

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

| | | |
|----|--------------|---|
| 1. | Meeting: | Town Centres, Economic Growth and Prosperity |
| 2. | Date: | 23 rd January 2012 |
| 3. | Title: | Thrybergh Reservoir – Draw Off Tower Bolt Replacement Ward 14 Silverwood |
| 4. | Directorate: | Environment and Development Services |

5. Summary

To report on progress following the Statutory Inspection of Thrybergh Reservoir in October 2010 and to seek an exemption from standing order 47.6.2 (requirement to invite two oral or written quotations for a contract with an estimated value of between £5000 and £20,000) in order that that Commercial Diving and Marine Services may be appointed to carry out the bolt replacement works to the draw-off tower.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- (i) **An exemption from standing order 47.6.2 ((requirement to invite two oral or written quotations for a contract with an estimated value of between £5000 and £20,000) be granted and the contract for the works for the replacement of the draw-off tower bolts at Thrybergh Reservoir be awarded to Commercial Diving and Marine Services.**

7. Proposals and Details

The statutory inspection for Thrybergh Reservoir completed in October 2010 made a safety recommendation (one of three) in respect of the draw off tower to the effect that:

- The bolts that fix the dry shaft pipework to the central diaphragm need either to be replaced or an alternative system of preventing the pipework from separating from the central diaphragm needs to be devised.

The devised solutions and works are to be completed by the end of 2012. These dates will be enforced by the Environment Agency (EA).

An alternative system of clamps to the pipe flanges and beam joints has been explored in conjunction with a method of replacement of the fixing bolts that incorporates the use of deep water diving contractors. The preferred method of repair by the Reservoir Inspecting Engineer appointed to oversee these works is the latter method as no further drilling of the pipework or the central diaphragm is required; the proposal is a like for like replacement.

A trial replacement of three bolts was undertaken on 15th December 2011. The trial was successful, and therefore bolt replacement remains the preferred route for the required repairs. The specialist contractor appointed for the inspection and report were Commercial Diving and Marine Services, who visited the site prior to the site to assess the required bolt sizes and methods of operation, and devised the methods and procedures for the trial using the deep water diving expertise that they possess in what is a potentially hazardous environment.

The estimate for replacing all of the fixing bolts using this method is £12,000.

Rather than seek one further quotation for this specialist and bespoke work, it is proposed to exempt these works from the Council's Standing Orders under the provisions of clause 38 on the basis of the already completed successful trial and the familiarity of the team with the draw off tower and the best methods and procedures employed to deal with the hazards it presents. A further quotation would require a further assessment and trial replacement by a second specialist team supervised by the Inspecting Engineer that is likely to be more expensive than any potential savings that may be generated on this works commission and indeed may not be successful. Also, prompt commissioning of these works will ensure that the works can be undertaken in the winter time when conditions are most favourable to this kind of works due to water clarity and will also ensure that the deadlines set by the inspection report and enforced by the EA are met.

8. Finance

For these works, estimated at £12,000, Standing Order 47.6.2 – 2 quotations - would normally apply. It is intended that these works will be funded through Council Capital funds - Maintenance Capital Investment Programme.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The relatively small and one off nature of these works means that risks in respect of (lack of) value for money are very low. Prompt commissioning of these works ensures minimised risk to health and safety and ensures that deadlines for provision will be met.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The services ensure the continued safety of the dam and reservoir at Thrybergh and the associated Country Park, such that the park can continue to be enjoyed by all.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Consultation has taken place with the Senior Manager, Legal & Electoral Services, and with the Strategic Director of Resources on the proposed exemption and both support this report.

Contact Names: David Phillips, Team Manager, Transportation and Highways Projects, Planning, Regeneration and Culture Department, Tel. ext. 2950, david.phillips@rotherham.gov.uk