REGIONAL TRANSPORT FORUM – 11 November 2011

EASTERN HIGHWAY ALLIANCE FRAMEWORK

Report by: Keith Dove, Strategic Transport Sub Group.

Purpose of report:

- To update the RTF about progress being made in the procurement of the Eastern Highways Alliance framework.

Recommendations:

- The RTF is asked to:
  
  note the significant progress being made in procuring the Eastern Highways Alliance framework.

1 Introduction

1.1 Members will recall that at the June 2010 meeting of the Forum, a timetable was set out for the procurement of the Eastern Highways Alliance Framework Contract. The purpose of this note is to update the RTF about progress being made to select the preferred Contractors.

1.2 Current members of the Alliance are Bedford Borough, Cambridgeshire, Central Bedfordshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Luton, Norfolk, Southend and Suffolk. Peterborough are members of the Midlands Highway Alliance and Thurrock have decided not to join at this time.

2 Progress

2.1 The work is being progressed by two working groups, and co-ordinated by a Steering Group which meets quarterly. The Contract working group is preparing the contract documents which are based on the NEC3 Framework Contract and the Technical working group is developing the Specification, Methods of Measurement, Bill of Quantities, and Standard details.

2.2 The OJEU notice was published on 5 Aug 2011, and the Pre Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) was available via the OJEU notice. The date for the return of the PQQ's was 5 September, and a total of 16 PQQ's were returned by that date. The Contract working group has evaluated all the PQQs, and ranked them according to the criteria set out in the PQQ. The working group has therefore recommended that the top 9 contractors should be formally Invited to Tender and this has been accepted by the Steering Group. All 16 companies have been informed.

2.3 The latest programme is as follows:

- 17 November 2011 - Tender documents issued
- 22 December - Return date for Tender documents
- 15 February 2012 - Preferred bidders identified
- 12 April 2012 - Contract award
- 18 April 2012 - Framework starts

3 Conclusion

3.1 The programme for procurement of the contractors currently remains on target to commence in April 2012, as previously reported to the RTF. The Tender and Contract documents are currently being finalised.