

ANGUS COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 3 MARCH 2011

SCHOOL CONVEYANCE CONTRACTS

**JOINT REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES AND DIRECTOR OF
EDUCATION**

ABSTRACT:

This report details contracts awarded by the Director of Education under his delegated powers for the provision of school transport. Approval is sought to undertake tendering for replacement home to school transport provision for contracts due for renewal in the Brechin and Montrose areas, for the transport of scholars with additional support needs and also for transport for scholars to music rehearsals.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee –

- 1 note the award of contracts by the Director of Education under his delegated powers (Section 16.2.4 (c) and Appendix 1 of Angus Council's Financial Regulations refers) as detailed in this report;
- 2 agree that the school transport re-tendering exercise is undertaken for replacement home to school contracts for the 2011 – 2014 academic sessions in the Brechin and Montrose areas as well as for some contracts for children with additional support needs; and
- 3 agree that the re-tendering exercise is undertaken for contracts to transport scholars to music rehearsals for the 2011 – 2014 academic sessions.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report details school conveyance contracts secured outwith the annual re-tendering exercise for additional home to school transport, gym and music requirements.
- 2.2 Members are also informed of contracts due for retender this year and approval is sought to undertake the re-tendering exercise.

3 RESULTS OF TENDER

- 3.1 The major re-tendering exercise undertaken prior to the start of the 2010 - 2011 academic session was reported to this Committee on 1 June 2010 (Report 405/10 refers). Since the main re-tendering exercise was undertaken additional transport requirements have arisen which have been awarded by the Director of Education under his delegated powers.
- 3.2 As a result of additional transport requirements verbal tenders were sought for six contracts, in all cases at least 3 bids were sought :

Contract ASP/61 : Maule Terrace, Monifieth – Butterstone School, Dunkeld (Mondays and Wednesdays : 1 November 2010 to 1 July 2013).

This transport was required to meet the special transport requirements of a child with additional support needs.

Four bids were received the highest bid £138 and lowest £90 per day. The contract was awarded to the lowest tenderer Premier Taxis at a cost of £90 per day.

Contract ASP/62: Steadfast Lane, Forfar to Muirfield Nursery, Arbroath (Mon – Fri a.m. only 1 December 2010 – 1 July 2011).

This contract was for a wheelchair accessible vehicle and escort to meet the requirements of a child with additional support needs.

Five bids were sought for this contract and two bids were received the highest being £35 per day and lowest £30 per day. The contract was awarded to the lowest tenderer A2B Taxis, Brechin.

Contract AGM/6a : Carlogie Primary School to Carnoustie High School (Thursdays Only: 3 March 2011 to 19 May 2011).

This contract was sought to accommodate a child transported in their wheelchair to swimming lessons.

Five bids were sought but only one bid was received. The contract was awarded to the sole tenderer Teejay Travel at £18 per day.

AMC/1 : Monifieth High School via Carnoustie to Arbroath Academy (Tuesday and Wednesday p.m. 11 January 2011 to 29 March 2011).

This contract was required to convey scholars to orchestra practice as the existing contractor could no longer provide a suitable vehicle for the number of scholars requiring transport.

Two bids were received the highest being £160 per day and the lowest being £130 per day. The contract was awarded to the lowest tenderer G & N Wishart.

AMC/6a : Newtyle / Liff / Monifieth / Carnoustie to Arbroath Academy (Thursday p.m. 6 January 2011 to 29 March 2011).

This contract was required to convey scholars to orchestra practice as the existing contractor could no longer provide a suitable vehicle for the number of scholars requiring transport.

Three bids were received the highest being £195 per day and the lowest being £145 per day. The contract was awarded to the lowest tenderer G & N Wishart.

AMC/10 : Carnoustie High to Arbroath Academy (Wednesday p.m. 3 November to 2 December 2010).

This contract was required to convey scholars to orchestra practice as the demand for transport exceeded the provision which had been made.

Four bids were received the highest being £34 per day and the lowest £28 per day. The contract was awarded to the lowest tenderer Links Cabs.

4 SCHOOL TRANSPORT CONTRACT RENEWAL

- 4.1 School conveyance contracts are tendered throughout Angus on a three-year rolling programme with approximately one-third being re-tendered each year. This year contracts are due for renewal in Brechin and Montrose areas as well as a number of contracts for scholars with additional support needs. As in previous years, contracts will, where possible, be tendered to operate as local bus services thereby enabling adults and children not entitled to

free home to school transport to travel on these vehicles, this policy has served well in recent years to increase travel opportunities particularly in rural areas.

4.2 Contracts for the transport of scholars to music rehearsals which are also tendered on a three-yearly basis are due for renewal and tenders will be sought for this provision.

4.3 Members are asked to agree that tenders are sought for these replacement services.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The award of the contracts detailed above has resulted in additional expenditure of £5820 for home to school transport, £4335 for music transport and £90 for gym transport in the 2010/11 financial year. This brings the total expenditure on primary, secondary and additional support needs home to school transport for the 2010-11 financial year to £2,598,000. This expenditure will be contained within the Education Department 2010-2011 Revenue Budget and beyond.

6 SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT

6.1 This report contributes to the following local outcome contained within the Single Outcome Agreement for Angus:

- Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.

7 CONSULTATION

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

8 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

9 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The issues contained in the report fall within an approved category that has been confirmed as exempt from an equalities perspective.

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 any material extent in preparing the above Report.

P&T/LEM/IAL
4 February 2011

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