

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member - Environment
Date:	29 June 2010
Title:	County-wide Intelligent Transport Systems
Reference:	1683
Report From:	Director of Environment

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1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to outline the award of various Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) contracts as a framework for ITS service planning and delivery. The County Council remains at the forefront of the development and deployment of ITS and new countywide Framework Agreement contracts for various applications underlines its commitment to the efficient management of the transport network and the provision of traffic and travel information services for all modes and users.

2. Contextual information

2.1. The County Council has a well established suite of ITS which are operated and coordinated from the Hampshire Traffic and Travel Information Centre in Winchester.

2.2. A number of contracts for various ITS have expired. It is now appropriate to test the market to ensure value for money and provide the opportunity for the latest technical developments to be assessed. The award of Framework Agreement contracts will also establish a single supplier for the various systems enabling a cost effective, coordinated and consistent approach to ITS deployment in Hampshire.

2.3. For financial and technical reasons it is impractical to engage with a range of suppliers for each application. The County Council has adopted a successful 'plug and play' approach to ITS deployment whereby central control systems are established for each application. Operational kit is then installed where required and where funding permits allowing for the incremental expansion and growth in coverage of each system.

2.4. The ITS Group is currently managing the award of Framework Agreement contracts for the design, supply, installation and maintenance of:

- STOPWATCH Real Time Information (RTI) for bus services;
- Broadcast Display and Journey Planning kiosks;
- Variable Message Signs (VMS) for car park occupancy and travel information; and
- Automatic Number Plate Recognition.

2.5. Each contract will be awarded against 60% cost 40% quality criteria to establish a single systems supplier for four years. The contracts will enable the fulfilment of ITS requirements for various projects and schemes where funding is already allocated. This includes the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) scheme of which RTI, Information Kiosks and other ITS are integral. The contracts will also contribute fully to the ITS Deployment Strategy and the requirements of the Traffic Management Act and the Local Transport Plan 3.

2.6. Where appropriate the new contracts allow for the migration and integration of existing equipment to the new systems. This is a cost effective solution for the ongoing maintenance of assets, avoids duplication and offers protection to existing investment.

3. Finance

3.1. The contract awards value range is between £50,000 and £2 million. This range should help ensure the appointment of a supplier of suitable financial standing and will enable the responsive placing of orders as required and as funding allows over the four year period.

3.2. The contract will achieve cost savings, economies of scale and avoid repetitive procurement processes, in turn providing for more efficient and consistent standards across the county in line with the Corporate Procurement Strategy.

3.3. It is expected that the majority of capital investment under the new contracts will be met from developer/external funding and project budgets as is the case with BRT for example. The district and borough councils are increasingly advocating the use of ITS and this can also offer funding channels as is the case with the Eastleigh Town Centre car park information and VMS scheme.

3.4. ITS equipment is expected to operate satisfactorily for 10 to 15 years. Equipment deployed under the new contracts will be added to annual maintenance contracts and the revenue implications for the ongoing maintenance and operation will need to be taken into account in the setting of the annual base budget.

4. Future Direction

- 4.1. The continued use of Framework Agreement contracts will enable the County Council to plan and deploy ITS in a consistent and integrated manner across Hampshire. A contract duration of four years provides sufficient time and scope for the County Council to work in collaboration with the system suppliers and other partners to ensure high quality system operation and stability.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1. That the award of county-wide framework contracts, on the basis set out in the report, to ensure the continued efficient and cost-effective deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems in Hampshire, be approved.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

DocumentLocation

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1. An Equalities Impact Assessment concluded that there is no evidence of unlawful discrimination in the provision of ITS and traffic and travel information.
- 1.2. STOPWATCH provision improves access to bus service information for all users particularly the visually impaired with the provision of 'talking' bus stops using RNIB approved key fob devices as specified in the contract.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. Not Applicable.

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

ITS provides accurate and credible public transport information which promotes sustainable travel options and reduces car dependency for local journeys thereby supporting carbon footprint reduction. The use of ITS to manage the road network also assists this process by reducing the impacts of congestion and emissions to improve local air quality.

ITS continues to place a greater emphasis on the use of efficient delivery channels for information such as internet and mobile phone SMS. However, ITS provision does require the use of powered electronic displays at various locations. Opportunities to reduce energy consumption will be utilised when appropriate during the course of the contract.

- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

ITS promote sustainable transport options and congestion and local air quality management. ITS are also crucial to the efficient operation of the existing network and assets. These elements demonstrate ITS compatibility with the broader strategic responses to climate change.