

# Procurement of Road Sweeping Contract

Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Leisure & Local Plan



Date: 08/02/2022  
Agenda Item: 8  
Contact Officer: Ben Percival/Clair Johnson  
Tel Number: 07772 913 265/01543 308 026  
Email: [Ben.percival@lichfielddc.gov.uk](mailto:Ben.percival@lichfielddc.gov.uk)  
clair.johnson@lichfielddc.gov.uk  
Key Decision? YES  
Local Ward All  
Members

**CABINET**

## 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Authority's contract for the provision of Road Sweeping of the adopted highway expires 31 March 2022 and cannot be extended further. Following a procurement exercise, a new contract needs to be awarded to a suitable supplier.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Cabinet approves the award of a 2-year contract for road sweeping services with provision for two 2-year contract extensions (2+2+2) with completion subject to the additional cost of the contract being identified from existing Approved Budgets.
- 2.2 That Cabinet delegates the approval to utilise the option to extend the contract to the Head of Operational Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Leisure & Local Plan.
- 2.3 That Cabinet determine whether the additional cost of the adopted highway sweeping be kept within approved budgets by either:
- meeting the cost from within the road cleansing budget by reducing the coverage of trunk road cleansing, or
  - instructing officers to identify alternative savings from within the wider Operational Services approved budget.

## 3. Background

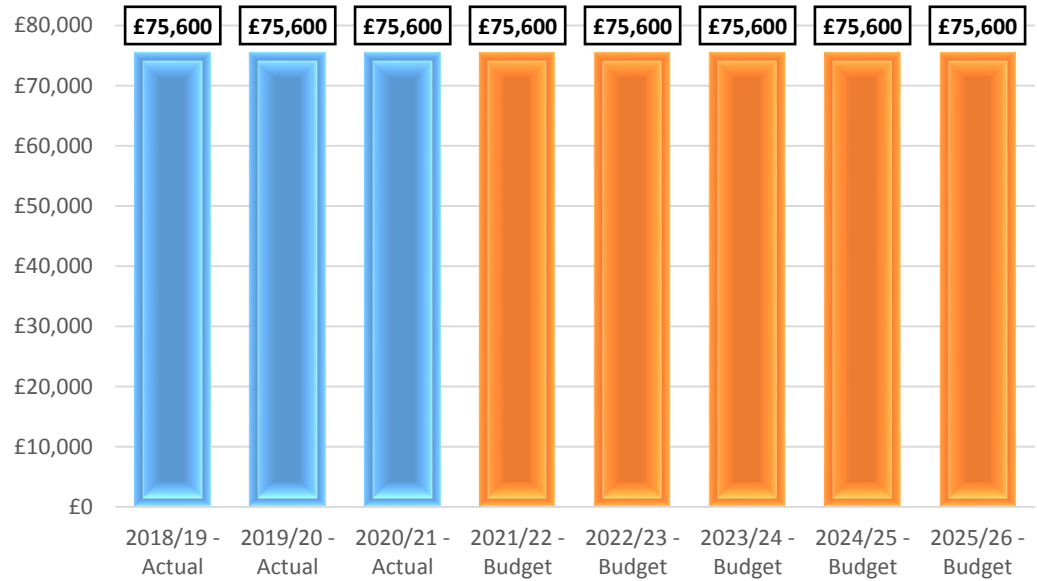
- 3.1 Road Sweeping of the adopted highway is currently undertaken by Burntwood Group. To ensure compliance with Contract Procedure Rules this contract was re-tendered, with a new contract to start in April 2022. This work is separate to the cleansing of the district's trunk roads: A51, A38 and A461.
- 3.2 Lichfield District Council has a statutory duty to ensure that the district's adopted highways are kept clean. Road Sweeping is a vital part of the Street Cleansing operations.
- 3.3 The Road Sweeping provision has been carried out by an external supplier since 2008 following a compliant tender process. Prior to this date the service was carried out in-house. The current contract

provides approximately 50 hours per week of Road Sweeping inclusive of vehicle, driver, fuel, consumables and traveling costs.

- 3.4 A procurement process has been undertaken in line with the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules and the Public Contract Regulations 2015. The proposed contract term will be 2 years with the option to extend for a further two periods of 2 years.
- 3.5 A number of compliant bids were returned and evaluated in line with the criteria of Price 70% and Quality 30%; the latter included questions on social and added value. The cost from the preferred supplier (the lowest-cost compliant submission) represents a 47% increase compared to the previous contract. This cost is however considered to represent market value; the market for road sweeping is geographically limited as the contractor is required to travel to / from Lichfield on a daily basis.
- 3.6 Several factors are considered to have led to this increase:
- Increased driver costs / HGV driver scarcity
  - Increased fuel costs
  - Legislative changes in 2021 prevent road sweepers from using rebated (red) diesel
  - The previous cost was tendered six years ago
- 3.7 The increased cost of the contract remains within the allocated budget for road cleansing. However this increased cost will require the other road cleansing services to be reviewed – reactive sweeping and trunk road cleansing. It is not recommended that the amount of cleansing of the adopted highway be reduced from the procured 50 hours per week. This is the considered the minimum required to maintain the current good standard of service.
- 3.8 Bringing the road-sweeping service back in-house was considered. A number of factors – vehicle provision, storage and maintenance, driver availability and training and business resilience – meant that in-house provision was not advantageous at this time.
- 3.9 Please note that due to the constraints if the Public Contract Regulations 2015 we are unable to provide bid specific information in this report at this time.

<b>Alternative Options</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Further extend current contract – This would be in breach of CPR’s and Public Contract Regulations 2015, potentially leaving the council at risk of legal challenge.</li> <li>2. To carry out the Road Sweeping in-house. This would increase operational and financial risks.</li> <li>3. Shared services with neighbouring authorities.</li> </ol>
<b>Consultation</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Leadership Team</li> </ol>
<b>Financial Implications</b>	The actual spend on Highway and Trunk Road Sweeping in Operational Services over the previous three financial years 2018/19 to 2020/21 together with Approved Budgets from 2021/22 to 2025/26 is shown below:

### Highway And Trunk Road Sweeping



Approved by Section 151 Officer

Yes

#### Legal Implications

1. Due to the potential value of the contract, a procurement process complaint with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 is required.
2. Specific insurance policies will be required of the contractor delivering the service.
3. The impact of TUPE will be assessed and addressed appropriately within the invitation to tender documents as appropriate.

Approved by Monitoring Officer

#### Contribution to the Delivery of the Strategic Plan

1. The proposal will help to support the council’s ambition to ensure clean, green and welcoming places

#### Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Implications

1. As part of the Invitation to Tender pack, suppliers were required to confirm that they have not had any findings of unlawful discrimination made against them and that they haven’t had a complaint upheld against them relating to unlawful discrimination.
2. As part of the Invitation to Tender pack, suppliers were required to answer questions and provide documentation in relation to Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.

#### Crime & Safety Issues

1. Keeping the streets clean helps maintain an environment that looks cared for. Such an environment helps encourage people to continue to be respectful of it and discourages littering, graffiti and vandalism.

#### Environmental Impact

1. Cleaning of road helping to maintain clear drains and water pathways reducing the occurrence of large puddles / localised road based flooding due to block drains.
2. The vehicles used to carry out the road sweeping are specialist vehicles and will be required to meet the latest vehicle emission and engine requirements.

GDPR / Privacy Impact Assessment	None
----------------------------------	------

	Risk Description & Risk Owner	Original Score (RYG)	How We Manage It	Current Score (RYG)
A	No contract is place to continue the delivery of the Road Sweeping service on the expiry of the current contract on 01/04/2022  Head of Operational Services	Likelihood: Red Impact: Red Severity: Red	Carry out a compliant procurement process and award contract(s) before expiry of current agreement.	Likelihood: Green Impact: Red Severity: Yellow
B	Procurement outcome exceeds the approved budget	Likelihood: Yellow Impact: Red Severity: Red	Ensure the specification and requirements of the service are clear and unambiguous. Ensure full market engagement via an open PCR2015 compliant process.	Likelihood: Green Impact: Red Severity: Yellow
C				
D				
E				

None	<b>Background documents</b> Any previous reports or decisions linked to this item
------	--

None	<b>Relevant web links</b> Any links for background information which may be useful to understand the context of the report
------	---