

FOOTPATH SURFACING WORKS

AGENDA ITEM No. 11

MEETING: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: 22ND JANUARY 2025

REPORTED BY: WORKS AND ENVIRONMENT MANAGER

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is for Members to consider three quotations to resurface / repair various priority footpaths and tarmac surfaces in the Parish.

2.0 Background to the Report

2.1 Following the annual inspection of Council's footpaths and surfaces, quotations were sought from four external contractors to repair various issues arising from the inspections.

2.2 A budget sum of £20,000 is available in the 2024/25 Capital Programme Budget for footpath repair works and this has been classified by the Council as an essential project.

2.3 West Park has historically been priority area for footpath repairs, largely due to tree root damage. Many of the larger trees have been removed as they have declined, however, this site remains a high priority for footpath repairs.

2.4 Over recent years other sites such as School Aycliffe Woodlands, Woodham Burn and Woodham Park have also received repairs.

3.0 Matters for Consideration

3.1 Four contractors were contacted to submit quotes from standardised specifications for works focusing on repairs to the footpath network within West Park.

3.2 This includes a 166 metres square section of overlaid footpath from the play area to the bridge crossing towards Kirkstone Place. An additional quote was sought for the section of footpath from the link identified above which joins the play area. This is highlighted as Footpath 1 on Appendix 1.

3.3 In addition a further section is to be upgraded which has been damaged due to waterlogging. This is a 15-metre stretch on the northern side of the top lake near the willow trees. The work will include the installation of a drain to the side of the path in the grassed area, with a cross drain under the path, through the concrete lake wall to drain water directly into the lake. The side of the lake will be concreted and the failed concrete re-laid to include this small section of the lake side. This is highlighted as Footpath 2 on Appendix 1.

3.4 Finally, a day rate has been sought from all contractors, above and beyond the initial quote, to repair other smaller damage around the parish as required. It would be proposed that the contractor that is awarded the contract would then complete other small-scale repairs using the day rate, using the remaining resources from the Footpath Repairs Capital Budget.

4.0 Policy Implications

4.1 This report complies with the Council's Strategic Aims 2 and 5: -

Aim No. 2. -To Manage the Council's Finances and Assets in a Responsible Manner.

Aim No. 5. – To contribute to the environmental improvement of Aycliffe by managing and developing parks, play areas and green spaces.

5.0 Staffing Implications

5.1 Works management time will be required to oversee the repair works.

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 There is currently a total £15,050 remaining in the 2024/25 Footpath Repairs Capital Budget.

6.2 Four suppliers were contacted for quotes for the footpath works and two quotations subsequently received, ensuring compliance with the Council's Standing Orders for Contracts and Procurement.

6.3 A breakdown of the quotations received from the contractors is summarised in the table below:-

| Contractor | Quotation Value |
|--------------------------------|---|
| AWG | 166m square to bridge to bridge £5,147.60 Footpath to play area (Not quoted for) Drainage, concrete and tarmac £2,858 TOTAL £8,005.60 (Excluding play area) |
| Lineside | 166m square to bridge to bridge £3,749 Footpath to play area £780 Drainage, concrete and tarmac £5,370 TOTAL £9,899 |
| Stewart Landscape Improvements | Did not take up offer of a quoting for project. |
| Compact Services | At time of writing, had not provided a quote. |

6.4 It should be noted that Lineside met officers on site for a site visit, so officers are confident that their quote is a true reflection of the work involved.

6.5 Unfortunately AWG provided a quote from the specifications only. They did apparently visit the site but did not take up the offer of a site meeting. Therefore, whilst officers are confident that the specifications are correct, it is thought that the quote for the drainage in particular is very low considering the work and materials involved.

- 6.6 All contractors contacted have completed work for the Council in the past to a good standard.
- 6.7 Despite Lineside being £1,114 more expensive than AWG, officers would be inclined to favour the more expensive quote, as the planned work and quote has been fully discussed with officers and questioned during a site meeting.

7.0 Crime and Disorder Implications

- 7.1 None

8.0 Equal Opportunity Implications

- 8.1 None

9.0 Environment, Biodiversity and Climate Change Implications

- 9.1 Where possible tarmac scrapings will be stored with a view that they can be used on other projects such as infilling potholes on informal paths/tracks.

10.0 Risk Assessment

- 10.1 It is not considered that the matter contained in this report poses a risk to health and safety of staff or to the financial or public standing of the Council to a degree that a risk assessment should be appended to this report.

11.0 General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

- 11.1 Is any personal or sensitive data required for this proposal which may have any implications for GDPR? **NO**

12.0 Recommendations

- 12.1 It is recommended that:

- i) Members receive the report.
- ii) Agree the priority footpath repair works identified in the report.
- iii) Members agree to award the contract to Lineside at a total cost of £9,899.
- iv) Members agree that the remaining budget be used, as required, to undertake ad-hoc tarmac repairs around the parish, as required, using the selected contractor, on a day rate basis.

Works and Environment Manager

Appendix 1

Location of the Proposed Footpath Repairs

