

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Public Rights of Way – Delivery of Improvement and Maintenance Works
Date of decision:	27 th November 2024
Decision maker:	Corporate Director for Economy and Environment
Authority for delegated decision:	Reference EE-07 of the Chief Executive scheme of delegation (updated 15 th October 2024) provides the Corporate Director, Economy and Environment with the ability to take executive (non-key) decisions relating to Public Rights of Way.
Ward:	Countywide.
Consultation:	<p>Hoople Ltd have been advised of the decision to be made and have raised no objections.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure has been advised of the decision to be made and has raised no objections.</p>
Decision made:	<p>In relation to Public Rights of Way improvement and maintenance works:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) to no longer deliver Public Rights of Way improvement and maintenance works through a Service Level Agreement with Hoople Ltd. b) to utilise the existing Public Realm Contract with Balfour Beatty Living Places and the Council’s own framework for the delivery of civil engineering and associated works for the improvement of the Council’s highway network and public realm.
Reasons for decision:	<p>Improvement and maintenance works associated with the Public Rights of Way service are currently delivered through a wider service level agreement (SLA) between the Council and Hoople Ltd.</p> <p>As a result of recent discussions between the Council and Hoople Ltd, both parties have proposed that alternative ways of delivering improvement maintenance works associated with Public Rights of Way be sought.</p> <p>A new delivery approach has been proposed primarily due to challenges in providing the service with a team of limited personnel. In addition, it is recognised that there is a need at times to access specialist plant and machinery.</p> <p>Officers have identified two options that currently exist for an alternative delivery approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A compliant route to market already exists through the Council’s partner contractor, Balfour Beatty Living Places and value for money can be evidenced through Balfour Beatty’s procurement processes for any Public Rights of Way works packages that are

	<p>commissioned by Council officers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A further compliant route to market already exists through the Council's own framework for the delivery of civil engineering and associated works for the improvement of the Council's highway network and public realm. Public Rights of Way works packages would be commissioned through the framework via either a direct award or mini-competition route.
<p>Equality Considerations</p>	<p>None. This decision relates to the operational delivery of services only.</p>
<p>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</p>	<p>Finance:</p> <p>A total revenue works budget of £145k is typically allocated to Public Rights of Way per annum and commissioned through Hoople.</p> <p>A capital budget of £283k is typically allocated to Public Rights of Way per annum.</p> <p>Two options currently exist for an alternative delivery approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A compliant route to market already exists through the Council's partner contractor, Balfour Beatty Living Places and value for money can be evidenced through Balfour Beatty's procurement processes for any Public Rights of Way works packages that are commissioned by Council officers. - A further compliant route to market already exists through the Council's own framework for the delivery of civil engineering and associated works for the improvement of the Council's highway network and public realm. Public Rights of Way works packages would be commissioned through the framework via either a direct award or mini-competition route. <p>Risk Management:</p> <p>A compliant route to market is required to deliver Public Rights of Way works to ensure the network can be maintained safely and improved where necessary. Both contracts have been procured in accordance with the council's contract procedure rules and Public Contract Regulations 2015.</p> <p>Legal Implications:</p> <p>There are no legal implications as a result of no longer delivering Public Rights of Way improvement and maintenance works through a Service Level Agreement with Hoople Ltd. The Council has the ability to use its partner contractor, Balfour Beatty Living Places or its own framework for the delivery of civil engineering and associated works to deliver Public Rights of Way works.</p>

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Not to use the Council's partner contractor, Balfour Beatty Living Places or the Council's own framework for the delivery of civil engineering and associated works. This would mean the Council being unable to maintain its Public Rights of Way network.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None