
Report to: Cabinet **Date of Meeting:** Friday 3 July 2015

Subject: Hired Passenger Transport Framework Agreement - Extension **Wards Affected:** (All Wards);

Report of: Director of Street Scene

Is this a Key Decision? Yes **Is it included in the Forward Plan?** Yes
Exempt/Confidential No

Purpose/Summary

To obtain approval to utilise the option of a 12 month extension of the current Hired Passenger Transport Framework Agreement for a period of 12 months from 1st January 2016 until 31st December 2016.

Recommendation(s)

That the Cabinet approves the utilisation of the extension option of the current Hired Passenger Transport Framework Agreement for a period of 12 months from 1st January 2016 until 31st December 2016.

How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		✓	
2	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
3	Environmental Sustainability		✓	
4	Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Children and Young People		✓	
6	Creating Safe Communities		✓	
7	Creating Inclusive Communities		✓	
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy		✓	

Reasons for the Recommendation:

The current Framework Agreement, core period 1st January 2014 to 31st December 2015, has an option to extend by 2 x 1 year extension periods at the discretion of Sefton Council. Recommendation is made following the successful performance of suppliers over the preceding two year period and that pricing has remained stable over the core period of the Framework Agreement.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

No alternative options exist at this stage.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

No variations in revenue costs are anticipated.

(B) Capital Costs

N/A

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Financial		
Legal		
Human Resources		
Equality		
1.	No Equality Implication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.	Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact of the Proposals on Service Delivery:

All of the current framework agreement service providers will be written to and offered the opportunity to continue to provide services when requested to do so under the terms of the existing framework agreement. It is not anticipated that any of the current service providers will not be willing to agree to the extended period. However, should any of them not agree the extension, appropriate alternative arrangements could be established with other service providers under the current Framework Agreement.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Head of Corporate Finance and ICT notes that the opportunity to take up the option of an extension to the existing agreement will have no additional budgetary implications. The extension will not affect the ability of the Council to modify future transport arrangements, whether operational or policy related, even if changes were to be implemented before December 2016. (FD 3626/15)

The Head of Corporate Legal Services have been consulted and has no comments on the report (LD 2918/15)

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting

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Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection

Background

1. The Cabinet will recall that approval was given in September 2013 to establish a Hired Passenger Transport Framework Agreement for the provision of specialist transportation for vulnerable adults and children by external companies. The award was made for a period of up to 4 years from 1st January 2014 until 31st December 2017. The Core period of the contract was for 2 years, with the provision for 2 x 1 year optional extension periods.
2. The current Framework Agreement was advertised in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) and on the Chest Portal (E-Tendering Portal). This method of advertisement and subsequent Tendering process ensured that the Specialist Transport Unit fully complied with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPR's).
3. Extending the current framework agreement will continue to represent best value as the competitive mileage prices tendered will continue to apply, along with the ability to conduct mini-tenders across framework providers for individual transport routes or services where this is deemed appropriate.
4. The framework does not commit the Council to the current or any level of transport provision however it does provide flexibility to cease or change transport arrangements when necessary. This flexibility is a key feature should changes to transport currently being provided arise. The current review of specialist transport is in progress and any change to transport arrangements can be accommodated via the framework agreement, this also applies for any changes that may be necessary in future as a result of politically approved transport policy change.
5. The current Framework Agreement (1st January 2014 to 31st December 2015 with 2 x 1 year extension options) has enabled the delivery of all required services and suppliers having performed satisfactorily, it is considered appropriate and beneficial for Sefton Council and service users, to extend the Framework Agreement for the first option year, 1st January 2016 until 31st December 2016.