crime and Disorder Implications:	None arising from the decision being taken.
Equality:	EIA not required. Reasons: The decision does not relate to changing policy, service or functions.
Relates to staffing:	Yes
Decision Type:	Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In: Yes

Call In Expiry date: 24/08/2021

Advice Sought: Legal, Finance, Procurement, Human Resources

Legal Advice:

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

The CCS framework is a compliant framework that the Council is permitted to use for these kind of services. The previous mini competition undertaken in accordance with the framework captured that there may be additional requirements of the Council and so this provides a permitted procurement route for these services. The decision seeks to approve the additional spend associated with the additional service requirements.

Advice provided by Dionne Claire Screamon (Solicitor) on 02/07/2021.

Finance Advice:

The expenditure within this decision is funded from the NET financial model. Due to in year savings within the NET model the value of this decision can be contained within the 21/22 original forecast. It is the project managers responsibility to manage the NET model to ensure this decision doesn't have a detrimental effect on the NET model and savings are taken where possible to reduce forecast pressures.

Advice provided by Tom Straw (Senior Accountant - Capital Programmes) on 08/07/2021.

HR Advice:

Discussions with the management team indicate that a consultant needs to continue to be engaged to support with ongoing projects and future transport proposals, particularly around recovery plans and options post-COVID. This requires both a skill set and knowledge that is not held internally within the Council.

The consultancy firm currently offering this specialist knowledge and advice has already undergone a procurement and tendering exercise which allows an extension of 2 years.

The proposal to extend the use of consultants for specialist financial advice is therefore supported.

Advice provided by Sheena Yadav-Staples (HR Consultant) on 29/06/2021.

Procurement Advice:

This decision is for the approval of additional spend to an existing contract only, and raises no significant procurement concerns, and is supported by procurement.

Advice provided by Paul Ritchie (Procurement Manager) on 30/06/2021.

Signatures:

David Mellen (Leader/ PH Strategic Regeneration Communications)

SIGNED and Dated: 16/08/2021

Rosemary Healy (Portfolio Holder Highways, Transport, Cleansing)
SIGNED and Dated: 21/07/2021
Michael Wayne Bexton (Interim CD for Growth & City Development)
SIGNED and Dated: 16/07/2021