

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 15th June 2023

REPORTING OFFICER: Executive Director, Environment and Regeneration

PORTFOLIO: Environment & Urban Renewal

SUBJECT: Bus shelter Supply, Installation and Maintenance

WARD(S) Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To seek a waiver for the granting of a direct award for the provision of bus shelter supply, installation and maintenance for an initial period of four years with the option to extend for a further two years.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Executive Board:

- 1. note the content of the report;**
- 2. in compliance with Procurement Standing Order 1.14.4(v) approve a waiver of Part 2 and or Part 3 of Standing Orders, for the direct award to Commutaports Ltd for the supply, installation and maintenance of bus shelters across the Borough; and**
- 3. confirm that they support the overall process.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Council is responsible for the 570 bus stops currently in operation within the Borough. 301 of these have a bus shelter installed.

3.2 Commutaports Ltd are the incumbent contractor, have provided the public transport infrastructure under contract to the Council for approximately 20 years. During this period, they have on a number of occasions, won the competitive tender process, proving to provide competitive pricing on each occasion.

3.3 During the time of the contract, Commutaports Ltd have proven to be a thoroughly professional, reliable and punctual organisation. They have continually showed a willingness to work and make the

necessary adjustments to schedules to accommodate requests made by the Council. At no point has the Council had cause to take action against the Company under the contract conditions.

- 3.4 It should also be noted that the Company is International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) 9001 and 14001 accredited. The ISO 9001 standard is used by organisations to demonstrate their ability to consistently provide products and services. ISO 14001 is an internationally agreed standard that sets out the requirements for an environmental management system.
- 3.5 The product offered by Commutaports Ltd has proven to be a high quality, robust, cost effective, value for money solution, this can also be said in terms of maintenance.
- 3.6 All 301 bus shelters within Halton have been supplied and installed by Commutaports Ltd. Agreeing this proposed waiver will ensure continuity and standardisation of the public transport infrastructure

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 In compliance with Procurement Standing 1.14.4(v)

5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The annual budget of £150,000 for the provision of public transport infrastructure is provided through the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement capital funding. The aggregated cost for the life of the waiver would be £900,000.

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

Provision of public transport services allows children and young people to access key areas within the Borough and cross-boundary to neighbouring districts. In addition, public transport infrastructure significantly enhances and encourages use.

6.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

Provision of public transport services allows residents to access key areas within the Borough and cross-boundary to neighbouring districts. In addition, public transport infrastructure significantly enhances and encourages use.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

Using public transport can provide health benefits for users through walking to and from bus stops. Public transport infrastructure significantly enhances and encourages use.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The public transport network enables all passengers to access facilities in a safe way, ensuring that they are socially included. Public transport infrastructure significantly enhances and encourages use.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

Provision of public transport services is widely acknowledged as playing a key role in sustainable regeneration and urban renewal. It also allows residents to access key areas within the Borough and cross-boundary to neighbouring districts. In addition, public transport infrastructure significantly enhances and encourages use.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 Failing to provide these facilities may result in the Council being challenged under the Equality Act 2010.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 Public transport infrastructure plays a significant part in enabling people with disabilities to access public transport.

9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Public transport provides an alternative sustainable option to the private car and is conducive to lowering emissions. Buses are widely seen as one of the major alternatives with the potential to reduce significant levels of journeys made by private vehicles. Public transport infrastructure can make public transport a more attractive option with improved waiting areas and providing shelter from inclement weather conditions.

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

Inclusive Mobility
A Guide to Best Practice on Access to
Pedestrian and Transport Infrastructure

