

Name of decision maker: James Doe

Service Area: Strategic Planning and Regeneration

Title of Decision: Approval to award contract to Ground Control Limited to carry out Renewal works to the existing footpaths in Heath Parks Gardens

Decision made and reasons:

Decision:

To approve that a contract be awarded to Ground Control Ltd to carry out Renewal Works to the existing footpaths based in the Heath Park Gardens, Hemel Hempstead.

The contract will take around 8 weeks and would be expected to start in March or April 15.

Reason: Recent conversions and developments in the town centre have increased the number of local residents. Many of the new homes are flats and have not provided private or communal outside space. As a result Heath Park Gardens has an important role to play as informal amenity and recreation space. The installation of a pedestrian crossing on Station Road has created the need for more effective pedestrian movement around the park and links to existing pavements and subways. Due to its proximity to the town centre the gardens are often used as a through route, and also provide a lunchtime destination for workers.

The existing footpaths are currently worn and in need of replacement. Due to the increased footfall in the gardens the Council need to provide a more durable and natural looking solution for the local community and Borough.

Reports considered:

Officers/Councillors/Ward Councillors/Stakeholders Consulted:

Technical Assistant, Hemel Evolution Team
 Strategic Planning & Regeneration Officer (Green Spaces)
 Team Leader – Clean, Safe & Green
 Parks and Open Spaces Officer
 Team Leader – Regeneration Team
 Team Leader – Commissioning, Procurement & Compliance

Financial Comments:

There is sufficient and approved S106 budget in place to meet this cost.

Monitoring Officer Comments:

No further comments to add to this report.

S151 Officer Comments:

The funding for this project has been approved from existing S106 funds.

Implications:**Value for Money:**

The Council evaluated tender returns on Price, Quality, Technical Capability and Period of Completion. Ground Control did not provide the lowest price but did show in the evaluation that their submission was the best value offer from all the bidders.

Financial:

Ground Control total cost for the works is £102,823.32. The Council will use Section 106 money to fund the development.

Risk: The works are required as part of the Hemel 2020 Vision which will create a green link between open spaces via the Water Gardens that run behind the town centre. Heath Park Gardens improvements are a phase of this Urban Park development. If this contract does not go ahead then it could mean that the Hemel 2020 Vision will not be realised.

Also, with all the additional pedestrian movement through the park there is a possibility that the park could become further deteriorated which will have an effect on the Council's reputation.

Officer Signature:

Date:

