

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:

3040

Author:

Mark Garlick

Department:

Development and Growth

Contact:

Mark Garlick

(Job Title: Team Leader: Public Transport Operations, Email: mark.garlick@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158764675)

Subject:

Approval to extend the contract for Locallink and Easylink Bus Services for up to one year

Total Value:

Exempt (Type: Revenue)

Decision Being Taken:

To grant dispensation from Contract Procedure Rule 5.1.2, in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.29, to extend the existing contract with Dial-a-Ride (known as "Easylink") and 5 "Locallink" subsidised bus services, until 27 January 2019 and at the maximum cost detailed in the exempt appendix, to enable a full review of provision and budget availability to take place.

Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>Extending the contract will enable the Council to maintain subsidised bus services that are aimed at giving easy access for disabled and elderly passengers in areas of the city that are remote from commercial bus services. Existing approvals allow spend until 27 January 2018. It is proposed that this spend continues, for an interim period of up to one year, until the budget position is known and there is a fuller understanding of what is to be provided by the commercial bus network in 2018/19.</p> <p>The services are: Easylink - City Dial-a-Ride service L1 City - Silverdale Estate (Clifton North Ward) L5 City - Wollaton Park Estate (Wollaton East & Lenton Abbey and Dunkirk & Lenton Wards) L6 Bulwell - Norwich Gardens - Bulwell Hall Circular (Bulwell Ward) L7 City - Charlbury Road (Wollaton West Ward) L22/3 Clifton - West Bridgford (Clifton North and Clifton South Wards)</p> <p>Reasons why the services are not going out to a full competitive tender at this time are: (1) The time it would take to carry out a full tender procedure in advance of the 27 January 2018 contract end date; (2) The short term nature of any contract without budget certainty would make it unattractive to many providers and this may only attract a low grade provision of service.</p> <p>The extension of the contracts will be limited to a period of no more than one year. During that time, a full review of the services will take place and, if the services are considered still to be required, a full competitive tender will take place within that one year period.</p>
Other Options Considered:	<p>Withdrawal of the services from 27 January 2018 was rejected as it would leave affected residents isolated.</p> <p>Re-tendering the service now was rejected as there would not be sufficient time to tender a contract to start immediately after the end of the current contract. It would be necessary either: (i) to award a short time direct award with the current operator, or (ii) award a short term emergency contract to continue the services which would generate little interest from contractors, and could potentially lead to a low grade of provision.</p>
Background Papers:	None
Published Works:	None
Affected Wards:	Bulwell, Clifton North, Clifton South, Dunkirk and Lenton, Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey, Wollaton West
Colleague / Councillor Interests:	None
Any Information Exempt from publication:	Yes

Dispensation from Financial Regulations: Yes

Exempt Information:

Description of what is exempt: Legal and Procurement advice
Maximum Contract Cost for a period of up to one year to 27 January 2019.

An appendix (or appendices) to this decision is exempt from publication under the following paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

3 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because it could prejudice future contract negotiations

5 - Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings. The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because to disclose could prejudice the ability of the decision maker to consider the decision and associated advice in its entirety. There are also commercial reasons, as it affects both the Council and potential operators.

Documents exempt from publication: DelegatedDecision (002)_Easylink L1 L5 L6 L7 L22_Dec2017_Exempt info contract price.docx, Locallink and Easylink exempt Dec 2017.docx, Locallink and Easylink bus service.docx

Consultations: Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications: None

Equality: EIA not required. Reasons: No change to existing bus services provided.

Social Value Considerations: N/A

Decision Type: Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In: Yes

Call In Expiry date: 09/01/2018

Advice Sought: Legal, Finance, Procurement

Legal Advice: This advice is exempt from publication and is contained within an exempt appendix Advice provided by Dionne Claire Screamon (Solicitor) on 20/12/2017.

Finance Advice: The dispensation from Financial Regulations is recommended as the contract needs to be directly awarded. This is a contract that is in existence and budget provision is in place for the contract amount. Extended the contract places no additional financial pressure on the service. Advice provided by Susan Tytherleigh (Senior Finance Manager) on 15/12/2017.

Procurement Advice: This advice is exempt from publication and is contained within an exempt appendix Advice provided by Paul Ritchie (Lead Procurement Officer) on 13/12/2017.

Signatures

Sally Longford (PH for Neighbourhood Services & Local Transport)
 SIGNED and Dated: 02/01/2018

David Bishop (Deputy CE, CD for Development and Growth)
 SIGNED and Dated: 02/01/2018

Theresa Channell (Head of Corporate and Strategic Finance) - Dispensation from Financial Regulations
 SIGNED and Dated: 29/12/2017

Chief Finance Officer's Comments: