

REPORT TO: Executive Board Sub Committee

DATE: 24th January 2008

REPORTING OFFICER: Operational Director (Highways,
Transportation and Logistics)

SUBJECT: Purchase of Passenger Transport Vehicle
Communications Equipment

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.0 To inform Executive Board Sub Committee of the decision taken by the Operational Director (Highways, Transportation and Logistics) to award the contract for the supply of new passenger transport vehicle communications equipment to the IKI Group Ltd. In doing so the Operational Director (Highways, Transportation and Logistics) accepted a tender, which was not the lowest price and, in accordance with SO3.2, now advises the Board of the circumstances surrounding this decision.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION:

- (1) Executive Board Sub Committee note the award of the contract for the supply of a new passenger transport vehicle communications equipment system to the IKI Group Ltd for £61,375.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The recently completed Best Value Review of Transport and Accessibility identified the need to improve the availability and quality of accessible 'door to door' passenger transport services within the Borough. The report recommended the following improvements to achieve this aim: -

- Purchase of a new Integrated Passenger Booking and Vehicle Scheduling Software System (following best practice in other parts of the UK and mainland Europe);
- Better integration of the passenger vehicle fleets operated by Halton Borough Council, Halton Community Transport and other operators;
- Introduction of a single identifiable branding for 'door to door' services within the Borough; and

- Introduction of a single telephone booking number with calls routed through Halton Borough Council's Halton Direct Link call centre.
- 3.2 Members will recall that Executive Board Sub Committee approved the purchase of a new integrated passenger booking and vehicle scheduling system from Logical Transport Ltd when they met on the 7th June 2007. This additional equipment is required to more efficiently communicate duties to a wide range of operational passenger transport vehicles (including the Council's own Fleet vehicles and those operated by Halton Community Transport) on a real time basis, and will be linked to the scheduling software through GPS technology.
- 3.2 Tender documents were issued to the following potential suppliers based on an Open List system: -
- Logical Transport Ltd;
 - The IKI Group Ltd;
 - Mobisoft (UK) Ltd; and
 - Trapeze Software UK Ltd.
 - AMT
 - Kappa Lambda Squared Ltd
 - Shaunsoft
 - TAGtronics Ltd
- 3.3 Completed tenders were subsequently received from two suppliers:-
- Logical Transport Ltd; and
 - The IKI Group Ltd.
- 3.5 The two submitted tenders were then evaluated using a predetermined assessment criteria (which was included with the tender documents – based on price and quality criteria), with each tender being assessed out of a maximum possible score of 100 points. The greatest weighting (maximum of 60 points) was placed on how each supplier met the clear system specification set out in the tender (60%) and 35% of the score was assessed on tendered cost (maximum 35 points).
- 3.6 Both suppliers were then required to give a formal 30 minute presentation of their proposals to a panel of Halton Borough Council's officers drawn from the IT Business Management Team and Transport Co-ordination Team. This represented the remaining 5% of the assessment scoring criteria.

4.0 RESULTS OF TENDER APPRAISAL

- 4.1 The results of the tendering assessment procedure are detailed in Figure One below:

Figure 1:- Scoring Assessment for the passenger transport vehicle communications equipment

Tenderer	Score – Price (Maximum 35 points)	Score – System Requirements (Maximum 65 points)	Score – Quality of Presentation (Maximum 5 points)	Total Score (Maximum 215 points)
1	32	60	5	97
2	35	50	1	86

4.2 The Company, which is identified as tenderer 1 in Figure 1, is the IKI Group Ltd. Good references have been obtained from other organisations (including local authorities) who are currently using the system, and a site visit was organised to view the system in operation successfully at Lancashire County Council.

5.0 Funding

5.1 Funding was identified in the Halton Local Transport Plan during 2007/8 of £70,000 towards the purchase and installation costs of the new proposed passenger transport vehicle communications equipment. This is part of a larger ongoing project relating to the modernisation of door to door passenger transport services in the Borough. It has been agreed that 60% of the contract costs (£41,325) will be paid during the current financial year. The remaining £28,675 from this year’s Capital Programme has been utilised for associated software and hardware upgrades needed to operate the system. It is proposed that the retention sum of (£20,050) be funded from the 2007/8 capital programme.

5.2 The purchase and installation of the new system has commenced and will be fully operational by the end of March 2008.

6.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The purchased equipment will be used as part of a key project being funded as part of the Halton Local Transport Plan 2006/7 – 2010/11.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 Comprehensive checks were carried out into the technical capabilities of the proposed new system, along with full Company credit checks of the chosen supplier, which all proved satisfactory. In addition, the retention of 40% of the cost of the equipment will help ensure that any problems are addressed.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 8.1 The proposed new system (along with other complementary improvements being developed as part of the Halton Local Transport Plan and Halton Access Plan) will significantly improve the quality and availability of accessible transport services for all sections of the community within Halton, especially vulnerable adults and young people, disabled people, those residents on low income and people with learning disabilities.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Tender Documents; Appraisal Report; and Halton Local Transport Plan 2006/7 – 2010/11	Transport Co- ordination (Rutland House, Halton Lea)	David Hall Tel 0151 4717514 david.hall@halton.gov.uk