

Report to CABINET

Highways Maintenance Frameworks & Contracts

Portfolio Holder:

Cllr C Goodwin – Cabinet member for Transport & Highways

Officer Contact:

Emma Barton – Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

Report Author:

Gordon Anderson – Head of Highways & Engineering

22nd September 2025

Reason for Decision

This report requests approval to establish new frameworks and contracts to deliver and facilitate Highways Maintenance in Oldham. The previous framework (Construction and Highways Works & Services Framework) ended in October 2024.

Executive Summary

A review of the delivery of the Construction and Highways Works & Services Framework has identified that new agreements need to be established.

The proposal is to establish a mix of new frameworks and contracts that are required to cover the Council's highways maintenance work requirements. The Council needs to ensure that all procurement activity is compliant with Oldham Council Contract Procedure Rules and the Procurement Act 2023.

Recommendations

That Cabinet approval is given to establish new frameworks and contracts.

Highways Maintenance Frameworks & Contracts**1 Background**

- 1.1 The previous Oldham Council Term Frameworks ended in October 2024. The Council needs to ensure all procurement activity is fully compliant with Oldham Council Contract Procedure Rules and the Procurement Act 2023.
- 1.2 This paper sets out the requirement to establish new frameworks and contracts, divided into various work categories as detailed below.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 The value of the new frameworks and contracts is estimated to be circa £70,000,000 - £100,000,000 over the full term of all agreements, as broken down below. These new frameworks and contracts will be acquired in compliance with the Councils Contract Procurement Rules and the Procurement Act 2023.
- 2.2 As a co-operative council, Oldham will ensure a fair and open process that delivers high performance. The frameworks and contracts will be acquired by either publishing a tender or via an existing, non-Oldham framework. Selection criteria will be a combination of Qualitative (ability, experience, capability and health & safety considerations), Commercial and Social Values offers.

3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 **Option 1** – To approve the report and allow Oldham Council Procurement to establish new frameworks and contracts to cover all highway maintenance delivery. This will ensure that delivery complies with Oldham Council Contract Procedure Rules and the Procurement Act 2023, whilst also delivering the best value for money.

The following requirements have been identified as needed to maintain the highways of Oldham Council to an acceptable standard. At this time, for most of the requirements, the final decisions regarding whether they will be openly advertised, acquired via a call-off from an existing, non-Oldham framework, or whether they will be individual contracts or frameworks has not been decided. These decisions will be fact based and will be the outcome of individual procurement strategies that will be completed for each requirement.

Requirement	Current Annual Spend	Anticipated full term value	Proposed length of new agreement	Number of suppliers required.	Anticipated Framework or Contract
Traffic Management (temp signals)	£30,000	£150,000 to £250,000	5 years	1	Contract
Road Markings	£200,000	£1,000,000 to £1,500,000	5 years	1 or 2	Framework
Surface Dressing (tar & chip)	£600,000	£3,000,000 to £5,000,000	5 years	1	Contract

Carriage way resurfacing	£3,000,000	£12,000,000 to £20,000,000	4 years	3	Framework
Plant hire (Small)	£20,000	£100,000 to £150,000	5 years	1	Contract
Plant hire (large with driver)	£3,000,000	£30,000,000 to £50,000,000	10 years	3 - 5	Contract
Minor Works - Highways	£1,000,000	£5,000,000 to £10,000,000	N/A	N/A	May use existing Manchester framework
Aggregates	£800,000	£6,000,000 to £8,000,000	8 years	3	Framework
Iron Works (drains gullies)	£30,000	£150,000 to £200,000	5 years	1	Contract
Annual Engineering Surveys	£50,000	£200,000 to £300,000	5 years	1	Contract

Option 2 – Not to approve the report, which is not considered viable, as the consequence of this will leave the Council in breach of Oldham Council Contract Procedure Rules, unless each scheme is individually quoted or tendered for, which is considered an inefficient procurement method, and would not provide best value.

4 **Preferred Option**

- 4.1 **Option 1** – To approve the report and allow Oldham Council Procurement to establish new frameworks and contracts to cover all highway maintenance delivery. This will ensure that delivery complies with Oldham Council Contract Procedure Rules and the Procurement Act 2023, whilst also delivering the best value for money.

5 **Consultation**

- 5.1 N/A

6 **Financial Implications**

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications of setting up the new frameworks and contracts. However, the use of the frameworks should ensure that the Council complies with the Contract Procedure rules, and that the council receives value for money when procuring Construction and Highways Works and Services.

John Edisbury, Senior Accountant

7 **Legal Implications**

- 7.1 This is a procurement on standard terms. We echo Procurements comments and should these be followed we have nothing further to add.

Michael Grocott, Solicitor Commercial Contracts.

8. **Procurement Comments**

For each requirement, a procurement strategy will be written and agreed between the contract managers and the procurement category manager. All procurement strategies will be authorised by the head of the department as well as the head of procurement. The procurement strategy may change some minor aspects of this DDR, such as route to market or whether the requirement should be for a framework or contract, as well as the term of the agreement. This work is already underway with some strategies already completed.

Each procurement will be fully supported by procurement to ensure a fully compliant process is undertaken and that the Council obtains value for money.

Each procurement will maximise the potential to obtain the best level of Social Value outcomes based on the contract/framework requirements. E.G. services-based contracts will focus on people, quality of life, people's health and wellbeing plus the environment.

Procurement is keen to ensure that some 20 plus contracts do not all end at one time and will stagger the start and end dates of many of the new agreements.

The values listed in the table are for procurement purposes and will set out contract/framework value ranges and is not a defined amount of contract obligation.

It is anticipated that it will take in the region of 10 – 14 months to acquire new agreements for all of the previous framework Lots and work will be prioritised by value and risk to the Council, ensuring high value and greater risk contracts are dealt with as early as possible.

Jasmin Banks-Lee, Head of Procurement

9 **Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People**

9.1 Yes

10 **Key Decision**

10.1 Yes

11 **Key Decision Reference**

11.1 NEI/08/25.

12 **Background Papers**

12.1 N/A

13 **Appendices**

13.1 Appendix 1 – Equality Impact Assessment