

Report to the Cabinet

Report reference: C/022/2005-06.
Date of meeting: 11 July 2005.



Portfolio: Finance and Performance Management.

Subject: Procedure for the re-tender of the Cash-in-Transit Collection contract.

Officer contact for further information: Robert Pavey (01992 – 56 4211).

Democratic Services Officer: Gary Woodhall (01992 – 56 4470).

Recommendations:

- (1) That, in order to avoid the additional delay and expenditure of another open tendering exercise, Contract Standing Order C6 be waived for the re-tender of the Cash-in-Transit Collection contract; and**
- (2) That the list of tenderers be approved as:**
 - (a) Securitas UK Ltd;**
 - (b) Securicor Ltd;**
 - (c) BDI Ltd;**
 - (d) Contract Security Services Ltd; and**
 - (e) Central Shield Ltd.**

Report:

1. The current Cash-in-Transit collection contract expires on 30 September 2005. This termination date reflects a six-month extension on the previous contract due to an unsuccessful tender exercise in 2004. The Council's current suppliers are Securitas UK Ltd. The current contract value is around £30,000 per annum. The new contract will be for a duration of 3 years.
2. The Council is a member of the Procurement Agency for Essex (PAE) who since April 2005 have undertaken an exercise to provide a Framework Agreement for Cash-in-Transit collection services for its members. The Framework Agreement, with three suppliers, resulted from a tendering exercise undertaken in conjunction with Chelmsford BC. This Agreement has only been signed this month. Final tender prices would be dependent on each Council's own specification. The process essentially saves the time and cost for advertising a contract.
3. The companies who were successful within the Framework Agreement were Securicor Ltd, Contract Security Services Ltd and BDI UK Ltd. Unfortunately, the Council's current supplier, Securitas UK Ltd declined to submit a bid. From the experience of officers, Securitas UK Ltd have in the past provided the lowest quotation for the services required and are currently providing a satisfactory service. Officers are therefore concerned that to only invite quotations from the successful companies within the PAE Agreement would potentially not provide the authority with best value.

4. Officers have knowledge of the market place and expressions of interest were obtained for the previous tender exercise only within the last year. It is therefore requested that Contract Standing Order C6 be waived and that tenders be invited for those companies within the Framework Agreement, and other companies that expressed an interest in the tender exercise last year, including the Council's current supplier. The reason for the recommendation is that it would ensure the Council obtains best value and because no advantage would be gained by inviting competitive tenders by advertisement. The list of companies that would be invited to tender are:
 - (a) Securitas UK Ltd;
 - (b) Securicor Ltd;
 - (c) BDI Ltd;
 - (d) Contract Security Services Ltd; and
 - (e) Central Shield Ltd.
5. The results of the tendering exercise will be brought to the Portfolio Holder meeting on 22 August 2005.

Statement in support of recommended action:

6. The recommendations are intended to achieve the best value for the authority.

Options for action:

7. Undertake a full open tendering exercise; or undertake a tendering exercise under Contract Standing Order C14 including only the companies under the PAE Framework Agreement.

Consultation undertaken:

8. None appropriate.

Resource implications:

Budget provision: Dependent on the outcome of the tender exercise.

Personnel: Nil.

Land: Nil.

Community Plan/BVPP reference: None.

Relevant statutory powers: N/A.

Background papers: None.

Environmental/Human Rights Act/Crime and Disorder Act Implications: None.

Key Decision reference (if required): None.