

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 28 AUGUST 2001

KILMARNOCK & CUMNOCK BUS STATIONS - ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

Report By Director of Development Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's authorisation to the extension of an existing SPT contract with Tandata Ltd for the provision of an electronic information display at Kilmarnock and Cumnock bus stations compatible with that currently being introduced at Buchanan Bus Station in Glasgow.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 East Ayrshire Council was successful in 1999 in its bid for an additional capital allocation of £590,000 from the Public Transport Fund to upgrade the Kilmarnock and Cumnock Bus Stations. The Council's Technical Services Division were responsible for the design and supervising the implementation of the project. Work commenced on 23 October 2000 and was substantially completed by spring 2001.

2.2 Cumnock Bus Station

The improvements at Cumnock included new and improved shelter and waiting facilities, raised access kerbs, new paving, CCTV, improved information, and seating.

2.3 Kilmarnock Bus Station

Upgrading at Kilmarnock included the following improvements to the stance areas: new paving, enhanced lighting, bus access kerbs to assist elderly and disabled people, enhanced lighting, further CCTV cameras, guardrails, new seating, and new information panels at each stance

Improvements to the waiting area included a new ticket desk, provision of two units which could be used for shopmobility and commercial outlet, new seats, improved lighting, CCTV, new flooring, and improved information provision.

- 2.4 The above works were substantially completed by April 2001. The Minister for Transport and Planning, Sarah Boyack, visited Kilmarnock bus station on 14 May to view the improvements.

3. ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

- 3.1** An integral part of the improvement works was to be the introduction of an electronic information system.
- 3.2** A key aim of the proposal is to provide a system which would be compatible with that being installed in Buchanan Bus Station and which will be capable of being operated centrally by SPT in the future, subject to their agreement.
- 3.3** As the SPT system is to be introduced in the current financial year, agreement was sought and granted from the Scottish Executive to re-profile funding for the provision of the electronic system in 2001/02. The estimated cost of the electronic information system is £70,000.
- 3.4** The proposed system includes two monitors at Kilmarnock and one at Cumnock with necessary computing software and communications hardware. It is also proposed to install a terminal for the visually impaired at both Kilmarnock and Cumnock.
- 3.5** SPT has commissioned Tandata Ltd to provide the system at Buchanan Bus Station, following a competitive bidding process.
- 3.6** Tandata have quoted prices to East Ayrshire Council which are very similar to that being paid at Buchanan Bus Station for comparable items of the system. SPT have provided written confirmation to this effect. The overall price of the system will not be known until Tandata have undertaken site surveys at Kilmarnock and Cumnock.
- 3.7** The provision of the electronic information system at Kilmarnock & Cumnock bus stations is essential to the provision of an integrated information system, and by appointing Tandata for this project the link between Kilmarnock, Glasgow and Cumnock should be easily achieved as the software will be entirely compatible. The appointment of Tandata would therefore represent best value for East Ayrshire Council.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1** The Legal section are of the view that the provision of the electronic system would justify an exemption from the provisions of the standing orders relating to contracts on the basis that the exemption is justified by special circumstances detailed above.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** The cost of the information system will be met from the existing capital allocation awarded from the Public Transport Fund. £70,000 of the allocation has been set aside for the system in the current financial year. Approval to appoint Tandata will enable the system to be installed during the current financial year.

6. RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1** It is recommended that the Committee agree to authorise the award of a contract to Tandata Ltd for the provision of an electronic information display at Kilmarnock and Cumnock bus stations compatible with that currently being introduced at Buchanan Bus Station in Glasgow.

Stephen Chorley
Director of Development Services

KC
20 August 2001

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

For further information please contact Kerr Chalmers on 01563 555714

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AGENDA