



DECISION RECORD

Service Reference Number	MP&I-2025-067
Decision Maker Gill Osgerby, Interim Assistant Director, Major Projects & Infrastructure	
Delegated Authority Officer exercising delegated powers pursuant to paragraph 18.1 of the Council's Constitution And minute 17 of the Cabinet Meeting held 25 July 2022.	
Decision: <u>Public Realm Upgrades High Street, Kingston Upon Hull (YorTender Reference Number 91031)</u> <p>To authorise the appointment of Eric Wright Civil Engineering Limited, Sceptre House, Spectre Way, Bamber Bridge Preston, Lancashire, PR5 6AW (Company Registration No. 02565379) through a 'direct award' on the YorCivils3 Framework Lot 1, for the delivery of Public Realm improvement works to High Street, as part of the Hull City Centre Public Realm Scheme, at a cost of £524,807.74.</p> <p>To enter into an NEC Engineering and Construction Contract (Option A) with Eric Wright Civil Engineering Limited, Sceptre House, Spectre Way, Bamber Bridge Preston, Lancashire, PR5 6AW (Company Registration No. 02565379) to undertake the works described above, on terms to be agreed in consultation with the Director of Legal Services and Partnerships.</p>	
Reasons for the Decision: <p>Delivery of the Public Realm improvements to High Street requires specialist input that is not currently available in-house.</p> <p>As per minute 17 of the Cabinet meeting held on 25 July 2022, Members approved adding a programme of Public Realm improvements to High Street, Princes Dock Street and Humber Dock Street to the Highways Capital Programme 2022-2025 and approved acceptance of £4.42m grant funding from National Highways to be utilised by the Council for the delivery of such works. This was combined with £1m previously approved by the Council, providing a total budget of £5.42m.</p> <p>In 2023 an open tender process was undertaken through the Council's YorTender electronic portal in order to appoint a design consultant for the scheme. The contract was awarded to LDA Design Consulting Ltd (Decision Record ADMPI-A-2023-290).</p> <p>The Council now needs to appoint a main contractor to deliver works to High Street including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procuring hard landscaping, soft landscaping, street furniture, street lighting and art installation materials. 	

- Undertaking sure investigations and dilapidation reports for the scheme.
- Establishing compound areas for providing the works.
- Subcontractor engagement and procurement.
- Development of Construction Phase Management Plans.
- Contractor design elements.
- Support in preparing a scope of Main Works, value engineering and buildability reviews.

A fully compliant 'direct award' tender process is being undertaken by the Council through the YorCivils3 Framework Lot 1, which has identified **Eric Wright Civil Engineering Limited, Sceptre House, Spectre Way, Bamber Bridge Preston, Lancashire, PR5 6AW** (Company Registration No. **02565379**) as the next available contractor on rotation.

This report seeks approval to proceed with the appointment of **Eric Wright Civil Engineering Limited, Sceptre House, Spectre Way, Bamber Bridge Preston, Lancashire, PR5 6AW** (Company Registration No. **02565379**) into formal contract for delivery of improvement works through an NEC Engineering and Construction Contract (Option A) contract, at a cost of **£524,807.74**.

Nature of Decision:

Non-Key

Non-key as a result of key decision taken at Cabinet on 25 July 2022, Minute 17 refers.

Exemptions

Is the accompanying formal report (or other documentation where applicable) exempt?

Not Applicable

Background and Supporting Information:

The Hull City Centre Public Realm Scheme – Princes Dock Street, Humber Dock Street and High Street is central to realising the Council's Public Realm Strategy (2014) and complementing the wider Hull Maritime programme and the objectives of the Council's City Plan and Community Plan.

£5.42m of funding has been secured from National Highways from the Designated Fund associated with the improvements being undertaken as part of the A63 Castle Street scheme and the Council's capital programme, in order that three city centre streets can be enhanced. These improvements will be consistent and complementary to previous and ongoing public realm improvements, aimed at creating attractive, engaging and flexible spaces.

The Public Realm improvement scheme seeks to deliver a wide range of improvements to Humber Dock Street, Princes Dock Street and High Street, including:

- Creating a high-quality public realm for pedestrians and cyclists, aligned to current standards and best practice and consistent with ongoing investment in the city centre.
- The creation of safe, welcoming and flexible public space which attracts visitors and extends dwell time and supports a range of public events.
- Mitigating the impacts created by the proximity to the heavily trafficked A63 Castle Street.
- Improved heritage interpretation, wayfinding, and the incorporation of public art.

- Management of vehicular activities including protection of the public realm from illegal motor vehicle access.
- Accounting for Protect legislation, criteria and best practice.
- Reducing street clutter and introducing improved street furniture including seating, lighting and incidental play.
- Improved signage, pedestrian information displays and way-finding.

Due to the nature of the three sites, works to Humber Dock Street and Princes Dock Street have been separated from works to High Street to create two distinct packages of works, and have been procured separately to ensure that the works can be delivered as efficiently as possible.

A fully compliant 'direct award' tender process is being undertaken by the Council through the YorCivils3 Framework Lot 1, which has identified **Eric Wright Civil Engineering Limited, Sceptre House, Spectre Way, Bamber Bridge Preston, Lancashire, PR5 6AW (Company Registration No. 02565379)** as the next contractor on rotation. We now require a Decision Record to enter into an Engineering and Construction Contract with Eric Wright Civil Engineering, for delivery of improvement works.

Equalities Impact Information:

Does the decision have relevance to equality or affect any group with protected characteristics?

An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed for the proposed works, and the scheme has been designed in consultation with the Council's Equality Access Manager and the Hull Access & Inclusion Group (HAIG).

The EIA notes that the scheme has potential impacts for two protected characteristics groups – age, and disability – and also considers impacts for economically disadvantaged users.

The scheme comprises quality of life improvements to the existing public realm that will benefit all users of the areas being developed. Where changes to layouts or navigable spaces have been designed, these have been done in consultation to ensure that surfacing materials, footway widths, paving trims, street furniture, wayfinding, etc., are inclusive and accessible.

This includes improving access and wayfinding to alternative routes to mitigate existing barriers to movement on High Street – namely steps on the footway – that the scheme itself will not directly improve.

YES

Contact Officer: Rod Cook, Assistant Capital Programme Manager.

Chief Officer CommentsComments of the Assistant Director of Legal Services and Governance (Monitoring Officer)

The Council is under a funding agreement with National Highways to deliver Public Realm improvements to High Street.

The YORCivil 3 framework (Framework) was established following a process fully compliant with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. As the decision record states under the Framework, Eric Wright Civil Engineering Limited were next in line for a direct award via rotation. The use this procurement route should enable the Council to achieve best value as required under section 3 of the Local Government Act 1999. Awarding this contract should also enable the Council to discharge its funding obligations. [BC]

Comments of the Director of Finance and Transformation (Section 151 Officer)

The S151 Officer supports the contract award and can confirm that funding is available within the approved Capital Programme to support the delivery of the scheme. (MA)

Comments of the Assistant Director of Organisation Development & Human Resources and compliance with the equality act

The content of the report is noted. There are no staffing or equality issues arising from this decision for the council. KH

Comments of the Portfolio Holder for Transportation, Roads and Highways (Councillor Ieronimo)

I support this decision. The improvements to High Street are a significant step forward in enhancing the overall experience for both residents and visitors. By creating safer, more attractive, and welcoming public spaces, this project will promote greater use of the area, supporting local businesses and fostering community events. These upgrades align with our vision of making Hull a vibrant, accessible, and heritage-rich city for everyone to enjoy. MI

Scrutiny Comments

This decision has not been subject to pre-decision scrutiny. (Ref. Sc8667 (FH))

Exceptional Circumstances:

Is the decision record currently exempt from publication at the point of decision?

No

Signature of Decision Maker:

Signed: **Signature confirmed**

Date signed: **28/03/2025**

FOR COMPLETION BY THE SCRUTINY OFFICE:	
Date published on CMIS:	31.03.25
Can the decision be called in?	No
Date decision comes into force:	31.03.25