

Operation Watershed additional notes: Community Contractor Discussions

These have been collated to support you in discussions with contractors when obtaining quotes for Operation Watershed schemes.

Most contractors should be aware how Operation Watershed works however please use these as an aid or check list if any questions come up in your discussions and checking the quotations before submitting them.

- **Client:** If successful, the Client will be Parish or Town Council or Community Group and not WSCC Highways
- **Outside of WSCC Contracts:** The work itself is carried out independently to any WSCC Highways Contract though the grant fund is provided by WSCC and the technical scope is agreed, evaluated and signed off by our Highway Drainage Colleagues.
- **Pre work processes:** Instead of being carried out through WSCC Contracts and automatically picked up, the following would fall to the successful Contractor not the client.
 - Stats check for utilities
 - Liaising with Streetworks to book road space & TM etc. state it is Operation Watershed scheme and the fees are waived.
 - Liability Insurance falls to the Contractor. Under Operation Watershed neither the applicant or WSCC are liable if anything goes wrong.
- **Amendment in cost mid delivery** - The grant funded process means that a set amount of funds is awarded against the preferred quote in the application.
 - The successful contractor will need to have included in all relevant costs both operational and administrative and where possible any eventualities that they may occur delivering the work.
 - We do not have the ability to provide additional funding mid work if the contractor identifies that it has to alter its quote/work.
 - In the event of unexpected issues identified whilst undertaking the work. The contractor must contact the Client and Operation Watershed before proceeding any further.
- **Drawings or Plans** - Operation Watershed does not provide electronic drawings or full plans it can provide a technical scope based on a 'walk talk & build' in most cases.
- **Necessary permissions, licences and consents:**
 - Public Highway: Through Operation Watershed process permission/consent to carry out work on the public highway is provided through a Community 278 agreement with the applicant.
 - Private Land/Riparian Ownership/Other: The Client is required to obtain consent before submitting the grant application.
- **Costings/Quotes:**
 - Quotes need to consider at least a 3-month gap or more if weather dependent between quote and delivery.
 - The grant is awarded against the quote and there is no room for this figure to automatically increase whilst work is being carried out etc.
 - Operation Watershed grant process normally takes 6 weeks from application submission to awarding funds.
 - Then there is subsequent time for the contractor to organise road space etc. Therefore, it could be around 3 months before work actually commences.