

Agenda Item

Executive Board

6 August 2008

RP



Exemption from Contract Standing Orders to use the specialist ground works services of a preferred contractor.

Summary

In order to undertake the work needed to prepare the ground recently purchased by the Council for use as part of the Seaton Marshes Wetlands site, a specialist ground works contractor is needed in order to complete the installation of a special pump to the site. This will allow the application for the government grant to be completed.

Recommendation

That the chosen contractor be allowed to complete the work and that the biodiversity objectives may be achieved and the structural integrity of the site maintained.

a) Reasons for Recommendation

To be able to procure resources already used previously, which will therefore be cost effective.

b) Alternative Options

Not to agree the proposal.

c) Risk Considerations

That by using another contractor who is unfamiliar with the work, further delays will occur thus jeopardising the government grant and delaying the project into the winter when conditions will not be ideal to undertake the work.

d) Policy and Budgetary Considerations

Cost effective as this contractor has already undertaken this type of work for us before. Policy dictates that as the work is over £3000.00 in monetary value the tender process should be followed, however in doing this we will lose the opportunity of completing the work this year and it will also jeopardise the grant from the government.

e) Date for Review of Decision

N/a

The Council has the ability to grant this type of exemption when circumstances that involve;

1. a cost saving to the council
2. the amount in question is not substantial
3. the delay to the project may harm the council's reputation
4. circumstances are exceptional in that a specialist is required who knows how to deal with this particular piece of work.

Legal Implications

In view of the proposed amount of the contract and urgency, this is a suitable case for exemption.

Financial Implications

By allowing this exemption there is an overall cost saving and the grant monies are not jeopardised.

Consultation on Reports to the Executive

None

Background papers

Signed request for exemption to Standing Orders

Charlie Plowden and Fraser Rush (Countryside Service)

6 August 2008

Roger Caudrelier (Internal Audit)

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