

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 28 JUNE 2005

BUS SHELTER CONTRACT

Report by Executive Director of Development and Property Services

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** The purpose of the report is to seek the approval of the Committee to extend the current contract awarded to Commutaports Ltd for the supply of bus shelters on the Council's Quality Bus Corridors.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1** In January 2005 a tender was issued for the supply and installation of bus shelters on the Quality Bus Corridors (QBC) being funded from the Scottish Executive's Public Transport Fund (PTF). The QBC works involved providing new bus stop infrastructure including new shelters and enhanced pedestrian routes as necessary. At that time, it was estimated that 60 shelters would be required to complete the QBC installation programme: 20 by end of March 2005 and a further 40 by March 2006 at the end of the PTF funding programme.
- 2.2** A contract was subsequently awarded to Commutaports Ltd of Bishopbriggs for the supply and installation of a provisional number of 60 shelters, with the exact requirement to be determined during the final design process.
- 2.3** In late January 2005 the Council was awarded an additional allocation of £520,000 from WESTRANS for further QBC improvement works on the condition that the expenditure programme was completed by the end of the 2004/05 financial year. This funding was used to provide the QBC measures in those areas that were not covered by the existing PTF programmes and included communities in the A735, A713 and A70 corridors. Also included were New Cumnock and Fenwick.
- 2.4** The additional WESTRANS funding has enabled 50 new shelters to be provided at bus stops on those routes. Due to the requirement to complete the works before the end of the 2004/05 financial year it was not possible to undertake a separate tender process for the shelters to be provided with the additional WESTRANS allocation. On the PTF corridors, 17 new shelters have been provided to date since the contract was awarded. There is a requirement for a further 43 shelters to complete the PTF programme.

- 2.5** In February 2005, the Development and Property Services Department was awarded a financial allocation of £100,000 in 2005/06 from the Community Regeneration Fund (CRF) for quality bus infrastructure improvements. The details of the improvements are subject to final design but it is expected that up to 10 bus shelters could be provided from the CRF funding.

3 CURRENT PROPOSALS

- 3.1** It is expected that a further 53 shelters will be required to complete the PTF and CRF programmes.

- 3.2** It is now requested that the Committee gives authorisation to vary the existing contract with Commutaports for the provision of the 53 shelters required to complete the PTF and CRF programmes for the following reasons: -

- (i) Commutaports Ltd provided the lowest price tender in January 2005;
- (ii) the Commutaports tender price is fixed until 31 March 2006;
- (iii) use of the Commutaports shelter will give consistency of provision throughout all of the Council's Quality Bus Corridors; and
- (iv) Commutaports is a firm based in central Scotland that provides a reliable aftercare and maintenance service.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1** The existing contract value with Commutaports is £193,388 based on the supply and installation of 60 bus shelters.

- 4.2** By varying the contract amount to provide an estimated 120 shelters, the final contract value is estimated to be £386,776, with the final value being dependent on the configuration of shelters following site survey and consultation. All prices will be in accordance with the tendered rates.

- 4.3** The costs of the works outstanding in 2005/06 will be met from the Public Transport Fund settlement received from the Scottish Executive and the 2005/06 Community Regeneration Fund allocation.

5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** Council standing orders relating to contracts state that where the appropriate Executive Director considers that an existing contract should be extended with the existing contractor/supplier, he/she shall obtain the approval of the appropriate Committee, both in respect of the extension and of the terms agreed with the existing contractor/supplier.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1** It is recommended that the Committee agrees to vary the existing contract with Commutaports Ltd to order 53 further shelters to meet the Council's requirements to the end of March 2006.

James Lavery
Executive Director of Development and Property Services

13 June 2005

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

For further information on the contents of this report please contact Keith Orton on 01563 555714

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