

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE	TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE	6 JANUARY 2022	5

IMPROVEMENTS TO CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS 2021/22

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

This report sets out the details of a scheme included in the current Council's 21/22 Capital Programme for improvements to play areas. The works include the refurbishment of playground surfacing and equipment. The 21/22 Capital Programme already includes the sum of £100,000 to deliver the works approved at Budget Council in March 2021. Planned works are based on a prioritised play area audit prepared by officers. The scheme has now been tendered and the report sets out the details of the tender process and makes a recommendation to proceed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Tourism and Leisure Committee is requested:

1. To authorise the drawdown of the capital expenditure of £100,000 in respect of the approved capital scheme 'Play Area Improvements' in 2021/22 as detailed within the report.
2. To approve the letting of the contract to Abacus Playgrounds for the sum of £100,000 to carry out the scheme as outlined in this report.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Tourism and Leisure Committee 7th January 2021

Supported the progression of the proposed capital bid.

Budget Council 4th March 2021

Approved an addition to the 21/22 Capital Programme fully funded from the Capital Investment Reserve to the sum of £100,000 in respect of the Children's Play Area Improvements project as detailed within this report.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Economy – To create a vibrant and healthy economy	✓
Environment – To deliver services customers expect	✓
Efficiency – By spending money in the most efficient way	✓
Tourism – To create a great place to live and visit	✓

REPORT

BACKGROUND

1. Fylde Council holds an operating budget to carry out minor repairs to play equipment and surfacing, however it does not hold a budget for the replacement of failing or decommissioned equipment or safety surfacing.
2. A play area audit was carried out by Parks and Coastal Services in 2019. The audit showed that remedial and replacement works were required across the children’s play areas. A schedule of prioritised works was compiled with associated costings. A Capital Bid to the sum of £100,000 to be funded from the Capital Investment Reserve, was submitted, and approved by the Tourism & Leisure Committee on 7th January 2021.
3. Following a community group consultation, specifications for each play area were prepared and finalised in readiness for the contract tendering. The following sites are proposed for investment and improvement:
 - Waddington Road Park
 - Promenade Gardens
 - Mornington Park
 - South Park
 - Lansdowne Road Open space
 - King George V Playing Fields

PROCUREMENT PROCESS & EVALUATION

4. Officers led the procurement process on a ‘supply and install’ basis, whereby the appointed contractor was required to supply the goods and carry out the installation works. The tender process was undertaken via a framework agreement using the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO). The opportunity was advertised on 29th October 2021, via the Chest Procurement Portal with a submission deadline of the 29th of November 2021.
5. The suppliers were given a set of tender documents on which to base their submission. The first stage of the evaluation was a set of mandatory questions followed by quality/price questions. Seven companies were included on the framework and were invited to tender. Two expressions of interest were received, however only one formal submission was received. The evaluation of the mandatory requirements – company sustainability, experience, health and safety etc was scored as PASS/FAIL. The successful tenderer fulfilled the mandatory requirements and proceeded through to the next stage of the evaluation process.

Table 1 - Quality Evaluation Results

Case Study	40%
Delivery & Customer Service	20%
Added Value & Bespoke Requirements	20%
Sustainability	20%

The Tenderer scored full marks, therefore scoring the full 40% weighting for the quality criteria.

6. Price evaluation was conducted using the CIPFA % difference model. The model allocates the lowest price full marks, and other scores are calculated on the percentage difference of their price and the lowest.

Table 2 - Price evaluation Results

Company	Price	Score
Abacus Playgrounds	£100,000	60%

The highest scoring tenderer from the evaluation was Abacus Playgrounds Ltd.

METHOD AND COST OF FINANCING THE SCHEME

7. Funding for the scheme is included within the approved Capital Programme for 2021/2022 for the sum of £100,000.

VALUE FOR MONEY AND DETAILS OF PROCUREMENT PATH

8. To ensure that value for money is achieved, a procurement exercise has been undertaken in accordance with the Council's contract procedure rules. Selection of the successful tenderer is on the basis that value for money is a key consideration, as well as the suitability of the proposed improvements.

SUMMARY

9. The proposal is to award the contract to Abacus Playgrounds Ltd to the value of £100,000. This project will be completed by March 2022.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	To authorise the drawdown of the capital expenditure of £100,000 in respect of the approved capital scheme 'Play Area Improvements' in 2021/22 as detailed within the report; and To approve the letting of the contract to Abacus Playgrounds for the sum of £100,000 to carry out the scheme as outlined in this report.
Legal	None arising from this report
Community Safety	The scheme will improve the safe and accessibility of children's play facilities for the community. Works will comply with health and safety regulations.
Human Rights and Equalities	The scheme will improve accessibility to play facilities.
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	The proposals seek to incorporate low maintenance materials and to complement existing play provision. Lifecycle costs have been considered during the tender process.
Health & Safety and Risk Management	The tender specification will stipulate health and safety requirements in the design and construction of the scheme.

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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