

**AGENDA ITEM**

**REPORT TO CABINET**

**18 NOVEMBER 2021**

**REPORT OF CORPORATE  
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

**CABINET / KEY DECISION**

**Leader of the Council - Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Bob Cook**

**PROCUREMENT PLAN / HIGHER VALUE CONTRACTS**

**SUMMARY**

This report seeks approval from Cabinet for the award of planned higher value contracts where the value exceeds the limit on officer delegated authority and which are either funded within the approved MTFP/ Capital Programme or are subject to a bid for external funding.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS/DECISIONS**

To enable Cabinet to exercise its strategic oversight of higher value planned procurement projects, in accordance with the updated constitution.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Cabinet

1. approves the contracts listed in Annex 1
2. gives authority to the relevant Director or Assistant Director to make the specific contract award decisions and any subsequent contract variation and extension decisions in accordance with the delegations listed in Annex 1.

**DETAIL**

1. The constitution defines a range of decisions that require a specific Cabinet approval, the financial threshold for which is set at a level of £500k or more. Annex 1 lists a contract that exceeds the financial threshold and has not otherwise been delegated to officers.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

2. The report includes a higher value contract expected to be awarded in the current financial year. The expenditure committed as a result of this procurements is planned and remains within the Council's approved budget/MTFP or is subject to a bid for external funding which will ensure that at the point of contract award funds are available within the MTFP.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

3. Notwithstanding Cabinet approval it remains the responsibility of officers to ensure that the correct processes within Contract Procedure Rules have been followed and that where applicable the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 are complied with.
4. Where the value of goods, services or works exceeds the threshold at which the procurement process must comply with the Public Contracts Regulations either a tender exercise or the use of a suitable framework agreement will comply with the Regulations.

### **RISK ASSESSMENT**

5. This procurement is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

**Name of Contact Officer:** Garry Cummings

**Post Title:** Director of Finance, Development & Business Services

**Tel:** 01642 527011

**Email:** [garry.cummings@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:garry.cummings@stockton.gov.uk)

## Annex 1

<b>Strategic Partnership for Family Support</b>	
<p>1. The Council will carry out a tender process to appoint suitable provider with whom to form a Strategic Partnership for Family Support. The selected Partner will deliver a number of existing contracted services and will work with Children's Services to review and re-design existing services and identify new services that can be delivered through the Strategic Partnership.</p> <p>2. The Strategic Partnership will be in place 01.04.2022 and will be for 5 years.</p> <p>3. The current annual spend is circa £1.1m</p>	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officers: Martin Gray, Director of Childrens Services	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

<b>Purchase of 7 Coach Built Accessible Buses</b>	
<p>Due to current market conditions with factors influenced due to Brexit, Covid-19 and supply chain pressures regarding access to materials, specifically semiconductor chips as well as increasing lead times it is recommended the Council commits to the planned replacement of 7 of the Coach Built Accessible Buses earlier than scheduled and an order committed to, ensuring the replacement of the vehicles is not delayed by challenging external market factors.</p>	
<p>1. The Council will carry out a Further Competition under the TPPL (BNES) Bus and Coach Purchase Framework Agreement for the purchase of 7 Coach Built Accessible Vehicles to replace current vehicles.</p> <p>2. The order will be placed December 2021 with an expected lead time of 52 weeks.</p> <p>3. The projected spend for the purchase of the vehicles is £590,000.</p>	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes, and to be included in the Capital Programme in December 2021
Delegated Officer: Jamie McCann, Director of Community Services and Transport	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

<b>Purchase of 17 Van Conversion Accessible Buses</b>	
<p>Due to current market conditions with factors influenced due to Brexit, Covid-19 and supply chain pressures regarding access to materials, specifically semiconductor chips as well as increasing lead times it is recommended the Council commits to the planned replacement of 17 of the Van Conversion Accessible Buses earlier than scheduled and an order committed to, ensuring the replacement of the vehicles is not delayed by challenging external market factors.</p>	
<p>1. The Council will carry out a Further Competition under the TPPL (BNES) Bus and Coach Purchase Framework Agreement for the purchase of 7 Coach Built Accessible Vehicles to replace current vehicles.</p> <p>2. The order will be placed December 2021 with an expected lead time of 52 weeks.</p> <p>3. The projected spend for the purchase of the vehicles is £1,100,000.</p>	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes, and to be included in the Capital Programme in December 2021
Delegated Officer: Jamie McCann, Director of Community Services and Transport	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	