

Meeting of:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting:	Monday, 15 July 2019
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Learning and Culture
Report Title:	Multi-disciplinary consultancy service for the delivery of 21st Century Schools Band B Programme fee cap extension
Purpose of Report:	To seek Cabinet approval to extend the fee cap for the existing contract for multi- disciplinary services for Band B of the Council's 21st Century Schools Programme and other property projects.
Report Owner:	Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources
Responsible Officer:	Paula Ham, Director of Learning and Skills Carys Lord, Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Officers consulted; Matthew Curtis, 21st Century Schools Project Manager Jane O'Leary, 21st Century Schools Programme Manager Trevor Baker, Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources Carolyn Michael, Operational Manager, Accountancy Mark Haynes, Commercial and Consultancy Manager Dave Knevett, Operational Manager, Neighbourhood Services, Healthy Living and Performance Committee Reports
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for executive decision by Cabinet.
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Band B of the 21st Century Schools Programme commenced in 2019 and will run until 2024. The Council has been developing its new strategic investment programme to deliver this phase of the programme. AECOM Ltd was the successful consultant from a mini competition exercise to procure a multi-disciplinary consultancy service provider for the 21st Century Schools Programme as well as other property projects. AECOM Ltd will provide project and cost management services to ensure the Whitmore High School, Pencoedtre High School, and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg schemes are delivered on time and within budget. The next phase of the programme is to begin feasibility, initial design, and enabling works for the next tranche of projects. 	

- In order to accommodate costs for these services, it is proposed that the cap is increased to £3,700,000.

Recommendations

1. That Cabinet approve the extension of the fee cap of the existing contract for multi-disciplinary services for Band B of the Council's 21st Century Schools programme and other property projects to £3,700,000 to cover feasibility, design, enabling works, and project and cost management of the projects included within the Programme.

Reasons for Recommendations

2. The extension of the funding cap will enable the work to continue on Band B projects, to ensure that they are delivered in a timely and cost effective manner in line with the scheduled programme.

1. Background

- 1.1 In November 2016, the Council undertook a mini competition under the National Procurement Service (NPS) Framework to procure a multi-disciplinary consultancy service provider for the 21st Century Schools Programme and other property projects.
- 1.2 AECOM Ltd was the successful consultant. A report seeking Cabinet's approval to accept the competitive tender of AECOM Ltd was considered on 28 November 2016 (Cabinet Minute C3383 and C3384). An initial fee cap of £400,000 was set to protect the Council as at that point in time the exact nature of the individual project requirements were unknown.
- 1.3 The 21st Century Schools and Education Programme is a unique collaboration between Welsh Government and Local Authorities. It is a major long term strategic capital investment programme with the aim of creating a generation of 21st Century Schools in Wales. Band B commenced in 2019 and will run until 2024. The Council has been developing its new strategic investment programme to deliver this phase of the programme.
- 1.4 On 26 September 2016, Cabinet approved a programme of refurbishment works at Barry and Penarth Leisure Centres. As similar consultancy services were required, this programme of works was included within the tender. This programme of works is due to be completed in 2019.
- 1.5 Limits on funding are used as a mechanism in managing risks and costs. As a project progresses the limits are gradually increased in line with capital funding.
- 1.6 On 18 December 2017 Cabinet approved the extension of the cap to £750,000 to cover initial feasibility work on the three priority schemes from the Band B programme (Cabinet Minute C182)

1.7 On 30 July 2018 Cabinet approved a further extension of the cap to £2,000,000 to cover enabling works, design, project management, and cost management of the Whitmore High School, Pencoedtre High School, and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg schemes. (Cabinet Minute C394)

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1 The Whitmore High School and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg schemes are due to start on site in August 2019. The Pencoedtre High School scheme is due to start on site October 2019. AECOM will provide project and cost management services on behalf of the Council to ensure these projects are delivered on time and within budget.
- 2.2 The next phase of the programme is to begin feasibility, initial design, and enabling works for the next tranche of projects. These projects include St Nicholas Church in Wales Primary School, St David's Church in Wales Primary School, Primary Provision in the Western Vale, Primary Provision in Cowbridge, the Centre for Learning and Well-being, and the Expansion of Ysgol Y Deri.
- 2.3 The estimated costs are outlined below:

Scheme	Anticipated Cost
Whitmore High School	£705,151
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg	£495,940
Pencoedtre High School	£769,782
St David's CIW Primary	£292,801
St Nicholas CIW Primary	£249,676
Primary Provision in the Western Vale	£231,926
Centre for Learning & Well-being	£284,993
Review Nursery Provision	£100,000
Ysgol Y Deri Expansion	£200,000
Primary Provision in Cowbridge	£100,000
Co Education Project Enabling Works	£38,790
Total Cost	£3,469,059

- 2.4 AECOM are continuing to provide project and cost management services, as well as mechanical and electrical services, for the programme of works at the Barry and Penarth Leisure Centres. The anticipated cost is £166,768.
- 2.5 In order to accommodate these costs it is proposed that the cap is increased to £3,700,000.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1** The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 (“the 2015 Act”) requires the Council to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, to work better with people, communities and each other and to prevent persistent problems such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change.
- 3.2** To make sure we are all working towards the same purpose, the 2015 Act puts in place seven well-being goals on the Council. The 2015 Act makes it clear the listed public bodies must work to achieve all of the goals, not just one or two, these being:
- A prosperous Wales
 - A resilient Wales
 - A healthier Wales
 - A more equal Wales
 - A Wales of cohesive communities
 - A Wales of vibrant culture and Welsh Language
 - A globally responsible Wales
- 3.3** The Council's 21st Century Schools Programme contributes to achieving the wellbeing goals by:
- Improving the sustainability of school buildings and facilities through the creation of BREEAM Excellent accommodation. Positive outcomes include increased renewable energy generation, considerate water and waste management, and creation or restoration of ecologically resilient habitat areas.
 - Increasing pupil knowledge of, and connection to, resilient ecosystems and healthy food through habitat and allotment areas which can be integrated into the curriculum.
 - Ensuring an efficient supply and demand of school places across the Vale of Glamorgan through effective forecasting of future demand.
 - Providing additional Welsh medium school places to support the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 strategy.
 - Supporting sustainable transport through infrastructure and behaviour change strategies.
 - Creating greater community access to facilities in which to meet, engage in sports, and provide adult learning.
 - Driving greater social value through ambitious community benefits. Specifically increasing contributions to education, training and skills across the Vale, supporting local community projects, and committing to resourcing local tradespeople and resources wherever possible.

3.4 The 2015 Act imposes a duty on all public bodies in Wales to carry out “sustainable development”, defined as being, "The process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals." The action that a public body takes in carrying out sustainable development includes setting and publishing well-being objectives, and taking all reasonable steps in exercising its functions to meet those objectives.

3.5 The 2015 Act sets out five ways of working needed for the Council to achieve the seven well-being goals, these being:

- The importance of balancing short-term needs with the needs to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.
- Considering how the Council’s objectives impact upon each of the wellbeing goals listed above.
- The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the Council services.
- Acting in collaboration with other persons and organisations that could help the Council meet its wellbeing objectives.
- Acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse.

3.6 The Council has committed as part of the Corporate Plan 2016-20 to achieving a vision of ‘Strong Communities with a Bright Future’. This plan is reflective of the Welsh Government’s Well-being of Future Generations Act and is comprised of a number of Well-being objectives to deliver this vision.

3.7 Well-being Outcome 3, ‘An Aspirational and Culturally Vibrant Vale’ is specifically linked to education with a number of objectives contributing to the 21st Century Schools programme. We have prioritised the need to raise standards of achievement as one of our well-being objectives. We are proud of the Vale of Glamorgan and our place in Wales and that the use of the Welsh language is growing in the Vale. We respect and value diversity within our communities and recognise the importance of promoting equality of opportunity. We also appreciate our unique heritage and culture and the importance for people of all ages to enjoy a range of activities and to have the opportunities to be creative. We have therefore identified valuing culture and diversity as one of our eight well-being objectives.

3.8 Details of the relevant objectives are listed below:

Well-being Outcome 3: An Aspirational and Culturally Vibrant Vale

- All Vale of Glamorgan citizens have opportunities to achieve their full potential.

Objective 5: Raising overall standards of achievement.

- Improve standards of achievement for pupils through sharing excellence between schools and the targeting of resources.

- Secure improved outcomes for groups of learners at risk of underachievement, such as those entitled to free school meals.
 - Increase the learning opportunities for disadvantaged individuals and vulnerable families.
 - Reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training.
 - Improve outcomes for post 16 learners through greater cooperation between schools, training providers and businesses.
 - Develop a new school modernisation programme in readiness for the next 21st century schools funding due to commence in 2019/20.
- 3.9** The Council's 21st Century Schools Programme meets the five ways of working by:
- Responding to the need to ensure that there is a well-managed balance of supply and demand of school places in the Vale of Glamorgan, in the short and longer term, as a result of recent and planned housing developments. The project recognises the changing demographics in the Vale of Glamorgan will significantly affect the demand for our services over the coming years, including by increasing secondary provision of Welsh medium education places to reflect ongoing trends.
 - Developing schools that will have an environment reflective of national mission and evolving curriculum. The modern learning environments will integrate with the aims of other Vale of Glamorgan Council departments and Welsh Government priorities in terms of health, equalities, digital competency, resilient ecosystems, active travel, and access to high quality green spaces.
 - Delivering open communication channels and numerous opportunities for stakeholders to be involved in and engaged with the process and outcomes of the entire project. Specifically through rigorous consultations, design engagement meetings, digital communications, and site visits.
 - Developing Barry Secondary Learning Communities (Whitmore High School, Pencoedre High School, and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg) as a strategically holistic project, bringing particular opportunities for collaboration between the appointed contractors, other Vale of Glamorgan Council departments, and the wider community in areas such as community benefits.
 - Working towards ensuring that all pupils within the Vale have every opportunity to attain the best possible outcomes through access to high quality educational facilities, thus preventing vulnerable young people from otherwise potentially adverse outcomes.

4. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 4.1** The award of the contract under the NPS Framework Agreement was in line with the allocated budgets.

4.2 A £3,700,000 cap is deemed suitable to cover the anticipated spend of the next stages of the Band B programme, as well as the anticipated costs for the Leisure Service.

- 4.3** All costs are included within the individual project budgets, included within the Council's capital programme.
- 4.4** The total Band B budget from 2018/19 to 2023/24 is £143.792m. An updated Band B programme is expected to be taken to Cabinet before the Council recess.

Employment

- 4.5** There are no employment implications.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 4.6** The Council entered into a contract under the terms and conditions of the NPS Framework Agreement which has been developed by NPS and agreed by Welsh Government. The call-off contract was entered into on 27th March 2018.
- 4.7** The NPS Framework Agreement is compliant with EU procurement law and the call-off process under the Framework Agreement was followed. Further, the procurement was in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and Procurement Code of Practice.

5. Background Papers

- 5.1** 28 November 2016, Procurement of multi-disciplinary consultancy Services for 21st Century Schools (Band B) and other property projects (Cabinet Minutes C3383 and C3384).
- 5.2** 18 December 2017, Multi-Disciplinary Consultancy Service for the Delivery of 21st Century Schools Band B Projects Fee Cap Extension (Cabinet Minute C182).
- 5.3** 30 July 2018, Multi-disciplinary consultancy service for the delivery of 21st Century Schools Band B Projects fee cap extension (Cabinet Minute C394).
- 5.4** 7 January 2019, 21st Century Schools Programme - Band B Update and Current Position (Cabinet Minute C539).