Report to CABINET

Highways Asset Management & Professional Services Framework

Officer Contact:
Emma Barton – Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

Report Author:
Gordon Anderson – Assistant Director Highways and Engineering

30th November 2026

Reason for Decision

This report requests approval to establish new framework to provide specialist asset management & professional services to ensure continued compliance with Department for Transport (DfT) transparency reporting and incentive funding. This will allow Oldham to ensure that it stays at the front of changes within the highways maintenance well managed assets approach, and that any additional incentive funding made available by DfT is achieved to maximise the capital maintenance programmes within the borough.

Recommendations

That Cabinet approval is given to establish a new Highways Asset Management & Professional Services Framework.

Leader's Consultative Session **30th November 2026**

Highway Asset Management & Professional Services Framework

1 Background

1.1 This paper sets out the requirement to establish a new framework to ensure Oldham's ability to access necessary specialist asset management consultants and expertise to aid the ongoing alignment with DfT Transparency reporting requirements and ensure all available incentive funding is received.

2 Current Position

2.1 The value of the new framework is estimated to be circa £11,000,000 over the full term of the agreement. This new framework will be acquired in compliance with the Council's Contract Procurement Rules and the Procurement Act 2023.

2.2 As a co-operative Council, we want to ensure a fair and open process that delivers high performance. The framework will be acquired by either publishing a tender or via an existing, non-Oldham framework. Selection criteria will be a combination of Qualitive (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 a new framework for Highways Asset Management & Professional Services. 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.

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 a new framework for Highways Asset Management & Professional Services. 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 implication of setting up the asset management and professional services framework. However, the use of the framework should ensure that the Council complies with the Contract Procedure rules and EU regulations, and that the Council receives value for money when procuring services.

Leonnie Wharton-Brown, Senior Accountant

7 **Legal Implications**

7.1 I am content with the proposal which is lawful and will assist the Council to comply with tis statutory duties.
Bryan Boese - Solicitor

8. **Procurement Comments**

8.1 Procurement has been engaged to develop this framework. The framework will extended to Greater Manchester based councils for access subject to Council's approval for permitting call off against this framework by other councils. The framework will be under PA 23 regulations and will be a closed framework for a maximum period of 4 years.
Sandeep Kapoor – Senior Category Manager, Procurement

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

9.1 Yes refer to Appendix 1

10 **Key Decision**

10.1 Yes

11 **Key Decision Reference**

11.1 KDD-26-26

12 **Background Papers**

12.1 N/A

13 **Appendices**

13.1 Appendix 1 – Equality Impact Assessment