

CABINET MEETING – 20 JULY 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

Procurement Procedure to Establish a Framework for Public Art Consultants

Author(s):

Executive Director of City Services

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of the report is to seek approval for a procurement procedure to be undertaken to establish a framework of Public Art Consultants.

Description of Decision:

Cabinet is recommended to:

To approve the establishment of a framework of Public Art Consultants following a procurement procedure being undertaken in accordance with the Appendix to the Procurement Procedure Rules (Part 4, Section 7 of the Council's Constitution) .

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? *Yes/No

If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

The Constitution requires Cabinet approval for the use of Consultants in excess of £100,000.00.

As the Council does not have the necessary in-house expertise and skills to deliver every project, providing a call off framework for public art Consultants will allow the department to call on those skills if and when they are needed.

Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:

In-House Service:

The Council does not have the necessary skills available to provide this type of service in-house. To ensure that the expertise is available at the point of project approval would mean employing staff specifically for each project and would be very costly to the Council.

Is this a "Key Decision" as defined in the Constitution?

Yes

Is it included in the Forward Plan?

No

Relevant Scrutiny Committee:

Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee

REPORT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES

**PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE TO ESTABLISH A FRAMEWORK FOR
PUBLIC ART CONSULTANTS**

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet approval for a procurement procedure to be undertaken to establish a framework of Public Art Consultants.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF DECISION

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to:

Approve the establishment of a framework of Public Art Consultants following a procurement procedure being undertaken in accordance with the Appendix to the Procurement Procedure Rules (Part 4, Section 7 of the Council's Constitution).

The potential value of services to be called off under the framework is currently unknown, but has the potential to be over £200,000 over the period of the framework and as such Cabinet approval is being sought for the procurement procedure to proceed.

3.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 Currently consultants are contracted to deliver two major projects; Sea Change and Sea Towns at Roker sea front, until September 2011 and March 2012 respectively.

4.0 PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS

- 4.1 It is proposed to enter into a framework agreement with one or more Consultants to ensure that the specialist knowledge and diverse skills required for successful projects are available at the point of project approval.
- 4.2 The contract term for the Framework will be for 4 years, commencing on 1st February 2012.
- 4.3 The value of prospective commissions under the Framework cannot be ascertained in advance, due to unknown future requirements.
- 4.4 The consultants currently commissioned and working on existing projects will be retained until the project(s) have been completed.

5.0 REASONS FOR THE DECISION

- 5.1 To access specialist knowledge and skills of the selected Consultants, ensuring continuity in the development of Sunderland's Public Art programme and sustaining quality provision.

5.2 By implementing a Framework, the Council can:

- Establish a robust value for money service.
- Call-off consultants as and when required at a competitive price.
- Access a diverse range of skills depending on the project.
- Purchase only the number of consultant hours required.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 The Head of Law and Governance, and The Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services have and will continue to be consulted throughout this process.

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

7.1 Alternative options have been considered and discounted as follows:

In-House Service

The Council does not have the necessary skills available to provide this type of service in-house. To ensure that the expertise is available at the point of project approval would mean employing staff specifically for each project and would be very costly to the Council.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Cabinet Report – Public Art Procurement 18.04.07 & 11.03.09