

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
<b>Date:</b>	25 July 2016
<b>Title:</b>	Authority to Spend
<b>Reference:</b>	7690
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

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### 1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to seek authority to spend up to a maximum of £320 million over a period up to 10 years 7 months, to be used for the procurement of contracts to deliver Children's Services Home to School Transport and wider Children's Social Care Transport requirements, via the new Dynamic Purchasing
- 1.2 This paper seeks to place the spend within the context of the new DPS. The new system will replace the existing DPS used for procuring transport.

### 2. Contextual information

- 2.1. The County Council's Contract Standing Orders (CSO 3) requires that '*The procurement of a Contract (not including a Framework Agreement) is subject to the approval of the relevant decision maker who has the authority to give approval for the relevant expenditure under the Constitution.*' This report requests approval to procure and spend for contracts which require approval by the Executive Lead Member as they have a value, or estimated value, in excess of £1 million.
- 2.2. Children's Services Department, using a service level agreement and overseen by a Client Officer working within Children's Services, require the County Council's Passenger Transport function to procure Home to School Transport services. Also the same function provides a service for looked after children to be transported from their looked after placement to a range of routine activities.
- 2.3 The Home to School Transport policy, that decides entitlement for travelling children, is largely limited to only the service that is required by law.
- 2.4 Passenger Transport Group utilises a procurement framework, transport operators join the framework, and bid for contracts to provide a safe, timely transport service in line with statutory guidance. The total annual spend (£30m) is made up of relatively small contracts but with approximately

15,000 children per annum receiving the service total costs are significant. Due to the Council's activities to ensure savings identified in the Transformation to 2017 programme, each procurement activity is scrutinised whether it can contribute to the saving targets of services and the department and improve efficiency and efficacy. Specific strands of procurement undergo a full category management analysis. The procurement activity also looks at how the resulting contracts will be monitored to deliver value for money, innovation and deliver on estimated savings.

### 3. Other Key Issues

- 3.1. The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 requires the Council as public authority 'to have regard to economic, social and environmental well-being in connection with public services contracts'. The Social Value is either defined in the Service Specification for a contract, for example asking the provider to use apprentices or employ people from disadvantaged groups. Alternatively, during the tender process, the provider is asked how it adds Social Value to a service.
- 3.2 The Council, as contracting authority, has additionally the obligation to shape their tendering processes to allow small to medium businesses fair access to winning contracts.

### 4. Recommendation(s)

- 4.1. It is recommended that the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services gives the approval to spend in relation to contracts listed BELOW whose value will be over £1,000,000.

Project title	Contract / Framework term and start date	Anticipated County Council value over term	Anticipated total value over term (Collaborative Spend)	Approval required
HTST Spend for Transport services to provide a service for children and young people taking them to and from school each day.	10 years 7 months starting 1 August 2016	£320m	£320m	Authority to spend
Social Care Transport Services Spend for transport services for children in care to attend activities	10 years 7 months starting 1 August 2016	£12m	£12m	Authority to spend

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	yes
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	yes

*NB: If the 'Other significant links' section below is not applicable, please delete it.*

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	

<b>Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents</b>	
<p>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.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

#### **Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:**

The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;

Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;

Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

#### **Equalities Impact Assessment:**

This decision will have no impact, as transport will continue to be provided in accordance with the Home to School Transport Policy established by the County Council's Children's Services Department and the approach to providing Community Transport services followed by the Economy, Transport and Environment Department of the County Council.

### **2 Impact on Crime and Disorder: Not applicable**

### **3 Climate Change:**

How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? Not applicable

How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? Not applicable