4.2 TENDER FOR IRRIGATION SYSTEMS-MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS
(MR: CF2013116)

Responsible Director: Ossie Martinz

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE
This report seeks Council’s approval for a contract for the provision of irrigation maintenance and repair for a variety of irrigation systems in sportsgrounds, golf courses, parks and gardens for a period of one (1) year with two (2), two (2) year extensions.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS/ISSUES
The key considerations relating to the tender called for this contract were:

1. A panel of three contractors is considered to provide an appropriate pool of resources.
2. The size and resource capacity of the tenderers to perform the specified work.
3. All contractors are established in the industry and have the required expertise.
4. Dunn and Bradstreet financial risk assessments on all contractors are being finalised.

The recommended tenderers have achieved the following requirements:
• Financial Viability
• Insurance cover
• Sustainable Work Practices & Environmental Protection
• Resources and Capacity
• OHS Management System
• Management, Supervision and Structure
• Methodology and Execution of Services
• Qualifications and Experience
• References

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
The calculated total annual expenditure for this contract is $150,000 (incl. GST) and is budgeted for in the 2013-14 budget. Rise and Fall is calculated annually, based on the Melbourne All Groups CPI.

RECOMMENDATION
That Council resolves to appoint three suppliers to the panel of providers for the contract.
4.2 TENDER FOR IRRIGATION SYSTEMS-MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS  
(CF2013116: MR)

Responsible Director: Ossie Martinz

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Accepts the schedule of rates from Rainlink Australia Pty Ltd, Total Eden Pty Ltd and Ezywatering Systems Pty Ltd to form a panel of providers with a calculated total annual expenditure of $150,000 (including GST) for a period of one (1) year with two (2), two (2) year extensions commencing 1 January 2014.

2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute the contract agreement.

3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to approve each of the extension option(s) the contract agreement, subject to satisfactory performance.

**INTRODUCTION**

This report seeks Council’s approval for the acceptance of tenders for the provision of irrigation maintenance and repair for a variety of irrigation systems in sportsgrounds, golf courses, parks and gardens.

**BACKGROUND**

Council maintains 70 irrigation systems throughout the City. These are maintained and repaired by a combination of Council staff and contractors for routine and responsive work.

Contractors are used for more specialised work and to supplement Council staff works. Rainlink Australia Pty Ltd has generally been used in the past to provide this type of service.

Currently, works organised via quotations or individual contracts. The proposed contract is deemed necessary given the cumulative value of the outsourced services. Irrigation repair and maintenance is generally required from spring to early autumn that coincides with the irrigation season. This period can be extended for other project based work.

The industry is serviced by companies with small to medium resourcing for the specified work which during the irrigation season often is in response to works needing immediate action.

To rely solely on one contractor exposes the level of responsiveness and therefore a panel of suppliers was considered to present the most beneficial arrangement to Council.
A panel of providers will allow urgent works to be allocated to contractors at an agreed rate. All members of the panel will be invited to quote for larger or specialised works ensuring Council receive best value.

**DISCUSSION**

In response to the public call for tenders, 3 tenders were received from *Rainlink Australia Pty Ltd, Total Eden Pty Ltd and Ezywatering Systems Pty Ltd*.

The tender submissions were evaluated in accordance with Council’s tendering policies and procedures using the point score method.

Submissions were evaluated on the following criteria:

- Financial Viability
- Insurance cover
- Sustainable Work Practices & Environmental Protection
- Resources and Capacity
- OHS Management System
- Management, Supervision and Structure
- Methodology and Execution of Services
- Qualifications and Experience
- References

The evaluation panel consisted of:

- Phillip Plumb Manager Horticultural Services
- Lucas Skelton Coordinator Sport & Park Maintenance Services
- Michael Grant Coordinator Heritage & Conservation Services

The three contractors in the evaluation and considered to provide the best value for Council are:

- Rainlink Australia Pty Ltd
- Total Eden Pty Ltd
- Ezywatering Systems Pty Ltd

All the above contractors are established in the industry and have experience with the same or similar work specified for this contract. Each of the contractors has also demonstrated their ability to undertake reactive and programmed works.

A Panel of three contractors is considered to provide an appropriate pool of resources to meet Council’s needs.

**SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The service provided complements other turf maintenance practices to help maintain sporting playing surfaces suitable for sporting events and community use. For parks and
gardens the service will assist with maintaining irrigated areas in a healthy condition with an acceptable appearance.

**HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS**

Contractors are required to observe equal employment opportunity (EEO) together with Occupational Health and Safety requirements for their staff and contractors.

Products used are to be sourced from reputable manufacturers and suppliers that promote fair trade principles to eliminate exploitation of persons in the manufacture or distribution of products.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Expenditure for operational maintenance and repair works for this contract is budgeted for in the 2013-14 and future budgets.

Project based work will typically be funded from Capital accounts. Rise and Fall is calculated annually based on the Melbourne All Groups CPI.

Dunn and Bradstreet financial risk assessments on each of the recommended contractors are currently being finalised.

**CONCLUSION**

The evaluation panel recommends the appointment of Rainlink Australia Pty Ltd, Total Eden Pty Ltd and Ezywatering Systems Pty Ltd to form a panel of irrigation systems-maintenance and repairs service providers.

It is proposed that the contract be awarded to the 3 contractors for the estimated cumulative annual value of $150,000, including GST, and the projected 5 year expenditure of $750,000 including GST. The initial term of the contract is one (1) year with two (2) two (2) year extensions, subject to acceptable performance.