

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'A'

IMPLICATIONS/CONSULTATIONS

Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/ Objectives	Priority 1 – Improve the health and wellbeing of our communities Priority 2 – Enhance the quality of people's lives Priority 3 – Enable a flourishing local economy
Consultation:	<i>A Task and Finish Group informed the development of the contract and procurement methods and independent soft market testing was undertaken as outlined in report.</i>
Legal:	<i>The report seeks approval of the award of a contract to Tenderer F. The proposed contract has been procured in line with the requirements of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("PCR 2015") as a Services contract. This report confirms that the most economically advantageous tender is recommended for acceptance. The procurement process makes allowance for a standstill period between notification of the recommendation for award of the contract and the finalisation of the contract, in order to comply with PCR 2015.</i>
Financial:	<i>The Council's budget for the grounds maintenance contract is limited and has been considered carefully through the redesign of the specification. There is a funding gap of over half a million pounds each year to be met. The tendered costs in line with the existing budget achieved through modifying the contract and a robust tender process will mitigate the increased costs that were predicted (see report) but will not provide a budgetary saving towards the MTFP.</i>
Human Resource:	<i>No immediate HR issues related to this report. At this contract award stage there will be TUPE implications with various outcomes according to the split of services. Network Homes confirmed there were no TUPE responsibilities when they withdraw in October 2018.</i>

	<i>HCC would have some responsibilities if elements of the service return to their direct provision. Given that the offered price to them will be in line with the current charge, this is unlikely.</i>
Risk Management:	<i>The contract provides a high profile service to the public which can result in a high level of complaint if not delivered effectively and to standard. It is “major” in relation to the contract value. Comparisons of contract performance are considered by customers across district borders. The successful retention of quality standards achieved within available budgets is important in this context.</i>
Health and wellbeing – issues and impacts:	<i>An effective grounds maintenance contract contributes directly to the delivery of high quality parks, open spaces, play and sports facilities which provide opportunity for health and wellbeing initiatives and activities.</i>
Equality, diversity and human rights considerations, and whether Equality Impact Assessment required:	<i>An EIA was undertaken in relation to the associated report to approve the tender process in 2018. The contract is a re-procurement and delivers the same quality standards as the current contract. It was assessed that equal service access will be maintained.</i>
Environmental Sustainability	<i>Tenderers were required to submit method statements that outlined their intended type of vehicles, machinery and operations. This included specific proposals for green waste recycling, efficient use of transport and the responsible use and potential minimisation of pesticides/herbicides.</i>