

Report to Cabinet Member for Environment

13 October 2022

Decision:	Award of contract for Design, Supply, Installation, Supervised Switch-on, Removal, Storage, Maintenance, Refurbishment and Repair of Festive Lighting
Cabinet Member:	Cabinet Member for Environment – Councillor Ahmed
Director:	Director of Borough Economy – Alice Davey
Contact Officer:	Robin Weare – Assistant Director – Highway Services John Sheppard – Principal Operations Manager, Highway Services

1 Recommendations

- 1.1 That approval be given to authorise the award of contract for Design, Supply, Installation, Supervised Switch-on, Removal, Storage, Maintenance, Refurbishment and Repair of Festive Lighting to Turnocks Ltd for the period 1 November 2022 to 31 October 2026 at a value of £720,000 (inc. VAT) following the conclusion of the current procurement exercise.
- 1.2 That in connection with 1.1 above, the Director, Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to enter into appropriate contracts.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 This Cabinet Member Decision report seeks approval to procure and award a contract for the Design, Supply, Installation, Supervised Switch-on, Removal, Storage, Maintenance, Refurbishment and Repair of Festive Lighting in line with the new Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules 2022.



3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	<p>People Live Well and Age Well Festive lighting and associated events play an important role in the life of the community, particularly the positive opportunities that they can bring from social inclusion and interaction.</p>
	<p>Strong Resilient Communities Festive lighting and associated events provide a positive and inclusive platform for community members to come together and celebrate.</p>
	<p>A Strong and Inclusive Economy Festive lighting and associated events help to increase footfall and shopping visits in town centres during the festive season.</p>

4 Context and Key Issues

4.1 The previous four-year contract expired on 31st March 2022.

6.2 In response to the contract notice published in the Government's Find a Tender website, three (3) completed tenders were received. Evaluation of the returned tenders has been carried out in accordance with the published award criteria in terms of quality.

6.3 Following the evaluation of returned tenders, including assessment of sample motifs, the tender submission from Turnocks Ltd was the highest scoring tender and is recommended for award – as detailed in the following summary table:

	Blachere Illumination UK Ltd	Field and Lawn Ltd	Turnock Ltd
Quality (100% of evaluation criteria)	55.00	54.00	88.00
Total Tender Score	55.00	54.00	88.00

6.4 The new four-year contract will cover festive lights requirements at selected locations across the Sandwell six town plus Sandwell Valley Visitors Centre and Forge Mill Farm. The contract covers a multitude of different types of festoon motifs, dressing of festive trees, festive decorations to buildings and surrounding areas of Sandwell Valley and assistance on switch-on events.



5 Alternative Options

- 5.1 Sandwell do not have the required capability or capacity to undertake this work in house. The only alternative would be not to commit to festive lighting in the Borough with the justification being a combination of the increased costs of lighting; the impact on climate change and other pollution objectives. This is not the recommended option.

6 Implications

Resources:	Highways Revenue annual budget for Festive Lights is £150,000 per annum. Sandwell Valley/Forge Mill Farm Parks and Countryside annual budget for Festive Lights is £27,000 per annum. The total available budget for festive lighting is £177,000 (ex VAT), and all Tender Submissions received fell within this available budget.
Legal and Governance:	The Council has to comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Council's own Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules 2022 and confirms that this tender exercise has been conducted in accordance with the required procedures.
Risk:	The risk of contract underperformance will be mitigated through robust contract performance management. The scope of the work is well understood. Turnocks are the incumbent contract and have built significant experience of undertaking this work in Sandwell. An alternative cost centre has been identified in the unlikely event of any contract overspend.
Equality:	There are no specific equality issues regarding the proposals contained in this report.
Health and Wellbeing:	The highway environment plays an important role in the life of the community, particularly the positive opportunities for social inclusion and interaction. The presence of festive lighting supports a period of celebration, promotes active wellbeing, increases footfall in town centres and promotes increased economic activity.



Social Value:	As per health and wellbeing
Climate Change:	Festive lighting has a negligible detrimental impact on greenhouse gas emissions.

7. Appendices

None.

8. Background Papers

