



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Alleygates at Various Locations – Term Contract
Date:	24 April 2009
Reporting Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Improvement, Ext: 6217
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RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A pilot alleygating exercise over the last two years in five areas of the city (The Mount/Willowfield, Lower Windsor, Little Americas, Woodvale and Beechmount) has been successfully completed. These existing gates occasionally need maintenance work carried out them and a capital programme proposal has been submitted for potential additional gates in other areas.

KEY ISSUES

The establishment of a 3 (extendable to 4) year term agreement with a contractor will enable alleygates to be erected promptly as and when funding becomes available and could also facilitate the carrying out of maintenance on existing alleygates.

A tender process has been undertaken and tenders were evaluated in accordance with BCC procurement procedures. The evaluation identified the most economically advantageous submission, on the basis of price and quality, as that presented by the Red Sky Group. The schedule of evaluations is attached as Appendix A to this report.

At the March Committee meeting Members deferred consideration of this matter.

Legal Services have advised that third party opinion should not be taken into consideration in relation to the award of this contract by the Council as:

- the tender submissions were evaluated in accordance with BCC's procurement procedures;
- Red Sky have satisfactorily completed the installation of the existing pilot exercise alleygates and have previously satisfactorily undertaken other streetscape contracts for the Council;
- failure to award the contract to Red Sky in accordance with the conditions of the tender may lead to a legal challenge.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Although a proposal for erection of further alleygates has been submitted for inclusion in the capital programme, no capital funding has been forthcoming and the proposal has not been approved as a "committed" project.

The establishment of this term agreement would not commit the Council to any capital expenditure relating to the submitted proposal, but would establish a framework for advancing any alleygates as and when capital funding does become available. It would also provide a mechanism for any necessary maintenance carried out on the existing alleygates, the expenditure for which would be met from revenue budgets.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is requested to approve the establishment of a term agreement with Red Sky Group for alleygates, subject to completion of formal documentation.

DECISION TRACKING

Will depend upon capital funding becoming available.

Appendix A

Schedule of tenders received:

Tenderer Name	Tender Amount *	Price/Quality Score
Red Sky Group	£1,658,750.37	92.92 ***
Alternatives	£1,561,213.71 **	89.56
Boyd Landscapes	£1,635,286.70	73.88

* Tender amounts based on notional expenditure per annum over 3 years term

** Lowest tender – price only

*** Most economically advantageous tender on the basis of price and quality

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