

Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 5 November 2013

Subject: Call-In and Urgency – All Weather Pitch, Town Mead, Waltham Abbey

Portfolio Holder: Councillor C Whitbread (Leader of the Council)

Recommending:

To note that the Chairman of the Council agreed that the decisions of the Leader of the Council, (a) to waive the requirements of Contract Standing Order C4 (Chief Officer to obtain at least three quotations for contracts exceeding £25,000 but not exceeding £50,000) and, (b) to accept a quotation in the sum of £45,635.13 from S & C Slatter as the most financially advantageous for the completion of the All Weather Pitch at Town Mead, Waltham Abbey, should be treated as a matter of urgency and should not be subject to call-in.

1. As a result of poor performance in meeting its obligations for the construction of the All Weather Pitch at Town Mead, Waltham Abbey, the contract with AMB Sports Ltd was terminated. In order to complete the construction and commissioning of the pitch, the Council's Project Management consultant sought three quotations for undertaking the outstanding work as a result of which the lowest price quotation from S & C Slatter Ltd, who could also undertake the work in the shortest timescale has been accepted.
2. The Council's Contract Standing Orders require that a Chief Officer should obtain three quotations for works between £25,000 and £50,000 and as in this instance, the quotations were obtained by the Council's Project Management consultants a waiver of Contract Standing Orders has been agreed.
3. The total cost of the project can still be contained within the approved budget.
4. The Leader of the Council took the decisions as the Leisure and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder disclosed an interest.
5. The Chairman of the Council agreed to waive the call-in procedure as there was an urgent need to procure the services of another specialist contractor, particularly as the football season has commenced and bookings for the pitch cannot be honoured with the District Council and Town Council losing income.