

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

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| Decision Maker: | Executive Member for Environment and Transport |
| Date: | 5 March 2013 |
| Title: | Procurement of Local Bus Service following Commercial Deregistration in Fleet Area – Service –71 Fleet, Calthorpe Park and Pondtail |
| Reference: | 4694 |
| Report From: | Director of Economy, Transport and Environment |

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report proposes that approval be given to procure a bus service under the Dynamic Purchasing System. The resulting contract will be for 6 months duration with an estimated value of £60,000 of which £60,000 is related to Hampshire County Council.
- 1.2. The report proposes a plan of action to ensure that a bus service between Fleet town centre, Fleet railway station, Calthorpe Park and Pondtail continues to support access to work, education, retail, leisure and health for the widest section of the community, thereby supporting quality of life as well as achieving value for money. This service will reflect the current financial situation and the budget that is allocated.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1. The 71 bus route was provided without subsidy by local bus operator Fleet Buzz. In 2012, Fleet Buzz was taken over by Stagecoach which is now reviewing services and has advised that it will cease running the 71 from 15 April 2013. The withdrawal would leave the areas of Calthorpe Park and Pondtail in Fleet without a bus service
- 2.2. The Queens Acre development of the former QE II Barracks in Fleet includes funding for a new bus service or changes to the local bus network. So that options can be properly evaluated, consulted on locally, and be considered by the local Transport Contribution Steering Group, a contract for 6 months is proposed to maintain a bus service during this period.

2.3. A full tender was issued to comply with current Procurement legislation

3. Finance

3.1. The cost of the 6 month service for this service is estimated at £60,000 which can be met from the Bus Subsidy Budget.

4. Performance

4.1. The proposed bus service will continue to provide a bus service between Fleet town centre, railway station, Calthorpe Park, and Pondtail, thereby continuing to support access to work, education, retail, leisure and health for the widest section of the community; this supports quality of life as well as achieving value for money. This service will reflect the current financial situation and the budget that is currently allocated.

5. Recommendations

5.1. That in accordance with the County Council's Contract Standing Orders and Constitution, approval to procure and spend be given for the provision of a public bus service in the Fleet, Calthorpe Park and Pondtail areas.

5.2. That approval be given to procure and spend in respect of a contract up to 6 months duration from April 2013 with an estimated value of up to £60,000 under the Public Bus Dynamic Purchasing System.

5.3. That the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment be given delegated authority to agree any variations to the items approved referred to at paragraph 1.2 above, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment and Transport

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

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| 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: | no |
| 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 The proposals in this report have been developed with due regard to the requirements of the Equality Act 2010, including the Public Sector Equality Duty and the Council's equality objectives. An assessment of the impacts in this service area can be found at <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/equality/equality-impact-assessments/cx-pu-eqimpact-envi.htm> under "Safe and Efficient Transport Systems in Hampshire".

It is considered that the issues covered by this report will not have impacts requiring further specific actions by the Council above those already established in its existing policies and working procedures.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. It is considered that the decision will have no impact on crime and disorder.

3. Climate Change:

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

Delivering an effective public transport system within available funding levels provides an alternative to the use of the private car.

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

An effective public transport alternative matches provision to need and minimises carbon emissions.