

Invitation to Tender for
Northern Triangle Major Investment Zone
– Transport Review

CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL

Date: December 2017

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Building upon the success of the i54 development, key stakeholders (City of Wolverhampton Council, Staffordshire County Council and South Staffordshire District Council) are looking at a continued collaborative approach to identify key opportunities for investment in the area north of M54 Junction 2.
- 1.2 This major investment zone has many substantial development opportunities, many of which are currently being constructed, are within the planning process or form part of longer term land use plans. These include the West Midlands Rail Freight Interchange, the Royal Ordnance Factory (ROF) site in Featherstone and a western extension to the existing i54.
- 1.3 Although already served by reasonable transport links with the M6 and M54, there are key transport proposals and opportunities within this area including the M54 / M6 / M6 Toll Link Road, ROF Featherstone Access, and the A449 Park and Ride option. Long term future opportunities are also presented by released capacity on the West Coast Main Line as a result of HS2 services and options arising from the Midlands Connect Midlands Rail and Motorway Hub studies. These significant transport improvements and opportunities will make the area even more attractive to business and investment and it is key that all opportunities are identified at an early stage to maximise the effectiveness of any transport investment. Ensuring the right long term solutions are delivered for businesses, commuters and residents a holistic overview of the transport and development issues in this cross-boundary location is required.
- 1.4 Infrastructure and strategic proposals are contained within the Black Country Core strategy, South Staffordshire Site Allocation Document, WMCA Strategic Transport Plan, and the HS2 Connectivity Strategy. Other documents from the Midlands Connect and Midlands Engine led transport studies, the West Midlands Rail Ltd emerging Rail Investment Strategy, HE investment plans, Smarter Choices strategies and Local Plans for Wolverhampton area also need to be considered. These proposals need to be brought together into one complete picture for the South Staffordshire / North Wolverhampton area to ensure the needs of future developments are properly catered for, and that potential future patterns of development can be appropriately identified and planned for. This will make the area as attractive as possible for investment, and ensure that opportunities to lever in external funding for wider benefits are not missed.

1.5 A Steering Group structure between the 3 Authorities has been established as part of the i54 development. This group continues to drive the Northern Triangle agenda and includes senior representation from all organisations.

2. Scope of work

2.1 The Council is looking to appoint an experienced consultant to deliver a transport evidence base and future planned interventions programme for the Northern Triangle area.

2.2 The consultant will be required to work directly with the City of Wolverhampton Council Strategic Transportation team in developing this baseline of transport evidence, and co-ordination of the future planned interventions. It is anticipated that the consultants will be required to carry out the following tasks including, but not limited to, the following:

Evidence Gathering

- Presentation of existing business / development proposals within the study area,
- A review and presentation of existing land use, including identification of existing greenfield and brownfield sites,
- A review and presentation of existing transport links including rail and other sustainable transport facilities and services being operated.
- A review and presentation of historic and proposed transport infrastructure schemes within the area, including historic (but relevant to future decision making) proposals, public transport proposals, and a timeline for implementation in so far as possible.
- Provide an overview of the relevant developments and an approximation of their impact (size, employees etc.), along with a current timetable for implementation.
- Identify any current barriers to existing and potential development, in particular transport related, but including stakeholder positions and political concerns derived from the liaison activities as part of the assessment of risk.
- Identify any 'blue sky' opportunities.
- Produce and present a report detailing all of the above as a transport evidence base and current / potential future programme.
- Identify potential gaps in the evidence base which might be required to inform decisions on value for money for future prioritisation of transport investment.

Stakeholder Liaison

- Liaise with cross boundary stakeholders to inform all aspects of the transport evidence base, future planned works and 'blue sky' thinking. Including (but not limited to) representatives from Local Authorities, Transport for West Midlands, Network Rail, Highways England, LEP's, key developers.

2.3 The evidence base and programme of current planned interventions should be provided in a format suitable for continued stakeholder engagement.

3. Services to be provided by the consultant

3.1 The appointed consultant will be required to attend an inception meeting at which the programme for the project will be confirmed and key baseline information discussed. The appointed consultant will also be required to attend regular progress meetings to be agreed.

3.2 The client for the commission will be the Transport Strategy team within the City of Wolverhampton Council. The project manager for the commission will be:

Marianne Page – Service Lead, Transport strategy
City of Wolverhampton Council
Civic Centre
St Peter’s Square
Wolverhampton
WV1 1RG

3.3 Tender queries must be directed via the e-tendering portal at www.wolverhamptontenders.com Any information provided will, as a matter of course, be issued to all tenderers.

4. Programme

4.1 Indicative timescales are as follows;

Stage:	Completed by:
Consultants submission deadline	19 th January 2018
Assessment of tenders	2 nd Feb 2018
Interviews (if required)	W/C 5 th Feb 2018
Appointment of consultants	W/C 19 th Feb 2018
Inception meeting	W/C 26 th Feb 2018

The above dates are subject to change.

5. Instructions for Tendering

5.1 The purpose of the tender submission is to enable the shortlisted teams to demonstrate to the City of Wolverhampton Council their ability to deliver a robust, wide ranging and evidence based appraisal. Tenderers will be expected to demonstrate their aptitude in terms of their practice, proposed organisation, key personnel and project execution.

- 5.2 In particular, tenderers must demonstrate direct experience of similar projects in all aspects of the brief in terms of both the practice and the personnel proposed.
- 5.3 Proposals should provide the Council with a clear understanding of the way in which the consultant team will approach the project and the core factors that will underpin their approach and methodology.

6. Evaluation criteria

- 6.1 The commission proposal should be no longer than ten pages in length and should clearly respond to the following questions:
- How have previous commissions and studies which have previously been undertaken been similar to, and contributed to your understanding of the brief and it's requirements?
 - What is your methodology for approaching the commission to ensure successful delivery of the scope?
 - Who is in your team, what is their relevant experience and why are their skills required to deliver the commission? Confirmation of the team you plan to use (including any external resources to your company) detailing particular skills, relevant experience and qualifications together with short CVs for up to three key members of the team including lead consultant and project manager.
 - How will the commission be managed? Identifying the lead consultant and project manager for the work, factoring in capacity and availability to meet timescales along with a programme for key stages of the commission.
 - A full fee proposal including a breakdown of fee rates for each member of the team including hourly rates and time to be spent on the commission by each member of the team.

6.2 Your proposals, which should be submitted via Wolverhampton City Council's Due North e-tendering portal (Pro-Contract) by no later than **12 noon on 19th January 2018**. Submissions should be clearly marked as follows:

Proposal Submission for Northern Triangle Major Investment Zone – Transport Evidence

6.3 Due to the complexity and importance of the proposed project and the requirement to appoint the most appropriate team, appointment will be made on a quality: price ratio of 70:30.

6.4 The submission will be assessed on the following basis: –

	Item	Weighting %
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1.	Understanding of the brief and requirements	10%
2.	Approach and methodology	40%
3.	Knowledge and experience of the professional team (cite contract specific experiences) / References	10%
4.	Ability to meet timescales, proposed programme	10%
5.	Price / Value for money (based on fee proposal)	30%

Date response required by: 12 noon on 19th January 2018