

## CONTRACT FOR TRANSPORT TO DAY SERVICES FOR VULNERABLE ADULTS

Report of the Director of Social Services

### SUMMARY OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report requests that Cabinet authorise going out to tender for a new contract to provide transport for vulnerable adults to and from Day Services. The existing contract ends on March 31 2003. It is proposed to invite tenders to enter into a new contract for five years with an option to extend for a further five years.
- 1.2 **Recommendation**  
That the Cabinet authorises tendering for a five year contract with a five year option by waiving the Contract Procedure Rule C30.
- 1.3 **Reasons for Recommendation**  
The contract will require considerable capital investment by the Provider. Lease or purchase of a fleet of vehicles that meet exacting standards of comfort and safety is not a viable commercial option for a shorter period. Investment in garage and maintenance facilities if needed will only add to the high front-end costs which will only be attractive for a long-term contract.

## **MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 2.1 The service specification of the existing contract will no longer meet the needs of the Day Services. A Best Value Review has identified the need to provide Day Services in different and more varied ways.
- 2.2 These services will focus on Service Users with high level needs which will mean that higher levels of comfort, safety and journey quality will be required that can only be achieved by the provision of new vehicles.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3. The current budget for this service is £650,000.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4 None.

## **PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5 None.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6 Provision of new vehicles will make a contribution to the air quality in the City.

## **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 7 The service will improve the quality of transport for vulnerable service users.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 8. To authorise tendering for a five year contract with a five year option by waiving the Contract Procedure Rule C30.

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Background Papers: None.