

To: Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board

On: 18 April 2024

Report by: The Director of Finance and Resources and the Director of Environment, Housing and Infrastructure

Heading: Contract Award: Hire of 5 x 18T Gritters (RC-CPU-23-254)

1. **Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board to award a Contract for the Hire of 5 x 18T Gritters to Econ Engineering Limited.
- 1.2 The procurement exercise was conducted as a direct award to contract for the supply of 5 x 18T Gritters to Econ Engineering Limited under Lot 3 (Hire of HGV's from 7.5T and Above) of the Crown Commercial Services (CCS) Framework Agreement for Vehicle Hire Solutions, reference RM6265, and in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts.
- 1.3 A Contract Strategy was approved by the Director of Environment, Housing and Infrastructure and the Corporate Procurement Manager on 14 March 2024.
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2. **Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board:

- (a) Authorise the Head of Corporate Governance to award a Contract for the Hire of 5 x 18T Gritters (RC-CPU-23-254) to Econ Engineering Limited;
 - (b) Authorise the award of the Contract for the Contract Sum of £474,090 excluding VAT (the approved contract value);
 - (c) Note that Starting Date is anticipated to be 18 September 2024, with the date for Completion anticipated to be 14 April 2027. The actual dates will be confirmed in the Council's Letter of Acceptance to Econ Engineering Limited.
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3. **Background**

- 3.1 Renfrewshire Council have a requirement for the Hire of 5 x18T Gritters for a period of 3 gritting seasons to assist with the Council's winter gritting programme. Renfrewshire Council's Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Service has a statutory obligation to have gritters in place to assist with the Council's winter gritting programme. This contract will support the Council's current fleet in order to carry out the winter gritting programme therefore ensuring roads within the Council's responsibility are managed and maintained and are safe during the winter months.
- 3.2 Crown Commercial Services established a framework for the Vehicle Hire Solutions (RM6265) on 21 March 2023. The Framework Agreement allows for Direct Awards to be conducted.
- 3.3 As per the terms of the framework, the Council contacted the Suppliers on Lot 3 (Hire of HGV's from 7.5T and Above) for pricing and technical information. This exercise demonstrated that only Econ Engineering Limited would be able to meet the Council's requirements for the Hire of 5 x 18T Gritters. In this instance it was determined that a Direct Award would demonstrate best value to the Council.
- 3.4 The costs for this contract shall be met from the Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Revenue – General Services budget.
- 3.5 Community benefits were requested as part of the procurement exercise and Econ Engineering Limited have committed to the following Community Benefits:

Community Benefit Description	No of People / Activity
Work Experience Placement for an individual 16+ years of age (who is not currently in employment, education or training) and preferably from an identified priority group.	5

Implications of the Report

1. Financial

The contract value of £474,090 excluding VAT covering the period 18 September 2024 to 14 April 2027 shall be met from the Environment, Housing and Infrastructure revenue (External Vehicle Hire) budget. This is a lease contract, therefore International Financial Reporting Standards 16 implications have been noted.

2. HR & Organisational Development

None arising from this report.

3. Community/Council Planning –

The proposed Contract will support the delivery of the following outcomes:

Place

Ensuring all roads managed and maintained by the Council in Renfrewshire are maintained to the highest possible standard during the winter months, keeping all road users safe

Economy

Supporting our citizens, particularly those furthest from the jobs market, into fair work - well paid, fulfilling employment through Community Benefits

Green

Working across partners and communities to deliver the priority areas highlighted in our Plan for Net Zero, working towards a net zero Renfrewshire by 2030

Living our Values

Ensuring Renfrewshire Council delivers Best Value for our citizens and customers, that we are a well governed, effective organisation

4. **Legal**

The procurement of this Contract was conducted in accordance with the requirements for a direct award under Lot 3 (Hire of HGV's from 7.5T and Above) of the Crown Commercial Services (CCS) Framework Agreement for Vehicle Hire Solutions, reference RM6265, and the Council's Standing Orders relating to Contracts.
5. **Property/Assets**

This contract will ensure that the Council's roads network is maintained to a safe standard during the winter months.
6. **Information Technology**

None
7. **Equality & Human Rights**

The recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety**

Econ Engineering Limited's health and safety credentials were evaluated by Corporate Health and Safety and met the Council's requirements regarding Health and Safety.
9. **Procurement**

The procurement procedures outlined in this report shall ensure that the Council meets its statutory requirements in respect of procurement procedures, efficiency and modern Government.
10. **Risk**

Econ Engineering Limited's insurances have been assessed and evaluated to confirm that they have met the minimum requirements regarding insurable risk.
11. **Privacy Impact**

No Privacy Impact Assessment requirements were identified within this procurement.
12. **Cosla Policy Position**

No Cosla Policy Position implications have arisen or are anticipated.

13.

Climate Risk

The vehicles will be Euro 6 compliant and equipped with Ad blu, which is a diesel exhaust fluid. This particulate filter further reduces solid particulates from the vehicles exhaust emissions.

List of Background Papers

None

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