
Report to:	Cabinet	Date of Meeting:	Thursday 6 th April 2017
Subject:	Hired Passenger Transport Framework Agreement 2018/20	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Report of:	Head of Locality Services - Commissioned		
Is this a Key Decision?	Yes	Is it included in the Forward Plan?	Yes
Exempt/Confidential	No		

Purpose/Summary

That the Head of Locality Services Commissioned be authorised to conduct a tender exercise in accordance with OJEU regulations and the Council's procurement regulations. The tender exercise is to establish a Framework Agreement for Hired Passenger Transport service providers to run for a period of two years from 1st January 2018 with the option of two further one-year extensions;

Recommendation(s)

That Cabinet:-

1) Authorise the Head of Service – Locality Services Commissioned to conduct an OJEU Open Procedure tender exercise for a new Framework Agreement to run for a period of two years from 1st January 2018 ,with the option of two further one-year extensions;

2) The Basis of Evaluation will be:

- MEAT (*Most Economically Advantageous Tender*) taking into consideration a balance between Price and Quality.

3) Agrees to Cabinet Member Locality Services having delegated authority to establish the 2018/20 Framework Agreement on completion of the tender process.

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 is made up of 24 hired passenger transport companies, in 4 lots, divided up into vehicle seating capacity. The core period will expire on 31st December 2017.

As part of this process, approval will be needed for Cabinet Member Locality Services to have delegated authority to establish the Framework Agreement at the back end of the tender process

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

No. Based upon the level of requests from commissioning departments there is currently an ongoing need for the Council to provide specialist transport to some service users. As such, this procurement exercise and the subsequent establishment of a Framework Agreement provides the Council with the opportunity to procure services at the most economically advantageous rates, whilst also meeting the stringent Health and Safety and Safeguarding issues associated with transporting vulnerable adults and children.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs:

There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report. This framework agreement establishes a list of approved suppliers, together with their tendered unit costs, from which, future transport contract bids for routes are measured, or individual transport is commissioned. The Council currently budgets and spends around £7.6m (incl overheads) on Specialised Transport for vulnerable adults and children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities. Across 2018/19 and 2019/20, savings of £0.730m are scheduled to be saved against this budget. The use of the framework agreement will help to ensure value for money is maintained during the award of future contracts.

(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:

In terms of current service delivery there will be no impact. Specialist Transport Unit (STU) would be able to continue responding to commissioner demand, once a new Framework Agreement of Providers was established.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

Commissioning departments, Adult Social Care, Children’s Social Care and Children’s Schools and Families, are consulted on an ongoing basis in service delivery. Consultation and advice with Central Procurement is an integral part of this process.

The Head of Corporate Resources has been consulted and comments are included on this report: (FD 4533/17)

The Head of Regulation and Compliance has been consulted and comments are included in this report: (LD 3816/17)

Are there any other options available for consideration?

No. Based upon the level of requests from commissioning departments there is currently an ongoing need for the Council to provide specialist transport to some service users. As such, this procurement exercise and the subsequent establishment of a Framework Agreement provides the Council with the opportunity to procure services at the most economically advantageous rates, whilst also meeting the stringent Health and Safety and Safeguarding issues associated with transporting vulnerable adults and children.

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.

Introduction/Background

- 1) Sefton Specialist Transport Unit (STU) is responsible for arranging the transportation of vulnerable adults and children with special needs to Day Centres, Schools and Colleges. Transport is provided utilising the Council's own fleet of buses supplemented by the hire of buses and taxis. These requirements are driven by Children's Schools and Families, Children's Social Care and Adult Social Care who commission the provision of specialist transport.
- 2) In defining new arrangements, flexibility in the Framework Agreement is vital in terms of ability to respond to commissioner's ongoing evolving requirements.

Tender Method

- 3) The tender exercise will follow an OJEU Open Procedure. Approval is requested for Cabinet Member Locality Services delegated authority to award the Framework Agreement at the back end of the tender process.
- 4) The new Framework Agreement will run for a period of two years from 1st January 2018, with the option of two further one-year extensions.
- 5) The Framework Agreement award to Providers establishes an 'Approved Supplier List' of suitable service providers. The award gives no obligation upon the Council to call off any services giving rise to financial commitment unless transport is requested by commissioning departments.
- 6) Any contract bids for routes can be measured against known mileages and framework values per mile, to ensure value for money for the Council
- 7) Establishing a new Framework Agreement to operate from January 2018 will complement the work being undertaken on Framework for Change, PSR4 Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) – Transport.