# **DECISION RECORDING FORM**

## **DECISION:**

To award a 1 year extension to the existing supplier for Culm Garden Village project management at an agreed annual cost of £70,312.50

#### **REASON FOR DECISION:**

To ensure continued project management arrangements are in place to drive progress on this significant project.

#### **DECISION BY:**

Head of Planning, Economy and Regeneration in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration

## **CONSULTEES**

WARD(S)	Cullompton Outer
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HAS/HAVE WARD MEMBER(S) BEEN CONSULTED	No

## **COMMENTS OF OTHER CONSULTEES**

Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration: Confirmed agreement for this to be signed off.

DATE OF DECISION	6 October 2020
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EXEMPT INFORMATION	No

## FINANCIAL, LEGAL & EQUALITY ISSUES, IF ANY:

This decision relates to the award of a 1 year extension to the existing supplier of the projet management resource for the garden village project in Cullompton. The £70,312.50 cost represents a 12.5% discounted rate that has been negotiated from the supplier's usual 2020 day rate and will allow for 125 days of support over a 1 year period which would be provided on an average 2.5 days per week basis. It is exclusive of reasonable expenses, which are capped at 10% of the rate. It is considered to represent value for money.

The provision of this service is fully funded from capacity money already awarded to the project by the Government. However, it has been recognised that the future extension of a project management resource is dependent upon the success of attracting further capacity funding to support Garden Villages from the Government. Sufficient capacity funding is in place from the previous awards to extend the contract for this further year. A bid has also recently been made for further capacity fund support for 20/21, the result of which is expected late autumn 2020.

**Legal Implications:** The award of this contract was made for an initial period of 1 year. At the time of initial 1 year contract award, due to the long term nature of the project, it was expected that the Council will wish to retain a project management resource beyond the initial contract period and due to the potential for renewal, an open tender process through OJEU was undertaken. This allowed for up to 9 optional 1 year extensions. This is the 3rd such 1 year extension.

Delegated authority to extend the supply period was granted at the meeting of Cabinet of 30th August 2018 (see below).

**Equality Impact Assessment:** No equality issues are identified arising from this decision.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

The existing project management resource is considered critical to driving forward progress and project delivery. The non-extension of this resource would place the future of the project at significant risk.

The successful supplier has provided project management services since October 2017. During this time the supplier has demonstrated their suitability, knowledge and experience to continue to deliver this service.

The funding to extend this service for a further year is in place, being part of the capacity funding award from 19/20.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / DOCUMENTS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT:\***

At the meeting of Cabinet on 30th August 2018 the award of an initial 1 year extension to the garden village project management contract to the existing supplier was agreed at an annual cost of £66,000. It was also resolved:

That delegated authority be given to the Head of Planning, Economy and Regeneration in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration to award subsequent annual one year extensions to the contract subject to:

- i) Funding being in place to cover the cost of the provision of this service.
- ii) Continuing to be satisfied with the quality of the service provided.

The successful supplier has provided project management services since October 2017. During this time the supplier has continued to demonstrate their suitability, knowledge and experience to continue to deliver this service and has made significant progress in establishing strong working relationships with a wide range of stakeholders and interested parties. During the past year the project has continued to progress in several key areas. The next year will see the commissioning of a masterplan and framework plan, building on pre-existing work and studies. Following a review undertaken in September 2020, it is considered appropriate in terms of quality for the service provided by the existing supplier be retained for a further year.

The cost of this 1 year extension will be covered by Government capacity funding that has already been awarded for 19/20.

This extension wll apply from October 2020.

SIGNED Jenny Clifford – Head of Planning, Economy and Regeneration

DATE 6 October 2020