

TORBAY COUNCIL

Report No: 9/2005

Title: Contract valued in excess of £25,000

To: The Executive on 22nd February 2005

1. Purpose

- 1.1. To seek endorsement from the Executive to continue with a proposal which will involve the expenditure of a sum in excess of £25,000.

2. Relationship to Corporate Priorities

- 2.2 To raise awareness of organisational and strategic risks and use this to inform decision making and resource allocation.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 The recommendation for the matter is set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

4. Reason for Recommendation and associated Key Risks

- 4.1 The reason and risks for the matter are set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

5. Alternative Options (if any)

- 5.1 Any alternative options are set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

6. Background

- 6.1 In accordance with paragraphs 2.10, 2.11 and 2.12 of Part 3 of Torbay Council's Constitution (responsibility for functions), the attached appendix contains details of a service where the estimated or actual (whichever is the higher) total contract value exceeds £25,000.

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix 1 - Torbay Retail Study

Appendix 1 to Report No. 9/2005

Strategic Directorate: Environment	Service/Division: Planning Development and Policy.
Details of contract: Torbay Retail Study 2005	Reason for Expenditure: Essential evidence base for preparation of Torbay Local Development Framework (LDF). Previous 1998 Torbay Retail Study (which was an update of the earlier 1994 Study) is out of date. Need for a new, full study. In-house expertise not available.
Recommendation: That the appointment of GVA Grimley as specialist consultants be endorsed.	Reason for Recommendation: Urgent need to progress research work at an early stage to underpin preparatory work on the LDF and to ensure satisfactory progress in the new development planning system. Following the recent selection process (submission of expressions of interest and subsequent interviews/discussions), the successful consultants offered the most acceptable expression of interest in terms of the quality of their submission and study team, their professional reputation and experience, competitive pricing and value for money.
Suggested Value: The selected Consultants' study cost is within the range of £30,000 to £35,000 excluding VAT.	Is budget available? Yes – specific budget allocation in anticipation of requirement to fund and implement this study as part of LDF process.
	Is this a Key Decision? No
Alternative options/Key Risks: None. Failure to prepare a new Retail Study will result in an inadequate research base for the review of Local Plan retail policies. This in turn will leave the Council with an outdated retail strategy that will provide an inadequate policy framework for decision making. Such a course of action would conflict with guidance set out in Planning Policy Statement 12 'Local development Frameworks', Planning Policy Guidance Note 6 'Town centres and Retail developments' and Draft Planning Policy Statement 6 'Planning for Town Centres'.	Legal implications: None
Responsible Executive Member: Councillor Charlwood	Is the Executive Member in agreement with the proposal? Yes
Contact:	Name of responsible officer: Steve Turner Telephone no: 01803 208812