

# Birmingham City Council

## Report to Cabinet

14<sup>th</sup> May 2024



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**Subject:** Key Decision Planned Procurement Activities (June 2024 – August 2024)

### Commissioner Review

- Weed Spraying Services for Birmingham Parks and Nurseries - this is a discretionary, non-statutory service with a TCV (Total Contract Value) of £780,000. Commissioners challenge the need for this expense. Given the scale of the budget deficit and the scale of this investment the Council should reconsider this “discretionary” spend.
- Tower Block Fire Safety Improvement Works - are critical and included in the agreed HRA budget.
- Fire Door Installations – as above.
- IT Service Management Solution - TCV over two years is £1,908,000. Commissioners understand the requirement however, this is a major investment, and we expect to see a strongly negotiated MAT (most advantageous tender).
- IT Security Tooling - as these contracts will be for a duration of 1 year with the option to extend for a further year, and they are critical, Commissioners want to see a cost reduction from the suppliers when/if the 2<sup>nd</sup> year is contracted. Are there further discounts available for a 3<sup>rd</sup> year commitment of this critical service?
- Bikeability Cycle Training - it is not a statutory requirement for the Council to deliver this service. The estimated cost of this service is £5m, we assume for a 4-year period as stated in the document? Is this totally “Grant Funded”? Does the Council have to contribute any funds to this? If yes, the Council must consider the budget challenges over the next three years. Entering a 4-year contract is a long commitment with risk eg poor delivery of service/outcomes etc and break points should be introduced. Furthermore, Commissioners would expect that the Grant Funding would cover contract management over the life of this contract. Is this the case?
- Streetworks Coring Programme - the use of an appropriate framework is fine. However, this is a 4-year contract. Commissioners would expect there to be a break clause in the contract to provide some flexibility, if required, in future years.