OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE BOARD

12 December 2005

Report of: Business Manager, Oxford Building Solutions.

Title: Replacement Windows, Tender Approval - N6380.

Wards: Kidlington, Littlemore, Rose Hill.

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Key Decision: Yes

Lead Member: Councillor Turner

Scrutiny responsibility: Housing Scrutiny Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Board agrees to the following:-

- 1. Acceptance of the second lowest tender "a reduction in the schedule of rates price of 10.83%" and
- 2. that the contract shall run for a period of three years subject to an annual cost review and the agreement of both parties.

1. Summary -

This report is to advise the Board on the tenders received for the replacement of windows within Kidlington, Littlemore and Rose Hill wards (year one) and to seek acceptance of the second lowest tender for the reasons set out in the report.

2. Council's Vision and strategic aim -

This project is part of the Council's programme to meet the Decent Homes standard by 31st December 2010. It also improves the environment in which we live by helping to lower CO2 emissions and providing more affordable heating for tenants.

3. Background -

- a. In February and March 2005, Members approved the 2005/06 Capital Projects Programme. The programme included the budget sum of £875,000 for windows. This sum includes fees.
- b. It is proposed that the contract should be on a term basis, over a period of three years, with an annual review of costs.
- c. The specification includes an indicative budget for each of the three years, which would be formalised, following Members approval of the annual replacement windows budget.
- d. Competitive tenders have been received for this work, which covers the routine replacement of windows with PVCu double glazed units. The results of which are shown in the Financial Implications section below.
- e. The tender appraisal team have visited the lowest tenderers and have made assessments as to their capabilities and these are described later in the report.
- f. The Best Value appraisal sheet showing comparisons between the two lowest tenderers is attached (Appendix 1).

4. Financial implications -

- a. The tenders received for the works are listed below. The names of contractors are omitted from this report due to confidentiality reasons and the fact that contracts have not yet been entered into but they can be seen on the Confidential Appendix 2.
- b. Tender for the replacement of windows with PVCu double glazed units. N6380. Tenders were received based on a plus or minus percentage on schedule of rates prices provided by the Council. The tender submissions were as follows:-

Lowest = - 12.5%. Next lowest = - 10.83% Third lowest = 0% c. A team was formed to appraise the tenders and their comments are set out below, also see the appraisal sheet (Appendix 1) for Best Value comparisons:-

The lowest tenderer, is a sound company financially and have a good product but they are too small (financially) to deal with the size of contract over three years. Their health and safety procedures were not as thorough and their back-up systems not as good as the second lowest tenderer.

d. The lowest tenderer has also qualified their tender by advising the Council that they cannot keep to the 12.5% for areas where toughened or laminated glass is required. Under the Constitution, qualification of tenders is not permitted and the contractor would have to standby their tender.

5. Staffing implications -

 These projects have been programmed into the workload for the Capital Projects Team within OBS and therefore no problems are envisaged.

6. Conclusion -

a. Having given due regard to the relevant budget for 2005/06 and best value reviews of the tenders received, it is recommended that the second lowest tender be approved subject to contract.

THIS REPORT HAS BEEN SEEN AND APPROVED BY:

Portfolio Holder, Councillor Ed Turner, Strategic Directors, Michael Lawrence and Mark Luntley; O.B.S. Business Manager, Graham Bourton; Legal and Democratic Services, Jeremy King;

Background papers:- Budget approval report & minutes for 2005/06. Tender returns and appraisal forms.