Date:	**Tuesday 29 July 2014**
Time:	**8.30am**
Meeting Room:	**Council Chamber**
Venue:	**Auckland Town Hall** **301-305 Queen Street** **Auckland**

Tenders and Procurement Committee

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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9	**Contract Renewal Approval – Professional Services for processing Resource Consents**	
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Note: The attachments contained within this document are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Councillors require further information relating to any reports, please contact the relevant manager, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.

Background

- An open, fully competitive procurement process was completed in 2012 and approval to engage selected suppliers was received from the Tenders and Procurement Subcommittee on 17 August 2012
- As part of the original approval, the contract allowed to two rights of renewal for 12 + 12 months at Council's sole discretion. It is now considered more efficient to exercise both renewal options at one time, rather than seek a second renewal option in 12 months time

Auckland Council

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Attachment A

The Resource Consents Department

- The Department currently processes around 14,000 consents a year at eight of the Council's service centres.
- This number can vary seasonally and in response to economic conditions, with an increase of 30% in volumes over the last 2 years. Should the trend continue we forecast an increase of 20% in the next 12 months.
- There have been some complex applications processed over the last 12 months, including large subdivisions, housing developments, apartment buildings and commercial development such as the Central Interceptor. These have required higher specialist consultant use.
- The Resource Management Act requires consents to be processed within particular timeframes. If Council fails to do so it is required to provide a discount to the customer.

External Suppliers

- Council uses external suppliers from the current supplier panels to:
  - process consents where there is no internal capacity or capability to enable consents to be processed within the timeframes set out in the Resource Management Act
  - provide specialist input into applications (e.g. acoustic engineers, lighting specialists, ecologists, traffic engineers, geotechnical engineers)
- Timeframes often require officers to be able to engage external suppliers without delay.

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What are the benefits

- Resource Consent teams will continue to have lists of pre-qualified suppliers together with rates based on levels of expertise and specialisation, enabling them to engage the most appropriate supplier quickly and easily;
- An approved and standard Auckland Council Contract is used to enable consistent region-wide quality and cost measures for the services delivered;
- Continue to ensure cost effective and professional planning and specialist services are readily available to provide input to consent applications

Recommendations

- We are seeking the Committee's approval to:
  - exercise both renewal options available in the contract for two years to 31 August 2016.
  - delegate the financial signing authority to the Business and Customer Support Manager of resource consents to sign the individual renewal notices
  - increase the total value for these contracts to by $3.3M from $7.7m to $11m

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