

Committee:	Executive	Agenda Item No.:	13
Date:		Status	Open
Category	Decision within the functions of Executive Part of the Budget and Policy Framework		
Subject:	Asbestos survey contract with Interserve		
Report by:	Emergency & Responsive Repairs Manager		
Other Officers Involved	Assistant Property & Estates Manager		
Director	Joint Executive Director of Operations		
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Regeneration		

#### **RELEVANT CORPORATE AIMS**

COMMUNITY SAFETY – Ensuring that communities are safe and secure

STRATEGIC ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT – Continuing improving our organisation.

**TARGETS** To attain 100% Asbestos survey data for the existing Councils Housing stock

#### **VALUE FOR MONEY**

An open tender exercise was undertaken to ensure competitive rates for Asbestos inspections. Interserve were awarded the contract in January 2013 with an initial 2 year contract, with the options of two further extensions of 1 year.

#### **SUMMARY OF ISSUE FOR CONSIDERATION**

This report requests an increase in the Asbestos Survey budget from £50,000 to £70,000 for 2014/15 with a proviso that each year the budget will need to increase to accommodate an increase in mandatory asbestos surveys. When 100% of initial surveys are completed the budget can be set for the re-inspections only.

A footnote inserted into the contract stating why the contract value will increase from £50,000 to £70,000 for 2014/15 and thereafter until the end of the existing contract upon which the new tender will take into account the higher contract value.

### **KEY INFORMATION**

Since 2009 the Housing Department, in conjunction with Property Services, have worked with contractors to ensure asbestos surveys are carried out to the housing stock.

Each year 5% of the stock is surveyed, plus each property with a potential risk needs to be re-inspected each year to ensure there has been no deterioration (or until the risk is removed). This means that there is increasing number of inspections needed each year.

The estimated Contract value of £50,000 is not sufficient and will need to increase to £70,000 for 2014/15, with the likelihood of further increases each year based on the number of identified risks. Upon completion of 100% surveys the budget will be readjusted for the re-inspections only.

### **EVALUATION SUMMARY**

As part of the Councils commitment to ensuring asbestos is both identified and managed within its commercial and domestic properties the compliance with Health & Safety Legislation is paramount and as such the budget needs to take this into account.

### **DECISION**

It is recommended that the budget be increased and a copy of this report with a footnote inserted into the contract documentation explaining why the value of works has increased.

### **IMPLICATIONS**

Financial : The costs arising from this contract will be met from within the existing HRA approved budget where offsetting savings will be identified in order to cover the increased costs arising from asbestos surveys.

Legal : That an appropriate tendering process has been followed in accordance with legislation and the Council's Constitution and the updating of appropriate contract documentation.

Under the "Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012" the Council has a legal obligation to ensure all asbestos in commercial properties has been identified, managed and re-inspected every year. Any Asbestos identified in domestic properties must also be re-inspected every year.

Human Resources : None

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. It is recommended that the budget be met from within the existing approved HRA Budgets and a copy of this report with a footnote inserted into the contract documentation explaining why the value of works has increased.

**REASON FOR DECISION TO BE GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION**

Contribute to improving the health of the District

ATTACHMENTS: none

FILE REFERENCE: None

SOURCE DOCUMENT: None