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New Towns Fund Parks Improvement Projects
Councillor Marco Cereste , Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment
March 2021
Deadline Date: N/A

Cabinet portfolio holder	Councillor Marco Cereste, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment
Responsible Director	Steve Cox – Executive Director Place and Economy
Is this a Key Decision? If yes has it been included on the Forward Plan	Yes, reference number – KEY/15MAR21/03 Yes
Is this decision eligible for call-in?	Yes
Does this Public report have any annex that contains exempt information?	No
Is this a project	Yes

RECOMMENDATIONS
The Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment is recommended to: 1. Consider and approve the allocation of external funding to Peterborough Limited (PL) in the sum of £567,687 for the delivery of the Parks Project.

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1. This report outlines the details needed for approval to be given to allocate the award of external funding over £500,000.00 from the New Town's Fund to PL for the delivery of the Parks Project.
- 1.2. The funding will be used to carry out play area improvements works over 12 sites including upgrades to play equipment, fencing and seating.
- 1.3. PL will carry out a competitive tendering exercise to secure a suitable sub-contractor to deliver the works on their behalf and PL will manage this project to practical completion.

Thereafter PL will inspect and maintain all these play areas. All new equipment installed will be in the ownership of PCC.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 This report is for the Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment to consider exercising delegated authority under paragraph 3.4.3 of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the terms of their portfolio at paragraph (e).
- 2.2 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to release grant funding to PL for the delivery of the New Towns Fund Parks Project.

3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 Peterborough City Council (PCC) submitted a bid to Central Government under the New Towns Fund for £1m of funding to improve its Parks and Open Spaces. PCC was successful in its application.
- 4.2 Under PCC's Constitution, to determine the allocation of external funding over £500,000 a key Cabinet Member decision is required.
- 4.3 More than half of the allocated £1m funding is being used for general improvements to existing City play areas and this will include installing new equipment, improving pathways, new benches, bins and fencing to make them safe to use.
- 4.4 PL is a wholly owned PCC Company and has a corporate contract with PCC under which it is contracted to carry out maintenance and repairs of PCC's play areas. PL has access to relevant sub-contractors and frameworks to carry out the works required. PL also have suitably trained surveyors to oversee and manage the projects to practical completion and sign off.
- 4.5 Any procurement will be carried out by PL to source the equipment to be installed and they will award the relevant contracts. Once completed all new equipment installed will remain the property of PCC.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 No external consultation is required
- 5.2 Internal consultation has been carried out with PL and PCC officers.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 6.1 If approved, PCC will award PL the grant funding to enable PL to commence the Parks Improvement Projects.
- 6.2 PL will manage all the projects and any subcontractors needed; PL will also ensure that any subcontractors used will be competitively tendered to ensure best value to PCC and compliance with the Public Contracts Rules.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 PCC have a corporate contract in place with PL to carry out maintenance in our Parks and Open Spaces.
- 7.2 PL currently manage our Parks and Open Spaces including play area installations and maintenance, as such this is the most efficient route to take to implement this project. PL have several approved suppliers already set up who can carry out these works and have access to the relevant procurement frameworks.
- 7.3 PL have surveyors in place that will be able to manage the projects to practical completion ensuring they meet industry standard and comply with Health and Safety regulations, they will also be able to hold sub-contractors to account during and after work completion.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 Not carry out the works with the external funding – this would leave several play areas needing works to bring them to an adequate standard and it would leave a financial burden on PCC to fund these works.
- 8.2 Not award the grant funding to PL – PL have exclusivity over works in our parks and open spaces and we have a corporate contract in place for these works with them. Using an alternative supplier would add time and cost to the Project.

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 9.1 PCC received a grant from Central Government of £1m to carry out works to improve their open space areas, we will be awarding a portion of this grant to PL to carry out play area improvement works.

Legal Implications

- 9.2 PL is a wholly owned Teckal Company of the Council and has been awarded an exclusive contract with the Council for a variety of services including the management and maintenance of the Council's Parks and Open Spaces. Although there are no negative procurement implications involved in the award of improvement works to PL in relation to the Council's play areas, the award of contracts by PL is subject to the Public Contracts Rules and PL must ensure that any award to sub-contractors is compliant.

Equalities Implications

- 9.2 There are no negative equalities implications.

HR Implications

- 9.3 None at this time

Carbon Impact Assessment

- 9.7 The award of grant funding to Aragon Direct Services to manage the parks improvement project will not have any adverse effects of the carbon output or reduction of the council.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 11. None

12. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED

- 11.1 None

13.APPENDICES

13.1 None