

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**CABINET – 23 JUNE 2010**

**PROCUREMENT OF ENGINEERING SERVICES**

**Report by Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support**

**1 PURPOSE**

To seek approval for single Contractor negotiations with Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd for structural engineering services for the new Gargieston Primary School project.

**2 BACKGROUND**

At its meeting of 29 October 2009 the Cabinet approved a submission to the Scottish Government for additional capital funding for a new-build Gargieston Primary School and Nursery Class

The Cabinet on 16 June 2010 noted that the Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) has indicated that it will provide funding of around £3.500m towards overall construction costs, the remaining cost being met by the Council.

In order to minimise cost and timescales, and to meet the funding programme proposed by the SFT, the design for the new school will closely mirror the recently completed Galston Primary School.

**3 PROPOSAL**

In order to reduce potential engineering programme issues, it is proposed to engage the same consulting engineer who was responsible for the design of Galston Primary School. It is anticipated that this will reduce design time due to their familiarity with existing plans and drawings and their knowledge and experience of issues that arose during the construction of the school.

These advantages will not be available using consultants on the existing framework contract.

Contact with the company has attracted a positive response and submission by them of a proposed fixed sum fee.

#### **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Comparing the proposed fee with fee scales set out in the existing structural engineering consultancy framework indicates that savings in excess of £35,000 would be achieved.

#### **5 RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

This proposal will help to minimise design risk by using previous knowledge and experience of the structural design. Cost risk is also minimised by having an agreed fixed fee. Programme risk is minimised by the early engagement of a critical member of the project team.

#### **6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

This report is presented in terms of paragraph 20(1) of the Councils Standing Orders Relating to Contracts & Tendering.

#### **7 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Cabinet;

- (i) approve the negotiation of a contract with Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd for structural engineering services for the new Gargieston Primary School project;
- (ii) agree that whilst the contents of the report are subject to call in procedures in the normal way, the decision to approve the negotiation of the contract should not be subject to call in procedures due to the timescale; and
- (iii) otherwise note the contents of this report.

Alex McPhee  
Executive Director of Finance & Corporate Support

22 June 2010

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Nil