

## Executive Decision Making by an Officer with Delegated Powers

Decision to be taken by: Kath Haworth, Interim Lead Commissioner, Highway Authority.

Pursuant to an Authorisation from: Gloucestershire County Council's Cabinet on 10th October 2018 for the Lead Commissioner, Highway Authority to:

- (1) Conduct a compliant competitive tender process for the award of a contract to a single supplier for the construction of the A38 Cross Keys Roundabout Capacity improvements and Signalisation Scheme.
- (2) Upon conclusion of the competitive tender process, and in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning, enter into a contract with the preferred provider evaluated as offering the Council best value for money for delivery of the services. In the event that the preferred provider for the contract is either unable or unwilling to enter into that contract with the Council then the officer is authorised to enter into such contract with the next willing highest placed suitably qualified provider; and
- (3) Acquire land required for the scheme and make any other ancillary orders that might be required to successfully implement the scheme.

### **Contract Award for A38 Cross Keys Roundabout Capacity Improvements Contract Scheme to Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Ltd**

<b>The decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. In consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning to award a works contract to Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Limited, for the construction of the A38 Cross Keys Roundabout Capacity Improvements Contract. The appointment of Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Ltd follows a decision by Britannia Construction Limited (who were awarded preferred contractor status in March 2019) to withdraw their tender.</li><li>2. Authorise the Head of Legal Services to attach the council's seal to the above contract and execute the same on behalf of the council.</li></ol>
<b>Background documents</b>	Cabinet report, October 2018 – A38 Cross Keys Roundabout Capacity Improvements Contract <a href="http://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=1178">http://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=1178</a>

<p><b>Reasons for the decision</b></p>	<p>Following a compliant competitive tender process, Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Limited (as the next willing highest placed suitably qualified provider following Britannia Construction Limited's decision to withdraw its tender after having been awarded preferred contractor status in March 2019) has been evaluated as offering the Council best value for money and meeting the quality criteria for delivery of the services and are therefore the preferred provider.</p> <p>Awarding this contract will enable the council to deliver the A38 Cross Keys Roundabout Capacity Improvements Works and associated works from within the existing capital programme with the aim of providing best value on mobilisation costs, traffic management, and to minimise disruption to the travelling public. The decision will enable the council to pursue the contract award for the project, which will provide the best opportunity to meet the timescales for project delivery.</p>
<p><b>Resource implications</b></p>	<p>The total scheme cost is £3.851m. The scheme will be funded through;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £2.696 million from the National Productivity Investment Fund (NPIF), secured from the DfT in October 2017 and;</li> <li>• £1.155m from the Highways Capital programme</li> </ul> <p>Please note the £1.155m will be funded from the Highways Capital Programme to allow the project to proceed however we are expecting S106 contributions from the Hunts Grove/Crest Nicolson development to be paid by 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 or upon occupation of the 558 dwelling (whichever is the later).</p> <p>Once the s106 funds have been received the released funding will be returned to the Highways Capital Programme and utilised on other projects.</p> <p>The decision set out in this paper will enable the council to award a contract for the construction element of the project which has a value of <b>£1,674,735.60</b> based on the lowest contract price.</p>
<p><b>Who has been consulted?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning</li> <li>• Cabinet Member for Highways and Flood</li> <li>• Relevant key Gloucestershire County Council Officers</li> </ul>
<p><b>What were their comments?</b></p> <p>Cllr Nigel Moor, Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning, sought approval at a Cabinet meeting in October 2018 to conduct a competitive tender process for the appointment of a single contractor for the construction of works for the Stonehouse</p>	

A419 Improvement Scheme. Cllr Moor highlighted the strategic importance of the junction and the improvements and enhancements the scheme was anticipated to provide. . Councillor Nigel Moor has subsequently reviewed the tender information and confirmed that he is satisfied that a compliant tender process has been followed in order to award to Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Ltd as the most financially advantageous tender.

### **Background/Context**

The proposed project is at the junction of the A38 and B4008 known as Cross Keys Roundabout. This junction is a strategically important junction of the road network in Gloucestershire. This junction is 800m north of junction 12 of the M5 motorway. It links directly to Gloucester for vehicles approaching from the motorway and from the A38. The proposed improvements will provide increased capacity at the roundabout by widening the circulatory and approaches, installing the infrastructure for (partial) traffic signals on the A38 southbound and B4008 northbound, and providing additional enhancements for buses and cycling. The scheme will cost a total of £3.851m.

The junction consists of a five arm roundabout: A38 Northbound from a point approximately 150m south of the existing Roundabout), A38 Northbound from M5 J12 from a point approximately 160m south of the existing Roundabout, B4008 Bath Road, entrance/exit to/from local services and A38 Southbound from Gloucester from a point approximately 160m from the existing roundabout. Capacity at the junction will be further stretched by future development in the area, including housing at Hunts Grove.

The Hunts Grove Development site covers an area of 95 hectares of which over 30 hectares are scheduled as public open space / playing fields, has been identified for predominantly residential development, with an area of employment development linked to the existing Waterwells Business Park. The site will accommodate 1750 houses, with a proportion allocated as affordable homes, and a 5.75 hectare Business Park to the north of the site. Community uses will include a new 1.5 form entry Primary school, a Nursery school, a sports pavilion, and neighbourhood centre comprising a community hall, medical centre and other commercial uses (2,000 square metres shopping centre). The new highway accesses include a principal access from the A38 (Southern Connector) and a new highway link to the north of the site into the existing Waterwells Business Park (now completed).

The scheme is supported by Highways England (HE), as it is adjacent to M5 J12, which currently experiences peak time queues and congestion on the exit slip road from the motorway. The HE, therefore support any proposals to increase capacity and improve safety and journey time delays.

Supplementary scheme information from the Public Share Events and outline Information can be found online at;  
<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/major-projects-list/cross-keys-roundabout-improvements/>

**Alternative options considered and why they were rejected**

The Cabinet decision in the matter set out the options available to the council that were considered at the time of the original Cabinet decision. Contract award decisions are subject to an evaluation criteria to enable the Council to select a provider that will achieve best value for money for delivering the service(s).

**Risk Analysis**

The risk register for the scheme has been regularly updated in line with the GCC Risk Management process, in order to investigate, manage and mitigate key risks. Overall, the risks are well understood and are being eliminated or mitigated as the project moves forward. There are, however, a number of risks open that could have an impact on the design and cost of the project. Risks will continue to be actively monitored and any significant changes affecting the scope of the project will be reported to the Lead Cabinet Member.

**Equalities considerations**

No specific analysis has been carried out with regard to the protected characteristics; however, this scheme is included in the County Council's adopted Local Transport Plan which does include analysis of data in regard to user needs. The detailed design of the final scheme will be undertaken in accordance with relevant guidance in relation to equalities and safety.



The Equality Act 2010 states that service providers have a continuing duty to consider impacts on groups with protected characteristics and therefore monitoring of users once the scheme is operational will be required to ensure that equality issues pertaining to age, disability, sex and ethnicity, are being considered and evolved after opening. Additionally any information on incidents/accidents or in the area around the scheme will be analysed according to the characteristics of the victim if the information is available.

**Has a Due Regard Statement been completed? No**

**Has any conflict of interest been declared by any Cabinet Member consulted on the decision?**

No

**If any conflict of interest declared,**

<b>was a dispensation granted by the Audit and Governance Committee of the Council?</b>	None
<b>Does this decision report form or any supporting papers provided contain confidential or exempt information?</b>	No
<b>Does this decision need to be published on the GCC website?</b>	Yes
<p>Having fully considered all available information, I have decided to reject any alternative options and take the recommended decision(s), for the reasons set out in this report.</p> <p>Signed </p> <p><i>Lead Commissioner, Highway Authority</i>  <i>Decision taken by Kath Haworth, Interim Lead Commissioner, Highway Authority</i></p>	
Date 	
Contact details for further information: Officer: Alan Bullock Tel:01452 583580 Email: alan.bullock@gloucestershire.gov.uk	

