

BOROUGH OF POOLE

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY GROUP - 25 NOVEMBER 2010

LOCAL BUS SERVICE TENDER RESULTS

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To inform Members of the results of the recent retendering of four local bus service contracts. These have been approved under Delegated Authority by the Portfolio Holders for Transportation and Supporting Children & Young People due to the short time available between procurement and contract start date.

2. INFORMATION

- 2.1 Three local bus service contracts with a start date of 1 October 2010 and one local school bus service contract with a start date of 01.01.11 have been retendered. A successful group tender was submitted by Wilts & Dorset/Damory Coaches to operate all of the contracts for 7 year period.
- 2.2 These local bus service tender results have been reported to the Council's Route & Branch Member Group for information.
- 2.3 Contract description, number of tenders and successful bid are set out below:

(a) LB12 Local Bus Service 152 Poole-Rockley Park

Previously operated by Wilts & Dorset Bus Company with 3 return journeys per day on Mondays to Saturdays enhanced to an hourly service during the summer. Successful tender provides hourly service throughout the year (with the exception of two afternoon return journeys which operate during school holidays only). Successful tender also provides a fully-accessible low-floor bus.

- Tenders were received from 3 operators
- Lowest Price: £18,400 (Damory Coaches)
- Awarded on a Minimum Support basis (fares revenue retained by the operator)
- Previous Price: £38,800 (Damory Coaches)

(b) LB28 Local Bus Service 128 Poole-Upton Country Park/Dacombe Drive

Retendered with no changes to the timetable though a low-floor bus is now provided.

- Tenders were received from 4 operators
- Lowest Price: £17,700 (Damory Coaches)
- Awarded on a Minimum Support basis (fares revenue retained by the operator)
- Previous Price: £28,043 (Wilts & Dorset)

(c) LB52 Local Bus Service 52 Poole-Lilliput-Canford Cliffs-Sandbanks (Winter service)

Retendered with no changes to the timetable though a low-floor bus is now provided.

- Tenders were received from 3 operators
- Lowest Price: £9,900 (Wilts & Dorset)
- Awarded on a Minimum Support basis (fares revenue retained by the operator)
- Previous Price: £12,982 (Wilts & Dorset)

(d) LB220 Local School Bus Services 23 and 25 Merley-Corfe Hills School

These services carry a mixture of pupils entitled to free transport under the Council's Home to School policy and non-entitled fare-payers. The service was previously operated with three buses at a cost of £183.41 per day per bus (£34,848 per annum) with a combined annual cost of £104,543.70. The routes have been rationalised into two services.

- Tenders were received from 2 operators
- Lowest price £42,000 for two buses (less an estimated revenue of £22,000 per annum)
- Awarded on a Minimum Cost basis (fares revenue credited to the Council)
- Previous price £104,543.70 (Shamrock Buses - for 3 buses)

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. The savings resulting from this retendering exercise have been incorporated into the Medium Term Financial Strategy (Transportation and Children & Young People's Integrated Services).

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Council is required publish the results of local bus service tendering.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Failure to manage area of supported bus services is considered to be a high risk element in the Transportation Services Unit Business Plan.

7. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The provision of subsidised bus services supports those without access to private cars. Higher levels of bus use are found amongst older people, schoolchildren, females and people from social and economically deprived backgrounds.

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Background Papers:
None

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