

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Report**

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| Committee: | Economy Transport & Environment Select Committee |
| Date: | 8 July 2014 |
| Title: | Highways Maintenance Task & Finish Group Plans |
| Reference: | 5969 |
| Report From: | Director of Policy & Governance |

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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. To propose arrangements for the Select Committee to provide input regarding the arrangements for the provision of highway maintenance services.

2. Contextual Information

2.1. At the 28 April 2014 meeting of the Economy Transport & Environment Select Committee, the Committee considered a report regarding the future of highway service delivery arrangements (reference 5806). Following debate, the Select Committee supported the following recommendations to the Executive Member for Economy Transport & Environment:

- That approval be given for intermediate arrangements for Highway Services to deliver efficiency savings and improve commissioning of works, and for the exploration of longer term options.
- That approval be given to continue work with neighbouring local authorities to pursue potential opportunities for highway efficiencies and savings through collaborative working and shared services.
- That approval be given to grant Amey LG an extension of up to a maximum of two years within the provisions of the existing Term Highways Contract to facilitate the intermediate arrangements outlined in this report.
- That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport, and Environment in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy, Transport, and Environment to agree and implement the details of any arrangements with Amey LG pursuant to delivery of the proposed arrangements set out in the report.

2.2. As a result of their debate, the Select Committee also made an additional recommendation:

- That approval be given to grant Amey LG an extension of one year with immediate effect, and the subsequent year in 12 months time subject to continued development of efficiencies, satisfaction with performance and need to defer the procurement.
- 2.3. The above recommendations, including the additional recommendation by the Select Committee, were accepted by the Executive Member for Economy Transport & Environment at the Decision Day held on 6 May 2014.
- 2.4. The report considered referred to the opportunity to explore new ways of working with the current contractor (Amey) during the extension of the existing contract, and to learn lessons to inform the new contract proposals. In reference to this opportunity, the Select Committee Resolved:
- That a task & finish group of the Economy Transport & Environment Select Committee be established, to provide input to the new ways of working to be explored during the extension of the contract.
- 2.5 The report also referred to the need to take more time to consider the most appropriate future contract arrangements. Select Committee Members wished to have the opportunity to feed in their views to any new arrangements being considered, therefore it was also resolved:
- That proposals be developed to enable Select Committee Members to be involved in consideration of the longer term options, to be brought back to a future meeting of the committee for agreement. (This could include a joint Working Group or Task & Finish Group with the Policy & Resources Select Committee)

3. Task and Finish Group Proposals

- 3.1. Regarding the task and finish group to provide input to new ways of working during the extension of the contract, a proposed terms of reference is attached at Appendix 1, outlining the potential arrangements to support this piece of work. (Highways Phase 1)
- 3.2. Regarding the opportunity for involvement in consideration of longer term options, a proposed terms of reference is attached at Appendix 2 (Highways Phase 2). Given that this is a significant contract, and there has previously been interest in this subject from Members of the Policy & Resources Select Committee, it is proposed that a task and finish group on this topic include representation from the Policy & Resources Select Committee.

4. Approval by Policy & Resources Select Committee

- 4.1. Given its role to oversee the overall scrutiny work programme, it is usual practice for proposals for task and finish groups to be considered by the Policy & Resources Select Committee. Therefore, the arrangements supported by this committee will be presented to the Policy & Resources Select Committee at its meeting on 24 July 2014 for endorsement.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1. The Select Committee is invited to agree the arrangements for the committees input to highway maintenance services as follows, and nominations are invited for membership of the proposed working groups:
- 5.2. To agree the proposals for the task and finish group 'phase 1' (Appendix 1)
- 5.3. To appoint Members to the task and finish group for highways Phase 1
- 5.4. To agree the proposals for the task and finish group 'phase 2' (Appendix 2)
- 5.5. To appoint Members to the task and finish group for highways Phase 2

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

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| Hampshire safer and more secure for all: | yes |
| Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate): | |
| Maximising well-being: | no |
| Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate): | |
| Enhancing our quality of place: | yes |
| Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate): | |
| OR | |
| This proposal does not link to the Corporate Strategy but, nevertheless, requires a decision because: | |

Other Significant Links

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| Links to previous Member decisions: | | |
| <u>Title</u> Future of Highway Service Delivery Arrangements | <u>Reference</u> 5806 | <u>Date</u> 28 April 2014 |
| Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives | | |
| <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u> | |

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

| <u>Document</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| None | |

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1. An impact assessment will be undertaken as required, when specific service proposals are developed.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. None anticipated.

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

This will be considered when specific service proposals are developed.

- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

When considering future arrangements for highway maintenance, consideration will be given to the impact of more frequent extreme weather and services being planned accordingly.