

18 October 2012

Agenda Item:5

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORT, PROPERTY AND
ENVIRONMENT****TITAN PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT AND DELEGATED AUTHORITY
REQUEST FOR THE AWARD OF ASSOCIATED CONTRACTS****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek Committee approval for the delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Environment and Resources (or his nominee) to award contracts under the current tendering process for the services within the Newark pilot area.
2. This report provides an update of the Towards Integrated Transport Across Nottinghamshire (TITAN) project including the outcome of recent public consultation and the current position of procurement in respect of the pilot area

Information and Advice**Background**

3. The purpose of the TITAN project is to reconfigure passenger transport services to make more efficient use of the resources available whilst improving access to key services for people in Nottinghamshire.
4. There is one defined pilot area which covers the Newark, Ollerton and Southwell areas. This follows approval at Transport & Highways Committee on 12 July 2012 to reduce the original number of pilot areas from two to one. Approval was also given to reduce the previously identified seven project areas to five, known as:

Area 1 - Newark, Ollerton and Southwell (Pilot Area)
Area 2 - Mansfield and Ashfield
Area 3 - Rushcliffe
Area 4 - Central Nottinghamshire Conurbation
Area 5 - Bassetlaw

Award of Contracts

5. Proposals for revised services in the pilot areas (Newark, Ollerton and Southwell) were outlined at Transport and Highways Committee on 12 July and these services are currently undergoing the procurement process within the following timescale:

3 Oct	Tender Submission Deadline
8 Oct	Tender Evaluation Complete
23 Oct	Tender Standstill Period Ends
23 Oct	Contract Awards
4 Jan	Contract Mobilisation

As part of the procurement process two vendor events have been held. It has been encouraging to see substantial interest in the tenders.

County Councillors are reminded that the revised services for the pilot areas cover the following:

- School travel
- Local bus services
- Social care
- Community transport
- Special needs transport

6. The procurement process, as with the overall project, is operating to a tight timescale therefore the contracts for the pilot area need to be awarded on a specific date. The project plan was developed prior to the current Committee system being implemented therefore the contract award date does not synchronise with Transport and Highways Committee schedule. For this reason it will not be possible to bring the recommendation for contract awards to this Committee for approval and an arrangement for delegated authority to make the awards will be required.

Progress Update

7. Public consultation for Areas 2 to 5 took place from 4 July to 14 September (this was originally scheduled to end on 4 September but was extended at the request of some Parish Councils who would not meet during August.) The consultation results follow a similar pattern to those relating to the pilot area and there is majority support for all of the project proposals. An interim consultation report for each area is attached at Appendix A for information. This is pending full evaluation of all information received.
8. Following approval at Transport and Highways Committee on 12 July to employ a temporary Independent Travel Training Project Officer, an appointment has been made and the successful candidate will take up this post on 1 October.

Next steps

9. Produce a final consultation report and use all of the gathered intelligence to inform the development of network planning proposals for areas 2 to 5. This will be subject to a further report to Committee.
10. Following evaluation of tenders for the pilot area services, contracts will need to be awarded on 23 October in order to achieve full mobilisation by the required date of 4 January. Contracts cannot be awarded prior to this date due to the required tender standstill period.

Reason for Recommendation

11. The recommendation for delegated authority to award contracts in accordance with the outcome of the evaluation process ensures that project timescales are met. It also ensures that the people of Nottinghamshire will be served by the new transport provision in the pilot areas with appropriate services as identified through the robust consultation process.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

13. The introduction of the pilot area network services will enable users to access key services and facilities in the area thus improving their quality of life.

Crime and Disorder Implications

14. The new infrastructure that will support the revised services will ensure that users have a safe waiting environment, especially when waiting for connecting services.

Financial Implications

15. Future network costs will be determined through the procurement exercise. Changes already implemented on the Newark to Collingham corridor have achieved savings of £98,000 and the final pilot area savings will be identified through the procurement process. The new contracts will only be awarded after full evaluation which will establish that the new network can be funded from the existing revenue budget.

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

16. The revised services will help to promote alternative ways of travel, an overall reduction in mileage and travel will reduce CO2 emissions. The network proposals will introduce services which are economically sustainable in the long term.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) It is recommended that Committee:
- (a) Approves delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Environment and Resources (or his nominee) to award contracts for the new services in the pilot area in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee.
 - (b) Note the contents of the report and progress of the TITAN Project

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For any enquiries about this report please contact: Mark Hudson or Mary Roche

Constitutional Comments (SHB.19.09.12)

17. Committee have power to decide the Recommendations

Financial Comments (DJK.18.09.2012)

18. The report details the savings made to date; these are part of the overall TITAN savings of £2.08m targeted to be achieved by the end of the project.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None.

Electoral Divisions Affected

Newark and Sherwood (All)
Rushcliffe - Radcliffe-on-Trent - Bingham - Cotgrave
Bassetlaw - Tuxford