

## EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

### DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 24 AUGUST 2004

#### AWARD OF DIAL-A-BUS CONTRACTS AND LOCAL BUS SERVICE CONTRACTS

##### Report by Executive Director of Development & Property Services

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of a change to the award of the replacement Dial-A-Bus and local service contracts to that previously indicated to the Committee; and
- 1.2 To seek the Committee's agreement for the increased cost to the Council of the change in award.

### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting of 29 June 2004, the Committee was advised of the award of replacement Dial-A-Bus and local service contracts by SPT following the collapse of the HAD Coaches contract in March 2004, and agreed to meet the additional costs arising from the tendering process
- 2.2 The Committee agreed to meet the additional costs for the following contracts: -
  - i) **Contract 9556B, Cumnock Area Dial-A-Bus Service (Service M1):** – to be awarded to Ayrways Coach Travel Ltd at a cost to East Ayrshire Council of £16,968 per year; and
  - ii) **Contract 6957, Cumnock – New Cumnock/Cumnock – Sorn:** - to be awarded to Western Buses at a cost to East Ayrshire Council of £24,950.
- 2.3 The total cost of the replacement contracts would result in an increase in cost to the Council of £26,137 per annum.
- 2.4 SPT were advised of the Committee's agreement that the Council would meet its increased share of the cost in a letter from the Head of Roads on 6 July 2004.

### 3. REVISED CONTRACT AWARD

- 3.1 SPT has now advised that, at the SPT Special Operations Committee on 25 June, instead of awarding Contract 9556B to Ayrways Coach Travel Ltd at a cost to EAC of £16,968 per annum, the contract was in fact awarded to Shuttle Buses Ltd, subject to the Council's agreement to meet its share of the cost, now £19,363, an increase of £2,395 compared to that reported to and agreed by this Committee on 29 June 2004. SPT is now seeking Council approval for the increased contract sum.

**3.2** It is understood that a late change in the contract awarded in favour of Shuttle Buses arose because Airways Coaches could not guarantee that a fully accessible back-up vehicle would be available. The contract commenced on 18 July 2004.

**3.3** An explanation has been sought from SPT as to why the recommendation to award the contract to Shuttle Buses at the Operations Committee on 25 June was not transmitted to the Council prior to the Development Services Committee on 29 June; no explanation has been forthcoming to date.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**4.1** The award of the recommended replacement Dial-A-Bus contract to Shuttle Buses will result in an increase in cost to the Council of £19,363 per annum. This is £2,395 more than agreed by the Committee on 24 June 2004.

#### **5. RECOMMENDATION**

**5.1** It is recommended that the Committee;

- i) agree to meet the additional cost of £2,395 arising from the award of contract 9556B to Shuttle Buses.

James Lavery  
**Executive Director of Development and Property Services**  
**9 August 2004**

#### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Award of Dial-A-Bus Contracts and Local Bus Service Contracts,  
Development Services Committee, 24 August 2004

For further information please contact Kerr Chalmers on 01563 – 555715

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