

SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL

Report

Subject : Ground Maintenance Post Contract Options Evaluation
Committee : Services
Date : 6 April 2021
Author : David Bradley, Environmental Services Manager

1. Report Summary:

- 1.1. This report provides information regarding progress of the evaluation of the Ground Maintenance Options - post Idverde contract.

2. Background:

- 2.1. Salisbury City Council's grounds maintenance and street scene services are currently delivered jointly (approximately a 50/50 split) between our own in-house team and our external contractor, Idverde.
- 2.2. The Idverde contract with Salisbury City Council for street scene and grounds maintenance services concludes as of October 2022. This presents an opportunity for SCC to look at service delivery post contract.

3. Four main post contract options have been identified for evaluation:

- 3.1. Continue to "piggy back" on Wiltshire councils re tendering exercise. In essence maintain the status quo.
- 3.2. Re tender the current Idverde element of the services on the open market and appoint our own contractor - in essence keep service delivery split between our own in-house team and a newly appointed contractor. No Wiltshire Council involvement.
- 3.3. Contract out the current in-house operation to have one large contract covering all aspects of service delivery and no in-house team.
- 3.4. Bring the Idverde element of the works in-house to have one large in-house team delivering all aspects of service delivery and no contractor.

4. The Nature and Scope of the Options Evaluation:

- 4.1. Each of these four options are being examined in detail in order to identify a preferred option. The options are being evaluated against the following criteria:
 - 4.1.1. Cost of service
 - 4.1.2. Quality of service
 - 4.1.3. Flexibility/Opportunities
 - 4.1.4. Associated risk of service

5. Progress to Date:

- 5.1. The working group set up to undertake the evaluation meets on a monthly basis. The following main points were discussed at the March meeting:
- 5.2. Wiltshire Council have confirmed verbally that they will not be offering the option of *piggy backing* on to their contract in the future. This will result in the loss of one of SCC's four options. It was agreed to request Wiltshire Council to formally confirm this to SCC.
- 5.3. It was agreed that the group's costings re the various contract options would benefit by being checked by an independent Quantity surveyor - this would give the evaluation an additional layer of impartiality.
- 5.4. Salisbury City Councils HR Manager (Tracy Adams) has commenced evaluation regarding cost and operational issues associated in transferring employees via TUPE.
- 5.5. A time table has been produced covering the two year project period – October 2020 - October 2022 – the timetable is a standing item on the agenda.
- 5.6. Progress regarding evaluation of the **Cost of the Service** is some 95% complete. Note this is the most complex and time consuming element of the four evaluations.

6. Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 6.1. Note the progress made to date.

7. Wards Affected: All

8. Background Papers: Nil

9. Implications:

- 9.1. **Financial:** To be determined
- 9.2. **Personnel:** To be determined
- 9.3. **Environmental Impact:** Nil in relation to this report, but substantially will be a material consideration in the evaluation
- 9.4. **Equalities Impact Statement:** Nil in relation to this report.