

## 5.5. TENDER FOR DAINTREE RIVER DREDGING

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### RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Awards Contract 2023-042 Daintree Ferry Dredging to Marrin Pty Ltd (ABN 48 010 889 237) for a two (2) year period with a one (1) year extension option**
- 2. Delegates authority under s 257 of the Local Government Act 2009 to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters in relation to this contract.**

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Douglas Shire Council requires a contractor to provide dredging services for the Daintree Ferry channel on an 'as required basis'. The service required involves the removal of river material and its transport to a temporary stockpile. Dredging is historically required annually or following significant weather events to ensure that the depth of the river is sufficient for the Daintree Ferry to operate.

The Tender, for two (2) years with a one (1) year extension option, was advertised through the Vendor Panel Online Platform. Council initially received zero (0) conforming and one (1) non-conforming submission in total. The non-conforming submission had the ability to be made conforming which occurred following a final proposal revision process.

All submissions were assessed by an evaluation panel. The evaluation process was weighted with 25% price criteria and 75% weighting for the non-price criteria.

The tender price of \$3,200 per hour (GST exclusive) over the three (3) year term, submitted by Marrin Pty Ltd was the only offer received.

Marrin Pty Ltd have experience in dredging the Daintree River crossing, having undertaken it in May 2022. As a long-term local contractor, they also have a good understanding of ferry operations and river conditions.

Based on the results of the evaluation, Marrin Pty Ltd is the recommended tenderer for the contract. Marrin Pty Ltd provided a comprehensive submission and demonstrated a strong understanding of the contract scope.

The tender process was presented with Councillors on 6 December 2022.

## BACKGROUND

On average the Daintree River channel is dredged at least once per year. Historical records indicate that approximately 3,000m<sup>2</sup> of material needs to be removed to ensure continuous operation of the Daintree Ferry. This can be in a single planned dredging campaign or more frequently following severe weather events often at short notice.

Council holds an Environmental Authority to undertake dredging activities. The current permit allows Council to remove up to 10,000 cubic metres in any 12-month period and outlines environmental conditions that need to be adhered to. Dredging is undertaken with a barge-mounted long reach excavator on the Council owned ferry and must occur during the hours of 22:00 to 05:00 to minimise the impact to the Daintree Ferry operations. The material extracted is stored in a temporary stockpile located approximately 600m west of the dredge site on Cape Tribulation Road.

## COMMENTS

Council issued an open tender invitation through the Vendor Panel for 2023-042 Daintree Ferry Dredging. The Vendor Panel reference number is VP333895. Tables 1 and 2 display the submissions received.

**Table 1: Received Submissions Summary**

Tenderer	Located
Marrin Pty Ltd	Mossman QLD 4873

An initial compliance check was conducted on the received submission to determine the compliance with the contractual requirements and provision of requested information.

**Table 2: Received Submissions**

Tenderer	Hourly Rate (exc. GST)	Offer	Status
Marrin Pty Ltd	\$3,200	Comparative	Conforming

Evaluation of the submission received was conducted by the panel listed in Table 3.

**Table 3: Evaluation Panel Members**

Position	Department
Manager Infrastructure	Infrastructure
Coordinator Civil Operations	Infrastructure
Technical Officer	Environment and Planning

During the evaluation process, the submission was assessed against the evaluation criteria detailed in the RFT documentation.

Specific criteria were weighted according to their importance in delivering the project successfully and providing the best overall value for money solution in accordance with Council's procurement policies. The weighting attributed to each criterion is outlined in Table 4.

**Table 4: Evaluation Criteria**

Criteria	Weighting
Relevant Experience, Track Record, Key Personnel, Skills & Communication	30%
Resource & Management Systems	10%
Demonstrated Understanding of Methodology	15%
Business Profile (Local, Social & Sustainability)	20%
Value for Money (Price)	25%
	<b>100%</b>

The combined tender score and rankings are shown in Table 5.

**Table 5: Evaluation Team Ranking and Scoring**

Tenderer	Weighted Score					Total %	Rank
	Experience	Resource & Management	Methodology	Business Profile	Price		
Marrin Pty Ltd	26.51	8.33	13.25	17.33	25.00	90.42	1

## PROPOSAL

That Council:

1. Awards Contract 2023-042 Daintree Ferry Dredging to Marrin Pty Ltd (ABN 48 010 889 237) for a two (2) year period with a one (1) year extension option
2. Delegates authority under s 257 of the Local Government Act 2009 to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters in relation to this contract.

## FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Based on historical records of approximately 3000m<sup>3</sup> being extracted annually it is estimated that the total price for the contract term of three (3) years is estimated to be \$600,000 (excluding GST). This will be resourced through the operational works budget for Daintree Ferry provisions.

The operational need for dredging is based on rainfall, tides and events and varies from year to year. Typically, the operational need for dredging is once per year for six (6) hours per night for five (5) to ten (10) days. Marrin Pty Ltd will cost approximately \$19,200 per night for dredging.

## RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The Daintree Ferry is a critical transport link providing access to the area north of the Daintree River. Council contract supervision will ensure the contract is performing to the required standard and meets Council's Environmental Authority requirements.

The risk of not awarding this contract is that the Daintree Ferry would not be able to operate during periods of low tide or following an event. This would impact residents, visitors, commercial entities, emergency service vehicles and cause significant reputational damage to Council.

## SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

**Economic:** The reliable operation of the Daintree Ferry supports commercial entities and the communities located north of the Daintree River. Tourism market research suggests that Cape Tribulation and the Daintree play a significant role in the reason why people travel to the Douglas Shire.

**Environmental:** Operating within Council's Environmental Authority will enable the Daintree Ferry to operate during low tide and following an event. Environmental water testing will be undertaken to monitor the impact to the environment from the dredging activities. In addition, bund walls and settlement ponds will be constructed around the temporary dredge spoil stockpiles to contain any contaminants and daily testing undertaken by a specialist environmental consultant separate to this contract.

**Social:** The reliable operation of the Daintree Ferry will positively impact the communities north of the Daintree River by providing an important transport link. It also provides important access to emergency service vehicles.

## CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

### Corporate Plan 2019-2024 Initiatives:

#### Theme 1 - Celebrating Our Communities

Douglas Shire Council embraces the diversity of our communities and values the contribution that all people make to the Shire. We recognise that it is a core strength of the region. We acknowledge our past so that it may guide us in the future. We recognise the wrongs done to our Indigenous community and we actively seek to reconcile so that we may all benefit from and enjoy our Shire. We acknowledge early European settlers who forged an agricultural base for our economy, and we welcome all new arrivals as part of our broader community.

**Goal 2 - We will deliver programs and services that protect and enhance the liveability of our beautiful Shire.**

#### Theme 2 - Fostering Sustainable Economic Growth

A robust economy is at the heart of a thriving community and enables investment in environmental protection. While our remoteness is a key attribute, it also presents challenges for attracting new business and investment. We must also meet the challenges of fierce competition in the tourism sector. Council will partner with industry to build, diversify and promote the Douglas economy. Council will design and deliver infrastructure, strategies and services that support the local economy and businesses.

**Goal 1 - We will build appropriate infrastructure and deliver services that connect and support businesses.**

## **Theme 5 - Robust Governance and Efficient Service Delivery**

Strong governance and financial management are the foundations of the way in which Council will conduct its business and implement the initiatives of the Corporate Plan.

***Goal 1 - We will conduct Council business in an open and transparent manner with strong oversight and open reporting.***

### **COUNCIL'S ROLE**

Council can play a number of different roles in certain circumstances, and it is important to be clear about which role is appropriate for a specific purpose or circumstance. The implementation of actions will be a collective effort and Council's involvement will vary from information only through to full responsibility for delivery.

The following areas outline where Council has a clear responsibility to act:

**Service Provider**      Council provides many services to the community from roads and waste services to libraries and recreational facilities. Services evolve over time and it is the Council's mission to ensure that these services are appropriate, delivered efficiently, and designed with the customer at the centre.

### **CONSULTATION**

**Internal:**              Infrastructure; Procurement; Councillor Workshop on 6/12/2022.

**External:**             Nil

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil