

To: PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: Contract Award for the Upgrading of Footpaths to Cyclepaths, Greenfaulds, Cumbernauld
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 14 March 2005	Ref: D/TT/74/06	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval for the acceptance of the tender from Stone3 for the construction/ upgrading of existing sections of footpaths to a standard suitable for use as a shared cyclepath, on a main access route to Greenfaulds Station, Cumbernauld.
- 1.2 These works form part of the Department's wider commitments within the current Financial Year. These particular works have been granted WESTRANS funding.

2. Background

- 2.1 The proposed cyclepath will form part of a wider cycling network, as proposed within North Lanarkshire Council's recently completed Walking & Cycling Strategy.
- 2.2 This route will link in with other cyclepath works in the vicinity, providing a link from Greenfaulds Station towards Cumbernauld town centre. It will also link in with the Glasgow to Cumbernauld Safer Signed Cycle Route, which is in the process of being extended from Condorrat to the town centre.
- 2.3 The scheme, along with a number of others in the vicinity, had been investigated by an external consultant, who subsequently prepared the tender documentation and drawings. We had been advised that the estimated Tender value would be in the vicinity of £40-45,000. Consequently, and in line with the Financial Standing Orders, the Tenders were issued by, and returned directly to, this department. However, the on their return it was observed that all of the Tender values were greater than £50,000. This in part could be attributed to additions/ amendments to the scope of the works being identified by the consultants within the Tender period, which were forwarded to the tendering contractors, directly increasing the tender amount. On reflection, the higher than expected tenders may also be attributed to the consultants under-estimating the effects the relative remoteness of sections of the path would have on the need for double-handling, and associated costs, plus do not appear to have based their estimations on current market prices.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The tender documents were issued to four contractors as follows:-

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Tender Amount After Checking</u>
Pirie Contracts	£102,010.25
Raynesway Construction	£ 98,855.00
R J McLeod	£ 84,480.00
Stone ³	£ 71,687.90

- 3.2 Including 10% contingencies, the total project cost will be a maximum of £78,856.69.
- 3.3 The Tender of £71,687.90 submitted by Stone3 Limited has been consistently and competitively priced. It is the lowest compliant tender.
- 3.4 The works will be carried out on land wholly under the control of NLC.
- 3.5 Funding for this project will be through a funding allocation from WESTRANS Capital expenditure 2004/05.

4. Sustainability Implications

- 4.1 This project will contribute towards the Council's environmental agenda, by providing/ enhancing cycling and walking facilities and thereby promoting sustainable transport options.

5. Corporate Considerations

- 5.1 This project will contribute towards the Council's aim of implementing the Walking & Cycling Strategy.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that Committee:

- a) Confirm acceptance of the Tender, and instruct the Director of Administration to formally award the contract to Stone3 Limited.
- b) Approve the projected expenditure proposals contained in the report.
- c) Note that the Director of Planning & Environment will monitor the capital allocation and report to the Director of Finance accordingly.



David M. Porch
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
4 March 2005

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact David McDove, on 01236 616256