

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Decision to award contract and approve the expenditure of up to £44,250.00 for Fire Strategy and Fire Compartmentation & Integrity Surveys Of Various Herefordshire Council Corporate Assets.
Date of decision:	7 th December 2023
Decision maker:	Strategic Assets Delivery Director
Authority for delegated decision:	<p>To agree the proposed programme of works as set out in appendix A and appendix B, incorporates a series of planned project works to enable Council to deliver on its obligations to maintain buildings fit for purpose utilising £3,707k capital budget subject to approval at council budget meeting of 10 February 2023.</p> <p>Decision - Property services estates capital building improvement programme 2023/25 - Herefordshire Council</p>
Ward:	Various
Consultation:	None
Decision made:	<p>Award a contract to FireRite UK Ltd for the Fire Strategy and Fire Compartmentation & Integrity Surveys Of Various Herefordshire Council Corporate Assets following a successful tender.</p> <p>Approve the expenditure of up to £44,250.00, which includes a contingency of £5,310.00 and £3,540.00 for internal and external professional fees.</p> <p>Responsibility for delivering works to be carried out by the Capital Senior Project Manager within the spend budget of the Capital Building Improvement Programme.</p>
Reasons for decision:	<p>These works are included in the Property Services Estates Capital Programme 2023/25.</p> <p>FireRite UK Ltd were the successful bidder following a successful tender process.</p> <p>The required improvement works have been assessed and prioritised based upon select criteria which covers health and safety, operational need, impact and lifecycle and value.</p>
Equality Considerations	<p>Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows: A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to –</p> <p>(a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;</p> <p>(b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;</p>

	<p>(c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.</p> <p>The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. Our providers will be made aware of their contractual requirements in regards to equality legislation.</p> <p>The proposed capital maintenance schemes have given due consideration to equality issues particularly in relation to disability.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>By not carrying out the Fire Strategy and Compartmentation works the Council's Corporate Assets are at risk of incurring further maintenance requirements, potentially costing the Council further money. There is also a health and safety risk associated with not carrying out these works.</p> <p>There is a risk that once on site, further works are identified that was not previously apparent.</p> <p>A contingency has been allowed to cover unforeseen elements once the works commence. Should this contingency be insufficient then a further officer decision will be required.</p>
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	<p>Do nothing. This is not recommended as the risk of the works not being completed means that the health and safety risk associated with the continued existence of the building remains.</p> <p>Not to appoint. This is not recommended, FireRite UK Ltd have been selected through a competitive tendering process.</p>
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None.

Signed.....

Date: 7th December 2023

Sarah Jowett
Strategic Assets Delivery Director