

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Strategic Director – Transformation & Public Service Reform

Tendering Committee: 19 February 2020

**Subject: Contract Authorisation Report - Antonine Wall Replica Roman
Distance Slabs Project**

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the Tendering Committee to authorise the Strategic Lead - Regulatory to conclude the award of the contract for Antonine Wall Replica Roman Distance Slabs.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the Tendering Committee:

- a) Authorise the Strategic Lead Regulatory to conclude on behalf of West Dunbartonshire Council (the Council), the award of the contract for Antonine Wall Replica Roman Distance Slabs Project to Covanburn Contracts Limited.
- b) Note that the contract shall be for a maximum period of 10 months and at a value of £200,975 ex VAT. The contract start date will be 24 February 2020.

3. Background

3.1 The Antonine Wall forms part of the frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site. The first visible remains from the west can be seen at Duntocher. On the top of the hill, within the public Goldenhill Park, a small fort and an earlier fortlet have been located and excavated. On the west slope of Goldenhill a Roman bath-house was discovered near the Duntocher War Memorial. The Wall runs through five Council areas in central Scotland (West Dunbartonshire (WDC), East Dunbartonshire, Glasgow, North Lanarkshire and Falkirk) with both urban and rural sections.

3.2 As part of a three year National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) project grant, the constituent Councils have a requirement to procure the services of a contractor to install distance slabs at five locations across the Antonine Wall. The formation of five stone walls incorporating information panels and distance slabs on the Antonine Wall route was identified by the Antonine Wall Steering Group. One distance slab will be created per local authority. The site options were appraised by each authority's Steering Group member, on the basis of

proximity to the Wall, community benefit, regeneration potential and ease of access for visitors. The works are across five different local authorities with West Dunbartonshire Council acting as lead client as recipient of the NLHF grant. Associated with these walls are also external quality hard landscaping and minor soft landscaping works.

- 3.3** The budget for Antonine Wall Replica Roman Distance Slabs Project was included in the £2.1 million application to NLHF, including the five Council's financial contributions of £313,314.58 was approved at the Planning Committee on 30 May 2018. An overall budget of £315,000 was approved, which is slightly higher than the £313,314.58 estimated. This procurement exercise has been conducted in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and the *Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2016* for Works. A Contract Strategy document was also approved by the Business Partner – Strategic Procurement (Place) on 09 December 2019. The detail of council contributions is shown in the table below.

Council Name	Budget
West Dunbartonshire Council	£64,435.35
Glasgow City Council	£72,194.35
East Dunbartonshire Council	£46,272.45
North Lanarkshire Council	£60,913.15
Falkirk Council	£69,526.28
Total	£313,314.58

4. Main Issues

- 4.1** A contract notice was published on the Public Contracts Scotland advertising portal on 11 December 2019. A total of 16 contractors expressed an interest, with two contractors submitting a response by the deadline for the submissions on 10 January 2020.
- 4.2** The two tender submissions were evaluated by representatives drawn from the Antonine Wall Steering Group (including this Council; East Dunbartonshire and Falkirk Councils and Historic Environment Scotland), along with appointed design team lead - Land Use Consultants, Corporate Procurement Unit, Health & Safety Services and Finance Services against pre-determined selection criteria forming part of the published tender documents which assessed competence, experience, and capacity. Two tender submissions passed the selection criteria.
- 4.3** Two tender submissions were evaluated against a set of award criteria which was based on Price / Quality ratio of 60 % / 40%. The scores relative to the award criteria of each tender, are as follows:

	Weighting	Caley Construction Ltd	Covanburn Contracts Limited
Service	(15%)	7.5%	11.3%
Experience	(15%)	8.8%	11.3%
Social Benefits	(10%)	5%	7.5%
Quality Sub-Total 40%:	(40%)	21.2%	30%
Price (60%)			
Price - Sub Total 60%	(60%)	45.1%	60%
		£267,578.5	£200,950
Overall ranking	100%	66.2%	90%

4.4 It is recommended that the contract is awarded to Cavanburn Contracts Limited of 1 Colville Place, East Kilbride, South Lanarkshire, G75 0PZ, who has provided the most economically advantageous tender. The contract shall be for a maximum period of 10 months at a value of £200,975, ex VAT. The value of the contract is £112,339.58 below the value approved by the Planning Committee.

4.5 Covanburn Contracts Limited pay the Scottish Living Wage to all employees Covanburn Contracts 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; this will apply for the duration of the contract; and
- Use of one West Dunbartonshire based organisation for sub-contracting opportunities; this will be identified before the contract commences.

The social benefits will be discussed at the implementation meeting with Covanburn Contract 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 The financial costs in respect of this contract will be met through 100% external funding by the NLHF project.

6.2 This procurement exercise was conducted in accordance with the agreed contract strategy produced by the Corporate Procurement Unit in close consultation with Transformation & Public Service Reform officers and the provisions of Contract Standing Orders, the Financial Regulations and relevant procurement legislation.

7. Risk Analysis

- 7.1** Should the Tendering Committee decide not to proceed as recommended then this will delay the project, may result in the loss of grant funding and may result in legal challenge.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 8.1** An equalities screening was undertaken for this reports to determine if there is an equalities impact. The results are that there is no equalities impact.

9. Consultation

- 9.1** A business case was carried out as part of the NLHF application. As part of this process external consultations were carried out across the five Councils.

10. Strategic Assessment

- 10.1** The Antonine Wall Replica Roman Distance Slabs Project will contribute to the delivery of the Council's strategic priorities by supporting strong local economy and improved employment opportunities.

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Date: 19 February 2020

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Appendices: Not Applicable

Background Papers: The Contract Strategy
EIA Screening

Wards Affected: Kilpatrick Ward