

To: PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR GROUND INVESTIGATION – 2002/2004
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 20 March 2002	Ref: JPH/KEL/PE43	

1. **INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of suitable contractors for the Schedule of Rates submitted by all tenderers on a call off basis for ground investigation works not exceeding £30,000.

2. **RESOURCES**

2.1 The funding for this work will be from Capital and Revenue Budgets as appropriate for the relevant project as directed by its Client Department.

3. **CONSIDERATION**

3.1 The contract documentation for this work comprises a Schedule of Rates for traditional methods of ground investigation in soils and rocks, such as percussive cable tool boring, rotary drilling, inspection pits, trial pits, in-situ sampling of materials, carrying out both in-situ and laboratory soil mechanics tests and submitting records and reports on the soils and rocks encountered.

3.2 Tenders were invited in the form of a Schedule of Rates to operate until 31 March 2004 for the purpose of:-

- (a) Achieving a quick response for ground investigation for the Capital Programme, Maintenance or Emergency Contracts for Housing, Non-Housing, Planning or Roads needs.
- (b) Allowing these small contracts to be managed in a quick and effective manner as the investigations are usually requested at short notice.

3.3 For each individual contract all necessary consents will be obtained and entry to all land associated with the works will be available prior to the appointment of a Contractor. Relevant powers under Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 may need to be exercised where works are being undertaken on behalf of the Local Roads Authority.

3.4 Tender documents were issued to eight Contractors of whom six submitted offers. The tendering Contractors were as follows:-

- Aitken Laboratories Limited, Slammanan
- Hydracrat Limited, Bellshill
- Nicholson Site Investigation, Armadale
- Norwest Holst Soil Engineering Limited, Leeds
- Raeburn Drilling & Geotechnical Limited, Hamilton
- Ritchies Limited, Kilsyth

Geotechnics Limited, Saltney and Van Elle, Sheffield did not return tenders.

3.5 For each contract, once the nature and extent of ground investigation required to meet the Client Department's needs has been identified, a Contractor will be selected on the basis of best value which will be evaluated from the cost, availability and technical capability. A contract will be awarded by a letter of appointment from the Director of Planning and Environment, subject to the Contractor providing evidence of satisfactory current insurance policies.

3.6 Where special circumstances or site specific conditions exist, which are not covered by the Schedule of Rates, four of the Contractors who have tendered rates will be invited to submit additional rates to cover these site specific contingencies. These additional rates will then be considered with the items already covered by the priced Schedule of Rates to obtain a comparative estimate before a Contractor is selected for appointment.

4. **SIZE OF CONTRACT**

4.1 The ground investigation works will be individual contracts for works estimated at less than £30,000 located at sites anywhere within North Lanarkshire Council boundaries.

5. **RECOMMENDATION**

5.1 The Committee is asked to note the arrangements for the award of contracts for the Schedule of Rates submitted by all Contractors on a call off basis for ground investigation works under £30,000.

Graham Lawson

for David M. Porch
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

13 March 2002

For further information please contact Mr J Hollands on 01236 618107.

Background Papers

Held by the Director of Planning and Environment