

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Executive Decision Record**

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment
<b>Date:</b>	1 April 2014
<b>Title:</b>	Community Transport Contracts and Grants
<b>Reference:</b>	5754
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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**1. The decision:**

- 1.1 That approval to procure and spend be given in respect of a new single tender contract for the Good Neighbour Support Service with the contract initially being awarded for two years with an option to extend up to four years duration from 1 April 2014 with a total estimated value of £20,000 which would be funded by Hampshire County Council.
- 1.2 That a grant of up to £6,500 be awarded to YelaBus for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015, on the basis that, in addition to the Council's normal conditions of grant, the following grant conditions will also be met; that YelaBus will:
- (i) Provide a 'group hire' minibus operation under Section 19 Standard Permits, to enable eligible local and voluntary and community groups to hire minibuses at affordable rates.
  - (ii) Maintain a pool of volunteer drivers so that minibuses can be provided for hire, complete with a MiDAS trained driver where requested.
  - (iii) Ensure that charges made to passengers and vehicle hirers include an element of depreciation so that YelaBus accrues money towards replacing its vehicles.
  - (iv) Provide quarterly activity and financial reports to the Council for the scheme
  - (v) Work with the Council's Community Transport Team on community transport matters in Hart to identify the need for and assist in the development of local community transport initiatives.

- 1.3 That approval to procure and spend be given in respect of the contract for Wheels to Work, with a contract initially being awarded for two years with an option to extend up to six years duration, with a total estimated value of £420,000 of which £290,000 will be funded by Hampshire County Council and the remainder by district council contributions.
- 1.4 That a ratio of 50% for price and 50% for quality is applied in tender evaluation of the item approved in 1.3 above.
- 1.5 That the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment be given delegated authority to agree any variations to the items approved referred to in paragraphs 4.1-4.7 of this report, in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment.
- 1.6 That the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment be given delegated authority in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment to extend incrementally the contract awards for the Good Neighbour Support Service and the Wheels to Work schemes set out in this report up to the maximum approved term for these contracts.
- 1.7 That the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment gives approval for the County Council to enter into legal agreements with each of the respective funding partners for the initial contract terms for the Wheels to Work scheme set out in this report, and subsequently to cover any contract extensions up to the maximum agreed term for this contract.
- 1.8 That the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment be given delegated authority to vary the contract and service provision for the Wheels to Work contract, in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment as may be required as a result of any changes to district council funding contributions.

## **2. Reason for the decision:**

- 2.1. The award of these contracts and this grant will help to improve accessibility by providing people with access to key services and activities. For many people these services offer a valuable opportunity to travel. The proposed procurement process and subsequent contract award will enable the continued operation of the Wheels to Work scheme which predominately provides young people with the opportunity to access employment and training opportunities in Hampshire. The resulting transport provided under these contracts and this grant help to support the County Council's well being agenda.

## **3. Other options considered and rejected:**

- 3.1. One option would be not to award any contracts or grant for these services or undertake the proposed tendering exercise for the Wheels to Work scheme.

This would leave people who rely on the current arrangements with no access to a number of services and activities and would worsen accessibility in Hampshire.

- 3.2. Provide increased funding, as requested by YelaBus, of up to £11,500 for a further 12 month period, subject to match funding from Yateley Town Council. The financial information provided by the scheme would suggest that the grant award proposed in this report should be sufficient to support the continued operation of the YelaBus scheme for a further year.

**4. Conflicts of interest:**

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None.
- 4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None.

**5. Dispensation granted by the Standards Committee: none.**

**6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.**

**7. Statement from the Decision Maker:**

<b>Approved by:</b>  ----- <b>Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment Councillor Seán D T Woodward</b>	<b>Date:</b>  <b>1 April 2014</b>
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