

## INFORMATION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE	TOURISM & LEISURE COMMITTEE	7 JANUARY 2021	9
<b>FLORAL BEDDING PROCUREMENT 2020 - 2021</b>			

### PUBLIC ITEM

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

### SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

Fylde Council would normally procure seasonal bedding plants and seasonal floral containers using the Quick Quote Procedure on 'The Chest' procurement system annually. Once tender submissions have been received and evaluated against the price and quality criteria, the contract is awarded to a supplier for a 12-month period. The 2019 - 2020 contract was awarded to Walkers Nurseries at a contract price of £38,158.82.

Seasonal bedding plants and seasonal floral containers are ordered in November for the following summer season. However, the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted on the available pool of suppliers able to provide the required number and species of bedding plants and floral containers for the 2020 – 2021 season. Officers have been unable to source three suppliers, and therefore proceed with the normal Quick Quote Tendering Procedure.

Therefore, on the advice and support of the Council's Procurement Officer, officers have used the Qualified Informal Procedure to enable the extension of the existing contract with Walkers Nurseries for a further 12-month period. The cost for the provision of seasonal bedding plants and floral containers for the 2020 – 2021 season is £36,633.70. This is a reduced cost from last year due to a decrease in required bedding plants as a result of an introduction of more sustainable, perennial plants. There is no budget implication, as the Parks and Coastal Services Team have an existing revenue budget to purchase plants and containers.

The benefits of this are:

- Efficient use of officer's time by not having to conduct an open tender, which requires extensive resource and is not proportionate to the value of goods.
- Walkers Nurseries provided the most competitive tender with their 2019 – 2020 quotation and have historically supplied quality seasonal bedding plants on time and in full.
- The Qualified Informal Procedure has allowed early supplier involvement and a more flexible approach that is required during these uncertain times and for which a competitive process would not allow.
- Walkers Nurseries have provided a competitive 2020 – 2021 quotation of, £36,633.70, and this has been accepted.

**SOURCE OF INFORMATION**

Amy Docherty, Parks Development Officer

Ben McCabe, Procurement & Surveillance Officer

**WHY IS THIS INFORMATION BEING GIVEN TO THE COMMITTEE?**

To inform the Tourism and Leisure Committee that an exception to the normal tendering process has been used by following a qualified informal procedure.

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

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