

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

21 August 2014

Report by Director of Environment

REQUEST FOR VARIATION OF CONTRACT VALUE FOR BARRHEAD SKATE PARK

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To seek approval in accordance with Financial Regulation 8.3 to allow the contract value of the Barrhead Skate Park to increase from £79,700 to £94,295 to allow for additional work identified during the public consultation phase.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Cabinet is asked to:
- (a) approve the variation in Contract increasing the value by £14,595, and
 - (b) note that these additional costs can be met from within existing contingencies.

BACKGROUND

6. East Renfrewshire Council have been awarded £75,000 by Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd towards the cost of a new skate park in Cowan Park, Barrhead.

7. In September 2013 the contract to build the skate park was advertised on the Scottish Government procurement website. Following a competitive process the contract was awarded to skate park specialists Bendcrete. The tender document specified that there was a project budget of £80,000. Bendcrete won the tender on their high quality rating, in particular their proposed public engagement programme.

8. Bendcrete undertook 3 public consultation events visiting the site twice and talking directly to stakeholders: including Friends of Cowan Park, skaters, BMX riders, parents, and the community police officer. At each stage the outcomes were discussed with the Council's Parks Service. To double check the modified design a follow up consultation was undertaken with user groups on Skype.

9. The consultation results revealed that Barrhead has a high number of BMX riders to skaters and that the design required modification to accommodate both sets of users. A preferred design was agreed but for the modified design to meet the national safety standards a guard rail protection was required and it is the inclusion of this which accounts for the increase in contract cost.

REPORT

10. The tender document allowed for a measure of change to the final design stating that the successful candidate must work with local skaters/BMX riders and other stakeholders. The consultation exercise was successful and well attended by local young people but to implement the results of this required a number of changes. These changes have the following benefits and will make the skate park a more successful place:

- It meets the needs of both skaters and BMX riders;
- It meets with the satisfaction of Friends of Cowan Park; Parks Service and Barrhead High School community police officer;
- It will require less routine maintenance;
- It is in keeping with the Cowan Park Masterplan;
- It meets the satisfaction of Barrhead High School.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

11. The project is largely funded by WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental Limited) who are granting £75,000 towards the cost. A project contingency was identified in advance and this will be used to cover the additional cost.

CONSULTATION

15. Community Consultation events were held to determine the new design

- September 2013 Bendcrete onsite in Cowan Park with local skaters
- November 2013 Bendcrete with design options with local skaters and parents and Friends of Cowan Park .
- November 2013 Bendcrete skype conference with local skaters to refine design

16. This report has been prepared following discussion with the Corporate Procurement Team.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

17. A project contingency was identified in advance and this will be used to cover the additional cost. There are no IT, equalities, staffing or other implications implications.

CONCLUSIONS

18. In summary this request is to ensure that:

- Council financial regulations are adhered to;
- The facility is successful and meets the needs of all stakeholders;
- External funding can be used to create the skate park.

RECOMMENDATIONS

19. The Cabinet is asked to:
- (a) approve the variation in Contract increasing the value by £14,595, and
 - (b) note that these additional costs can be met from within existing contingencies.

Director of Environment

Further information can be obtained from: Iain MacLean, Head of Environment on 0141 577 3720 or iain.maclean@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

Convener Contact Details

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

KEY WORDS

Variation in Contract Value, Barrhead, Skate Park, Cowan Park