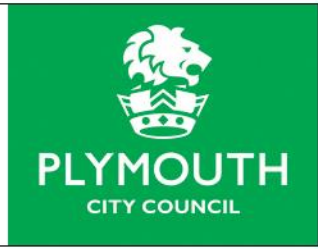


# **CONTRACT AWARD REPORT PART I**

2021 British Sail GP, PRN #244826267



## **I. INTRODUCTION**

Sail GP is an annual global sailing championship. Teams compete across a season of multiple grands prix internationally in cities including San Francisco, New York and Sydney with the first season being held in 2019. The boats are identical F50 catamarans, the fastest and most technologically advanced racing boats ever built – they are engineered for racing at speeds exceeding 50 knots (60mph). The 2021 teams are: Great Britain (skipper: Ben Ainslie), USA, Australia, France, Japan, Spain, Denmark and New Zealand.

In Plymouth, the racing will take place 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021 very close to the shoreline in Plymouth Sound, with practice sessions taking place the week prior. The race village and activity hub will be located on the Hoe with a mixture of hospitality and public free and ticketed areas with live commentary, screens and concessions to enhance the spectator experience. Amazing viewing will be plentiful across the entire waterfront area.

The technical area (similar to F1 pit lanes) will have a longer period of occupation at Millbay on Clyde Quay and Trinity Pier where the race boats will be constructed and craned in and out of the water each day for servicing. The public will be able to get up close to view this unique and exciting process. The fifty strong fleet of support vessels will be moored at King Point Marina, Millbay Marina, Sutton Harbour, the Longroom Camber and Drakes Island.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

In 2011 Plymouth also hosted the America's Cup – an inshore 'stadium' racing event that is still viewed as one of Plymouth's golden moments for global positioning and spectator engagement.

Plymouth Sound is a stunning natural amphitheatre that provides an unprecedented UK location for inshore stadium racing events. As such, we have been tracking a number of events in recent years to find a match that would best enable us to exploit this USP. Sail GP is the fastest, most competitive inshore stadium racing in the world and shares a lot of the same DNA as Plymouth, leading the way in marine technology and sustainability. We began courting the race organisers since the concept was first announced several years ago, and this year were invited to take part in a competitive bidding process to gain the rights to host the UK event in 2021. We were taken to preferred bidder stage in August 2020 and as of 1<sup>st</sup> September have formally won the event.

This provides a great opportunity for the Council to place Plymouth firmly at pole position in the staging of major sailing events in the UK.

## **3. PROCUREMENT PROCESS**

This is a Sole Supplier situation as we have won a competitive bidding process and F50 League LLC are the only providers of the Sail GP event.

## **4. PRE TENDER SELECTION CRITERIA**

N/A

## **5. TENDER EVALUATION CRITERIA**

N/A

**6. SUMMARY OF EVALUATION**

N/A

**7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The financial implications are set out in part 2 of the report.

**8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

To approve the contract award as outlined above

**9. APPROVAL**

**AUTHOR:**

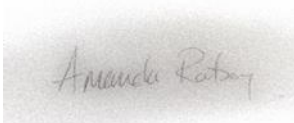


Signature: ..... ..

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Date: .....02.09.2020.....

**AUTHORISED SIGNATORY:**



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Date: .....03.09.2020.....