

1.5 TENDER FOR SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISION

(Contract:2022069: GT)

Responsible Officer: Peter Panagakos

RECOMMENDATION*That Council:*

- 1. Awards the tender from Chandler MacLeod Group Pty Ltd for the provision of School Crossing Supervision, Contract No 2022069 for a schedule of rates-based contract with an estimated half yearly contract value of \$653,631 and an estimated total contract value of \$1,960,893 inclusive of all available extension options.*
- 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer or her delegate to execute the contract agreement; and*
- 3. Notes that the contract will commence on 1 July 2022 with an initial term of 6 months and the contract has 2 extension options of 6 months each and authorises the Chief Executive Officer to approve extension options subject to satisfactory performance.*

*(*Please note that all dollar figures are GST Inclusive unless stated otherwise)*

- 4. Notes that a further report will be presented to Council at its March 2022 Council meeting in response to points 3, 4 and 5 of its 30 November 2021 resolution.*

INTRODUCTION

Council has tendered for the supervision of School Crossings.

As part of its planning process for this tender, Council Officers considered its procurement options, including whether to go to market itself, participate in regional or sector collaboration or to access established contracts via other compliant Procurement agreements. Due to the nature of the service it was not appropriate to collaborate for this service.

At present school crossing supervision is primarily delivered through a contractual arrangement whereby the contractor provides 87 School Crossing Supervisors. An additional 7 supervisors (making a total of 94 School Crossing Supervisors) are directly employed by Council but are managed by the contractor under the terms of the contract.

BACKGROUND

Council currently engages the services of Chandler MacLeod Group Pty Ltd to deliver School Crossing supervision services and has done so 2002.

The current contract commenced in July 2017 for an initial term of three years and in June 2020 an option to extend the contract for a further two years was exercised by Council. The current contract expires on 30 June 2022.

Council provides 94 School Crossing Supervisors at 87 sites that either meet the VicRoads warrants (criteria set regarding the number of children using the crossing and traffic volumes) or 'special needs' warrant the crossing due to factors affecting safety such as excessive vehicle speed, road geometry, sight distances, volume of heavy vehicles or road width.

At its meeting on 30 November 2021, Council resolved:

That Council:

- 1. That Council calls for tenders for the provision of School Crossing Supervision for the City of Monash for the period of 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022 with two six months extension options for Council exercisable at its sole discretion.*
 - 2. That Council gives notice to the State Government and all Monash schools that:*
 - a. it is seriously considering its future role in funding school crossing supervision as this is a service that relates to schools and the State Government's functions rather than local government functions.*
 - b. with rate capping in place, it is difficult for Council to continue to simply provide the same level of services from year to year in circumstances where there is significant new emerging challenges which are deserving of Council funding consideration;*
 - c. Council has a responsibility to its residents and ratepayers to regularly consider its spending priorities;*
 - d. it views with concern that the share of funding contribution to school crossing supervision costs has increased by more than 50% for local councils since 1975 while the proportion of funding contributed by the State Government has almost halved;*
 - e. it views the ongoing provision of school crossing supervision as an important service, but one that ought to be fully funded by the State Government as part of its responsibilities for funding education services in Victoria (a broad responsibility which should include getting children to and from school safely);*
 - f. it is keen to work collaboratively with the State Government and all Monash schools to transition to a new operating and funding model for school crossing supervision which does not impose costs on ratepayers and residents for a service that is unrelated to core local government functions and services; and*
 - g. it will not make any changes to the current funding model or operation of school crossing supervision services for the 2022 school year, however there should be no assumption of Council funding beyond 2022.*
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3. *That Council invites the State Government, schools and other interested stakeholders to provide any feedback to Council by 25th February 2022.*
4. *That Council directs that officers provide further advice to Council by no later than the March Council meeting which should consider and include all feedback provided to Council and provide an officer recommendation on the future Council involvement and funding of school crossing supervision services in 2023 and beyond.*
5. *That Council writes to the mayors of all other Victorian councils and the Municipal Association of Victoria seeking the views of other councils on the question of the sustainability and appropriateness of local government funding for, and provision of, school crossing supervision services.*

NOTIFICATION

A public notice was placed in The Age newspaper on 18 December 2021 and the tender closed on 14 January 2022.

TENDERS RECEIVED

One tender submission was received by the appointed closing time as follows:

- *Chandler MacLeod Group Pty Ltd*

Tender Conformance:

The submission was assessed for compliance with the tender conditions including the contractual terms and conditions and the requirements of the response schedules.

The submission deemed to conform.

TENDER EVALUATION

All members of the evaluation panel signed Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality forms and no conflicts were raised.

The tender was assessed in accordance with the evaluation criteria published in the tender documentation:

Pass/Fail Assessment Criteria	Score
Quality Systems (if applicable)	<i>Pass/Fail</i>
OHS	<i>Pass/Fail</i>
Mandatory Insurances (if applicable)	<i>Pass/Fail</i>

Table 2	Key Selection Criteria	Criteria Weightings
Qualitative Criteria	Capacity and Capability	20%

	Project Timelines (if required)	10%
	Sustainability (Mandatory)	20%
Quantitative Criteria	Price (Mandatory)	50%

DISCUSSION

The following information supports the evaluation panel's recommendations.

The final evaluation ranking (including the price and non-price evaluation criteria) had Chandler MacLeod Group Pty Ltd ranked highest and as such, the evaluation panel recommends Chandler MacLeod Group Pty Ltd as representing the best value outcome for Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Chandler MacLeod tender price is based on a comprehensive hourly rate that incorporates all expenses, including administration and supervision and all other costs incurred directly or indirectly in providing the service.

Annual payment adjustments will be based on the increase in Industry Allowance as per City of Monash EBA as specified in Clause 4.1A of the Service General Conditions.

It is estimated that the 6 months of the contract will cost approximately \$653,631 (including GST). This figure may increase slightly to account for Council staff that resign or retire and are replaced by the contractor and instances where the contractor's relief supervisors cover absences for supervisors directly employed by Council.

Council receives an annual Operational Subsidy from VicRoads which varies from year to year. For the past three years Council received:

Financial Year	Amount Received
2019-2020	\$574,182.00
2020-2021	\$561,813.00
2021-2022	\$579,980.00

The subsidy is provided under the provisions of the School Crossings Subsidy Scheme that is intended to share the costs of the program between Council's and the State on 50:50 basis.

Provision will need to be made in the operating budgets for 2022/2023 financial year for the continuation of the service by contract.

Council will receive a further report on points 3, 4 and 5 of its 30 November 2021 resolution at the March Council meeting.

SUSTAINABILITY OUTCOMES

To support Council's endeavour for sustainable outcomes, Chandler MacLeod offers the below;

1. Local Sustainability: Of the 125 staff employed with respect to this service, 65 of those staff members reside within the City of Monash, Chandler MacLeod also has an office locally where at least 50% of the workforce travel to each day.
2. Social Sustainability: Chandler MacLeod being primarily a recruitment agency has a core role to find the best suited roles for their candidates. This includes employment equity services that actively work to locate employment for disadvantaged groups. Currently Chandler MacLeod have collaboration opportunities with Jobs Victoria to source, train and support women over 45 years of age into new lines of employment.

CONCLUSION

That Council approves the recommendations contained within this report.