

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**Report by Chief Officer – Supply, Distribution and Property****Tendering Committee: 15 March 2023**

**Subject: Contract Authorisation Report – Connecting Dumbarton
Regeneration Works****1. Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the approval to conclude the award of the contract for Connecting Dumbarton Regeneration Works.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the Tendering Committee:

- a) Authorise the Chief Officer - Regulatory and Regeneration to conclude on behalf of West Dunbartonshire Council (the Council), the award of a contract under the Scape Procure Scotland Limited framework agreement for Civil Engineering Scotland for Connecting Dumbarton Regeneration Works to Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Limited.
- b) Note that the contract shall be for a period of 39 weeks and at a value of £2,694,987 exclusive of VAT. The estimated period of commencement of the contract is May 2023.

3. Background

3.1 The project seeks to appoint an experienced and capable contractor to deliver an enhanced public realm gateway, which will better connect Dumbarton town centre and the waterfront with the town's 'A' listed Dumbarton Central Railway Station (DCRS). The project will enhance the underpass below the A814 and the area in front of the DCRS by remodelling the Station Rd / College Street junction and making it more pedestrian and cyclist friendly.

3.2 The project would restore the historical link between DCRS and the town centre, providing a direct, clear and attractive route that people feel safe and comfortable using as part of their journey and create valuable public space. It would also improve people's first impression when they arrive at DCRS and make it easy to identify the route to the places they want to visit. Thus creating an enhanced sense of place that integrates with adjoining land uses and improves the setting of the adjacent land and buildings, some of which will be included within Dumbarton's new Town Centre Conservation Area. While additionally enhancing opportunities for active travel and encouraging a change in transportation from private vehicles to public transport, walking and cycling. As a result, improving the connection to other regeneration sites and unlocking their potential and that of DCRS.

3.3 The overall budget for Connecting Dumbarton Regeneration Works is £3.175m and will be funded from the following budgets:

- Levelling Up Fund (£1.975m) which was approved at the IRED Committee on 22 Feb 2022. The period of budget was until the end of 2024/25.; and
- Regeneration Fund (£1.2m) which was approved at the IRED Committee on 22 Feb 2022.

Any surplus budget will be redirected to the other LUF projects. The Council's £1.2m contribution is part of the £2.2m match funding stated in the Council's LUF application and as such will have to drawn down in full.

3.4 This procurement exercise has been conducted in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, and the Public Procurement Regulations. A Contract Strategy document was also approved on 24 November 2022.

4. Main Issues

4.1 This project was previously the subject of a mini-competition utilising another framework agreement however the contractors appointed to that framework agreement all declined to respond, sighting they could not take on the work within the timescales required. There was another framework agreement that could be utilised - the Scape Procure Scotland Limited framework agreement for Civil Engineering Scotland.

4.2 The Scape Procure Scotland Limited framework agreement for Civil Engineering Scotland identified that Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Ltd was the preferred contractor for this framework agreement:

Contractor	Overall	Overall Rank	Quality	ITT Rank	Commercial Score	Commercial Rank
Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Ltd	75.4%	1	55.4%	1	20%	1

4.3 It is recommended that the contract is awarded to Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Limited, of Churchill Place, Canary Wharf, London, England, who has provided the most economically advantageous tender. The contract shall be for a period of 39 weeks and at a value of £2,694,987 inclusive of VAT.

4.4 Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Limited is a Scottish Business Pledge Partner committed to paying all staff as a minimum the real Living Wage of £10.90 and promotes Fair Working Practices across their organisation. Further, Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Limited has committed to delivery of the following social benefits as a direct result of delivery of this contract:

- Recruitment of one member of staff from within the West Dunbartonshire geographical area;
- Use of West Dunbartonshire based organisations for sub-contracting opportunities;
- Deliver three quarterly workshops, covering career skills, mock interviews etc., within a school or community learning environment

The social benefits will be discussed at the implementation meeting with Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Limited and actions to take these forward will be agreed.

5. People Implications

5.1 There are no people implications.

6. Financial and Procurement Implications

6.1 Financial costs in respect of this contract will be met from the approved Regeneration Budget and the Levelling Up Fund.

6.2 This procurement exercise was conducted in accordance with the agreed Contract Strategy produced by the Corporate Procurement Unit in close consultation with Economic Development officers and the provisions of Contract Standing Orders, the Financial Regulations and Public Procurement Regulations.

7. Risk Analysis

7.1 Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Limited has no known links to Serious and Organised Crime, which would have significant political and reputational ramifications for the Council.

7.2 Should the Tendering Committee decide not to proceed as recommended then this will delay the project, may have financial implications and reputational ramifications. The Levelling Up funding will likely be withheld if the works are delayed, and may be withdrawn.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

8.1 An equalities screening was undertaken for this report to determine if there is an equalities impact. The results have identified a range of positive impacts for equality groups. There are also likely to be positive impacts in terms of health and socio-economic criteria.

9. Strategic Assessment

9.1 The Connecting Dumbarton Regeneration Works will support all three of the Council's strategic priorities:

- Our Communities - Resilient and Thriving;
- Our Environment - A Greener Future; and
- Our Economy - Strong and Flourishing.

Name: Angela Wilson

Designation: Chief Officer – Supply, Distribution and Property

Date: 8 March 2023

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Background Papers: Contract Strategy
EIA Screening No 154 – Dumbarton Connectivity Project

Wards Affected: Dumbarton