

REPORT TO POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 11 JUNE 2015

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR PROVISION OF MAINSTREAM SCHOOL TRANSPORT etc SERVICES

1 Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 1.1 **Approve the establishment of a Framework Agreement for the Provision of Mainstream School Transport (including Music Centres), Local Bus and A2B Dial-a-Bus Services between the Council and the 43 tenderers as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report for a period of 18 months (from 1 July 2015 to 31 December 2016), with an optional extension period of 12 months.**
- 1.2 **Approve the delegation of powers to the Director of Infrastructure Services in conjunction with the Head of Finance and Head of Procurement to approve the award of call-off agreements under the Framework to a maximum total value of £12,500,000 for the duration of the Framework (including the optional extension period) with delegated authority granted to the Head of Procurement to extend the Framework, if required, until 31 December 2017.**

2 Background/Discussion

- 2.1 Tenders were invited for a Framework Agreement effective from July 2015 up to December 2016 with the option for the Council to extend the term by one year. The Framework will be used to procure transport services under mini-competitions for pupil/passenger needs that arise outwith the main transport procurement programme. In the case of school transport, additional contracts will be required to accommodate new pupils who cannot be allocated to existing transport contracts due to lack of capacity. In the case of local bus services, it is most likely that the Framework will be needed for the procurement of replacement bus journeys should these be required in response to the withdrawal of commercially operated bus journeys/services. All call-off agreements under the Framework will be awarded, following mini-competition, on the basis of lowest cost.
- 2.2 The tender submissions have been evaluated to ensure the suitability of transport operators and those recommended to be included in the Framework are listed in Appendix 1.

- 2.3 The Council's Financial Regulations require that Framework call-offs with an individual or cumulative value above £60,000 per annum must be approved by the Policy and Resources Committee unless advised in advance and subsequently approved. Given the dynamic nature of pupil demand and the requirement for the Council to react to changes in the commercially-operated local bus network, it is not practicable to seek prior approval from Committee on each occasion. Approval is therefore sought for delegation of powers to the Director of Infrastructure Services, in conjunction with the Head of Finance and Head of Procurement, to allow the award of call-off agreements for the duration of the Framework, including any extension to the duration. A bulletin report will be submitted to Policy and Resources Committee annually, detailing the call-off agreements awarded under the Framework.
- 2.4 As mentioned in paragraph 2.1 the Council may opt to extend the Framework duration by a period of one year. The decision on whether to extend the duration will be taken in the light of experience. Authority is sought for the Head of Procurement to authorise a one-year extension of the Framework should it be considered that such an extension would be in the best interest of the Council.
- 2.5 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and are supportive of the report.
- 2.6 The Head of Commercial and Procurement has been consulted and is supportive of the report.

3 Equalities, Staffing and Financial Implications

- 3.1 An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out as part of the development of the Council's procurement approach for passenger transport and no negative impacts were identified. The assessment was included in the report to Infrastructure Services Committee on 27 November 2014 (item 9 refers). A further EIA is not required here as there will be no differential impact, as a result of this particular report, on people with protected characteristics
- 3.2 There are no direct staffing implications.
- 3.3 Based on previous experience it is anticipated that approximately 50 school transport contracts per annum will require to be procured under the Framework. It is estimated that the potential total value of these call-off agreements, allowing for a potential one-year extension to the Framework, will equate to up to £12,250,000 the costs of which will be allocated to Revenue Budget provision for Hired Transport for Primary and Secondary Schools (page 11, line 26 and page 13, line 30 refer).

- 3.4 The number of local bus service and A2B dial-a-bus services to be procured under the Framework will largely be determined by changes made to the commercial bus service network. It is difficult to estimate the potential total value of any call-off agreements for local bus service or A2B dial-a-bus services, however, based on recent experience it is estimated that this could amount to approximately £250,000, allowing for a potential one-year extension to the Framework. Should such costs be incurred, these will be accommodated within the Local Bus Revenue Budget (page 94 line 1 refers).

Stephen Archer
Director of Infrastructure Services

Report prepared by Marion Mackay, Principal Officer (DRT, Fares and Ticketing)

Appendix 1

**Framework Agreement for Provision of Mainstream School
Transport etc Services
Services: Approved Suppliers**

Lot 1: Mainstream School Transport Services (including Music Centres)
and Minimum Cost School Transport Services

AA Taxis Portsoy Ltd
ABC Travel Limited
Aboyne Taxis
A&I Coaches Ltd
AJS Contract Cars Ltd
Bains Chauffeur Drive
Bluebird Buses Ltd (trading as Stagecoach Bluebird)
J&M Burns
A M & J Brown (trading as Allan & Black)
Ian W Bruce Coach Hire Ltd
Central Taxis (Aberdeen) Ltd
Central Taxis (North East) Ltd
WA, R, LA & MF Cheyne (trading as Cheyne's Coaches)
Classy Taxis Ltd (trading as Freddie's Taxis)
DAB Plus c.i.c.
Deveron Coaches Ltd
First Aberdeen Limited
Fife Scottish Omnibuses Limited (trading as Stagecoach East Scotland)
GM Taxis
C Greig (trading as Kenny's Taxis Inverbervie)
JJ Taxis Macduff
Kineil Coaches Ltd
KP Taxis
E&M Lees
Mojo Taxis
Newmachar Coaches
M W Nicoll (Hirers) Laurencekirk Limited
J D Peace & Co Aberdeen Ltd
Portsoy Taxis Limited
Premier Coaches Kintore Ltd
R.G.S. Motor Services
R S Taxis and Minicoach Hire
Reids of Rhynie
Riverside Garage
Safedrive Taxis Ltd
Shearer of Huntly Ltd
Simpsons Coaches
Teejay Travel Limited
Terion Taxis
Turriff Coaches & Cabs
Victoria Coaches
W&G Taxis and Coach Hire
Watermill Coaches Ltd

**Framework Agreement for Provision of Mainstream School
Transport etc Services
Services: Approved Suppliers**

Lot 2: Local Bus and Combined Local Bus/School Transport Services

AA Taxis Portsoy Ltd
ABC Travel Limited
A&I Coaches Ltd
Bains Chauffeur Drive
Bluebird Buses Ltd (trading as Stagecoach Bluebird)
A M & J Brown (trading as Allan & Black)
Ian W Bruce Coach Hire Ltd
J&M Burns
Central Taxis (Aberdeen) Ltd
Central Taxis (North East) Ltd
WA, R, LA & MF Cheyne (trading as Cheyne's Coaches)
Classy Taxis Ltd (trading as Freddie's Taxis)
Deveron Coaches Ltd
Fife Scottish Omnibuses Limited (trading as Stagecoach East Scotland)
GM Taxis
C Greig (trading as Kenny's Taxis Inverbervie)
Kineil Coaches Ltd
E&M Lees
M W Nicoll (Hirers) Laurencekirk Limited
Portsoy Taxis Limited
Premier Coaches Kintore Ltd
R.G.S. Motor Services
R S Taxis and Minicoach Hire
Reids of Rhynie
Shearer of Huntly Ltd
Teejay Travel Limited
Victoria Coaches
W&G Taxis and Coach Hire
Watermill Coaches Ltd

**Framework Agreement for Provision of Mainstream School
Transport etc Services
Services: Approved Suppliers**

Lot 3: A2B Dial-a-Bus Services

ABC Travel Limited
A&I Coaches Ltd
Bains Chauffeur Drive
Bluebird Buses Ltd (trading as Stagecoach Bluebird)
J&M Burns
Central Taxis (Aberdeen) Ltd
Central Taxis (North East) Ltd
Classy Taxis Ltd (trading as Freddie's Taxis)
DAB Plus c.i.c.
Deveron Coaches Ltd
Fife Scottish Omnibuses Limited (trading as Stagecoach East Scotland)
C Greig (trading as Kenny's Taxis Inverbervie)
Kineil Coaches Ltd
E&M Lees
M W Nicoll (Hirers) Laurencekirk Limited
Portsoy Taxis Limited
Premier Coaches Kintore Ltd
R.G.S. Motor Services
R S Taxis and Minicoach Hire
Reids of Rhynie
Shearer of Huntly Ltd
Victoria Coaches
W&G Taxis and Coach Hire
Watermill Coaches Ltd

