

## ANGUS COUNCIL

## NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE – 15 January 2009

## REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

## VEHICLE REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME FOR 2009/2010

**Abstract:** The Committee are asked to delegate authority to the Director of Neighbourhood Services, to tender and purchase specific fleet vehicles required for the 2009/2010 replacement programme.

## 1. RECOMMENDATION

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee agree to:

- (i) authorise the Director of Neighbourhood Services, to purchase 2 No Refuse Collection vehicles and 1 No Glass Collection Vehicle required for the 2009/10 replacement program on the basis of a mini competition under the relevant Scotland Excel Framework Agreement; and
- (ii) authorise the Director of Neighbourhood Services to seek tenders for and award a contract for the purchase of 2 No access minibuses also required for the 2009/10 replacement programme.

## 2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Council's vehicle replacement program has been re-profiled for 2009/2010 to ensure that the vehicles scheduled for replacement represent those that are the priority in order to maintain service provision. As part of this re-profiled programme the following vehicles require to be replaced at the present time:

2 no Refuse Collection Vehicles at an estimated cost of £127k each  
 1 no Glass Collection Vehicle at an estimated cost of £116k  
 2 no access Mini Buses at an estimated cost of £40k each

The refuse and glass collection vehicles in particular represent an urgent need as the Council no longer has effective spare vehicles in this regard, as a result of ever expanding routes and workloads due to the increases in the housing base in the last few years. Failure to replace these vehicles at this time would place an unreasonable strain on parts and maintenance for the vehicles retained and would be counterproductive to maintaining service provision.

Typical delivery times for these vehicles are six to eight months therefore it is essential that these vehicles are tendered and ordered in the near future to ensure continuity of service provision.

## 3. CURRENT POSITION

3.1 Now that Angus Council as a full member of Scotland Excel, the full range of former ABC contracts is available to it. Procurement of the Refuse / Glass Collection vehicles via the Scotland Excel Framework Agreement for Heavy / Municipal Vehicles (Contract Schedule Ref No: 59/05 – PC/5) has been investigated and using this route gives value for money for these vehicles when compared to the tenders received for similar vehicles in previous financial years. It is also a more efficient purchase route which meets the council's requirements for these vehicles.

3.2 Unfortunately the Framework Agreement for these vehicles expires very shortly therefore to allow the Council to take advantage of the current prices, orders for the vehicles will have to be placed in the next few weeks.

3.3 Compilation of the actual prices for these vehicles is currently underway on the basis of a "mini competition" amongst all the suppliers under the Framework. This is a valid, compliant

way to purchase under this Framework and is being carried out in association with Scotland Excel. However, this exercise will not be completed in time to seek committee approval after receipt of the prices yet allowing the timely purchase of these vehicles from the current Scotland Excel Framework Agreement, given the lead-in times referred to above.

Hence delegated authority is sought to allow the Director of Neighbourhood Services to evaluate quotes from the Framework suppliers and to purchase the above vehicles. A subsequent report will be brought forward to a later committee regarding the outcome of the mini competition pricing exercise.

- 3.4 Unfortunately, the council's minibus requirements cannot be met under the Excel Framework. As such, a conventional tender exercise is required to procure these vehicles. It is understood that there is not currently any common requirement for these vehicles within any of the Tayside Procurement Consortium partners so this tender is being pursued by Angus Council alone. Again, however, timing for replacement under the programme and lead-in times preclude the usual reporting of tenders received and award of the contract after Committee approval.

Hence again delegated authority is sought to allow the Director of Neighbourhood Services to receive and evaluate tenders and to purchase the required minibus vehicles. A subsequent report will be brought forward to a later committee regarding the outcome of the mini competition pricing exercise. The envisaged tender evaluation / contract award basis will be lowest price as the Director of Neighbourhood Services is able to sufficiently specify the council's quality requirements for these vehicles to preclude the need for any quality evaluation.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The overall Vehicle Replacement Programme has been re-profiled for 2009/10 and is currently being further re-profiled as part of the overall 2009/10 and beyond budget process and this will be reflected in an updated Community Services (Direct Services) Financial Plan in due course.
- 4.2 This re-profiling will ensure that the vehicles scheduled for replacement each year represent those that are the priority in order to maintain service provision, without placing undue pressure on other budget areas (such as maintenance, parts and outside garage costs) which could result from deferral of the purchase of these vehicles. The capital costs noted at paragraph 2.1 above will be contained within this re-profiled budget.
- 4.3 As part of the 2009/10 revenue budget process, the position is being reviewed in respect of the overall Vehicle Replacement Programme, which as noted above is being re-profiled on a priority basis. Revenue budget provision will require to be made in order to address the revenue implications arising from this re-profiled priority programme and this is being specifically addressed through the ongoing 2009/10 budget provision.

#### **5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no Human Rights implications associated with this report.

#### **6. CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, the Director of Corporate Services, the Head of Finance and the Head of Law and Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

#### **7. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The issues dealt within this report have been the subject of consideration from the equalities perspective (as required by the legislation). An equalities impact assessment is not required.

**RON ASHTON**  
**DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES**

**NOTE:** No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report.

**DS/NS/DFI**