

AGENDA ITEM 7

Report to: Planning and Conservation Committee (P&C)

Report from: Councillor Sarah Quail, Chair P&C

Date: 13 October 2022

Subject: Appointment of Traffic Consultants to advise Chichester City Council on the proposed route of the Southern Access Road (SAR) in Chichester West

Recommendation:

It is recommended to the Finance Committee that Contractor B be appointed to carry out the project, and that the project be funded from CIL funds to a maximum of £10,000; this recommendation to go to the Special Finance Committee Meeting straight after the Planning and Conservation Committee on 13 October 2022.

1. Background

You will recall that at the Special Planning and Conservation Committee Meeting held on Thursday 28 July 2022, it was resolved to recommend to the Finance Committee on 13 September that an independent traffic and transport consultant be commissioned to advise the City Council on the proposed design for the SAR.

2. Tendering Process

Three quotes were received ranging from £1250+VAT to £11,930+VAT. As the tenders varied so widely in price the Finance Committee at their meeting on 13 September 2022 further resolved that the three companies be invited to a meeting at the Council House to present their proposals to Members so that a more informed decision could be reached.

Two presentations took place on Tuesday 4 October 2022 (one consultant declined to attend). The meeting was chaired by the Chair of Finance, Councillor Scicluna. All members of the Finance Committee were invited to attend with the Chair of Planning and Conservation.

Both consultants explained competently how they would approach the project and how they would report back to the City Council.

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Their quotations were as follows:

Contractor A (£11,930)

Contractor B (£6,950)

Contractor B (£6,950) explained thoroughly how he had reviewed the documentation on the subject already. He had also visited the proposed SAR junction at the southern end of Sherborne Road where it abuts onto Westgate when Bishop Luffa students were making their way to school. He has a lot of local knowledge of the site which he will bring to discussions.

Contractor A had not in fact visited the site. His presentation was not as thorough as Contractor B's and those Members present decided therefore to recommend Contractor B.