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**Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council**

**Soft Market testing**

Provision of Small Works Associated with Highways Maintenance (SM1)

Contract Period:

July 2024 – July 2026

with the option to extend for up to a further 12 months (until July 2027)

1. **Background**

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council is seeking to invite tenders for its framework contract for the provision of Small Works Associated with Highway Maintenance (SM1) to various sites in the Tameside Area.

The contract will include for small items of footway reconstruction, reactive maintenance, drainage, temporary traffic management and specialised paving.

The framework is being advertised under 6 separate lots. Contractors may bid for any or all of the lots. Each Lot will be assessed separately.

No guarantees can be given to the quantity and value of future work.

Suppliers must evidence their ability to provide a sustainable, robust and flexible service for the duration of the contract.

1. **Key Aims**

**Brief - Description of Lots**

Lot 1 – Small works schedule of rates – It is the intention to appoint up to 6 contractors to assist the Engineering Operations Division to complete the Highway Maintenance and Construction Works Programme. A wide range of small works schemes will be undertaken using contractors from this Lot. Contractors will be selected for each scheme on the basis of inserting tendered rates in bills of quantities and then determining which of the framework contractors then offers best value in terms of price and availability.

Lot 2 – Reactive Maintenance 2 man gang –It is the intention to appoint up to 6 contractors to undertake works under this Lot. The successful contractors will be required to provide a two man gang, NRSWA qualified together with 7.5t flatbed wagon, roller, vibrating compaction plate, cut-off saw and all necessary tools and equipment. The crews will be working from the Engineering Services Depot at Tame Street, Stalybridge. All materials (excluding PPE, signage etc.) will be supplied by Tameside MBC. Typical work under this lot will include resetting rocking paving, repairs to pot holes, kerb resetting and repair, installation of street furniture, resetting gully and manhole covers.

Lot 3 – Patch Planer – One contractor will be employed to provide on a daily basis – a Patching team complete with 400mm patch planer, 10t Insulated tipper vehicle, twin wheel ride on roller, breaker, vibrating plate, 15t truck mounted road sweeper, cut off saw and all associated small tools. The team will work from Tame Street Depot, Stalybridge. All materials (excluding PPE, signage) will be supplied by Tameside MBC. Typical work under this Lot includes patch planning and reinstatement of footways and carriageways.

Lot 4 – Specialist Sewer Team – It is the intention to appoint up to 2 contractors under this Lot. The successful contractors will be required to supply on a daily basis – a two man Sewer Specialist team with 7.5t tipper, roller/breaker, cut off saw and all associated small tools including all necessary safety equipment. The team will work from Tame Street Depot, Stalybridge, with materials being supplied by Tameside MBC. Typical work ranges from the installation of new gully pots, repair of collapsed gully legs through to ‘deep’ drainage works to 6m deep on pipework up to 1.2m in diameter.

Lot 5 – Temporary Traffic Management Provision – It is the intention to appoint up to 2 contractors under this Lot. The successful contractors will be required to supply on a daily basis – a highly trained and competent team to provide and implement temporary traffic management systems such as road closures, lane closures, stop/go, temporary traffic signals & provision of pedestrian management.

Lot 6 – Specialised Paving Team – It is the intention to appoint up to 3 contractors under this Lot. The successful contractors will be required to supply on a daily basis – an experienced and competent team who has the ability to install exceptionally high quality paving (granite and porphyry for example) on areas such as Public Realm schemes. Contractors will be selected for each scheme on the basis of inserting tendered rates in bills of quantities and then determining which of the framework contractors then offers best value in terms of price and availability.

1. **Soft Market Testing**

**THIS IS NOT A CALL FOR COMPETITION**

The Soft Market Test is intended to allow interested organisations with relevant experience to outline their views and provide information with no commitment to themselves or the Council.

The Council is looking to award a contract commencing circa July 2024. It is further envisaged that the initial contract would be for a period of 2 years with the option to extend for a further 12 months. During the Soft Market Test we would like to gauge the level of interest.

**Stage 1 -** Interested suppliers are required to complete the following company information form and a short questionnaire (at appendix 1). Suppliers who complete and return the questionnaire ***may*** be invited to meet with Council representatives to discuss its requirements.

The questionnaire should be returned via The Chest - <https://www.the-chest.org.uk/> by 1st April 2024, 12 noon.

If Suppliers have any questions about this soft market test, such questions should be submitted to the Council using the ‘Question and Answer’ facility within the opportunity advertised on The Chest. A copy of the question and a copy of the written reply may be circulated to all Suppliers, with anonymity of the Supplier preserved. Suppliers must not raise questions through any other channels, including emails direct to the Council or to STAR Procurement. No questions will be responded to, other than those raised through The Chest as described above

**We encourage your participation in this soft market testing exercise, but must emphasise that your involvement in this exercise will not carry any commercial advantage in any ensuing procurement process.**

**No information provided in response to this soft market testing exercise will be used in any evaluation of any subsequent response to a procurement exercise.**

1. **General Information**

| **Company Information** | |
| --- | --- |
| Full name of your organisation: |  |
| Contact Details Name: |  |
| Job Title: |  |
| Registered Office Address: |  |
| Telephone no: |  |
| Mobile No: |  |
| Email Address: |  |
| Web Address (if any): |  |

1. **Undertaking from the supplier**

| **Declaration** | |
| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
| Signed: |  |
| Position: |  |
| Date |  |

**Appendix 1 – Questionnaire**

**Please complete the following questionnaire fully, highlighting any information that you consider to be commercially sensitive\***

1. Would you be interested in bidding for this proposed Project?

If Yes, please provide the reasons for your interest? & specify the Lot(s) you’d be interested in bidding for?

If No, please explain why?

Response:

1. Please detail the experience your organisation has in delivering the works outlined in the proposed Lot(s)?
2. Please detail how your workforce will meet the skill set requirements (in terms of knowledge, abilities & experience) in the successful delivery of the tendered Lots to a high standard?
3. When/if the Council go to tender following the soft market test, is there anything in addition to the information in this brief that suppliers would need to be advised of in order to aid in their response.
4. Please can you detail a brief statement to demonstrate what added value your organisation can offer in the market?