



To: Executive Councillor for Growth and Climate Change
Report by: Guy Belcher Nature Conservation Projects Officer
Relevant scrutiny committee: Environment Scrutiny Committee 22/06/2010
Wards affected: North (East Chesterton & Abbey), West/Central (Newnham & Market)

Local Nature Reserve (LNR) Projects Planned Procurement
Non Key Decision

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 A combined procurement plan is proposed to cover the following LNR approved projects to be implemented between 2010/11 – 2014/15

Logans Meadow Extension (Pye Fen), excluding the Swift tower
(Total value £190,000)

Coldhams Common Local Nature Reserve
(Total value £62,000)

Upper River Cam Biodiversity Project
(Total value £130,000)

- 1.2 The plan proposes a category management type strategy to group two major areas of work across all three sites, in order to generate savings and reduce the number of contractors requiring supervision by the Community Reserves Officer. The categories are:

Fencing and Access
Earthworks / Groundworks (divided into two lots)

- 1.3 It is proposed that the procurement and tender process will be run in house.

2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended:

To approve the planned procurement process and award of contracts for the provision of works as detailed in the project appraisals for:–

Logans Meadow Extension (Pye Fen), excluding the Swift tower

Coldhams Common Local Nature Reserve

Upper River Cam Biodiversity Project

3. Background

3.1 The three LNR projects together constitute an integrated programme of biodiversity enhancements across a number of sites within the City. The Procurement strategy for the overall programme is being taken forward on an integrated basis to ensure the most effective market engagement approach for the entire programme (rather than per site).

3.2 The approach will follow a category management type strategy. This will identify the different type of works/ services required and combine each 'category' into an overall (market facing) lot for that activity type. Each lot will then be subject to competitive tender action. This category approach will provide the maximum volume leverage for each category. This should result in competitive selection of a small number of suppliers who will do all of the work for their own work category across all sites. For the higher value categories, Invitation to tender action will be pursued following advertisement. For some of the smaller categories Request for Quotation action will be the optimum approach.

3.3 The two categories will be:

Fencing and Access

This would encompass fencing, gates, stiles and raised boardwalks. Most of the work will be timber based but some (boardwalks) may well constitute plastic components.

Earthworks/ Groundworks

This category is to be split into two distinct sub categories:

- The earthworks element, which constitutes significant volumes of earth moving during habitat creation.
- The groundworks category that constitutes installation and upgrade of footpaths across the sites. This has a different emphasis being based

on more exact work to access routes rather than large-scale habitat creation and earth moving.

- 3.4 These 2 sub categories are sufficiently similar to lend themselves to be put into one larger category. These categories will be subject to one tender exercise, this could mean one bidder wins both lots or separate bidders win the earthworks/ groundworks lots with 2 separate contracts following.
- 3.5 Procurement for each category will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Contract Procedure Rules. A Pre Qualification Questionnaire will be sought to assist officers to identify a shortlist of companies to be invited to tender for the contracts.
- 3.6 In addition to the two categories a number of smaller works are associated with the projects. These are of a lower value (under £30,000) and would thus best be handled as separate Request for Quotation exercises. These include interpretation boards, signage and limited ecological/ hydrological consultancy works.
- 3.7 The requirements for any tree work will be satisfied through the recent Framework Agreement for tree works and will follow the Council's Tree Protocol

4. Implications

4.1 Financial implications

The proposed procurement plan will enable officers to deliver value for money across the project delivery on all three sites and ensure compliance with the procurement rules.

4.2 Environmental implications

The approved projects will provide extensions to and enhancements of habitats on the Local Nature Reserves.

5. Background papers

- 5.1 These background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

Environment Scrutiny Committee minutes 16.03.10

<http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/public/councillors/minutes/2010/0316EnvA.pdf>

Community Services Committee minutes 25.03.10

[http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/democracy/Published/C00000176/M00000125/\\$\\$\\$Minutes.doc.pdf](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/democracy/Published/C00000176/M00000125/$$$Minutes.doc.pdf)

LNR Project Appraisals

<http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/public/councillors/agenda/2010/03%20March/0316env/10b.pdf>

<http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/public/councillors/agenda/2010/03%20March/0316env/11a.pdf>

[http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/democracy/Published/C00000176/M00000429/AI00000635/\\$UpperRiverCamBiodiversityProjectFINALPAFeb10.docA.ps.pdf](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/democracy/Published/C00000176/M00000429/AI00000635/$UpperRiverCamBiodiversityProjectFINALPAFeb10.docA.ps.pdf)

Record of Executive Decision 06/ENV/45 Cambridge City Nature Conservation Strategy
ESC 7/11/2006 Item 10 Cambridge City Nature Conservation Strategy

Nature Conservation Strategy (2006) <http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/public/pdfs/Nature-Conservation-Strategy.pdf>

6. Appendices

There are no appendices for this report .

7. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers, or if you have a query on the report please contact:

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