

Cherwell District Council

Executive

16 June 2014

Exempt Minutes

8 Landscape Management Re-Tender Process

The Head of Environmental Services submitted an exempt report which sought approval for the delivery of Landscape Maintenance Services from April 2015.

Resolved

- (1) That the re-tender of the Landscape Maintenance contract be approved.
- (2) That the risks associated with putting a new Landscape Maintenance contract in place be noted.
- (3) That agreement be given to open discussions with Oxfordshire County Council on the reduction in funding and to consider ceasing the agency agreement if this funding is reduced.

Reasons

The three possible options have been considered by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee working group. The option of using an existing framework agreement has quickly been discounted after a number of enquires.

While insourcing offers greatly control on standards and the potential for additional income the savings look to be relatively small for a £400k capital investment.

Consequently carrying out a re-tender that meets the possible changing requirements which may occur from County Council agency agreement seems to be the best option. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee working group supports this option.

Options

Option 1: Use an existing framework agreement. However it appears existing framework agreements offer the potential of greater cost and/or lower standards

Option 2: Re-tender the contract. This seems to offer the most secure route of proceeding although potentially there may be no further reduction in costs

Option 3: Insource the contract. This offers only a limited saving. It may be worth keeping this option alive in the event of tenderers offering higher prices than the current costs.