

REPORT: Executive Board Sub

DATE: 5 November 2009

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Environment

SUBJECT: Waiver of Standing Orders to Enable Procurement of CCTV Monitoring Services

WARDS: Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To request approval to waive Standing Orders to enable procurement of specialist CCTV monitoring services.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

2.1 Standing Orders are waived to procure a two year extension to existing CCTV Monitoring Services contract with Remploy Managed Services, the terms of which will be agreed with the Strategic Director for Environment in consultation with the portfolio holder for Corporate Services.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Following implementation of the Housing Stock transfer and associated staff changes in October 2005, Remploy Managed Services was awarded the Town Centres and Local Areas CCTV Monitoring Contract. A new 3 year contract was negotiated in November 2006 to incorporate 24 hours/7 days a week monitoring. Since that time the monitoring service has developed a more proactive approach to CCTV surveillance. The Remploy team have worked hard over the past four years to improve relationships with all partners including Cheshire Police, Cheshire Fire Service and the Pubwatch and Shopwatch organisations in the borough.

3.2 The Remploy control room staff have been instrumental in building the confidence of our partners. Without statistical information being provided by the police it is difficult to quantify the effectiveness of CCTV, but feedback from Cheshire Police and other partners indicates that the reputation of Halton's Town Centres and Local Areas CCTV programme has been raised and the service is now seen as a key tool in the fight against crime in Halton.

3.3 Remploy Managed Services employs 7 fully trained and Security Industry Authority licensed operators and has been successful in retaining keen and capable staff for the period of the contract. All staff live locally, indeed all but one live in Halton and there has never been a

shift during the 4 year contract when the control room has not been manned.

- 3.4 Remploy Managed Services is a public body employing people with disabilities. Therefore, apart from the operational benefits of employing Remploy there are social gains to be made in employing the organisation.
- 3.5 In the past the organisation received large grants from the government for employing people with disabilities. This helped to reduce its charges and as a result the contract costs offered to Halton 4 years ago was much lower than offered by other companies. These grants have now been substantially reduced and as a result the contract costs that Remploy can offer to its customers have increased.
- 3.6 The contract cost for 24 hour, 7 day monitoring is currently £97,215.24 but is due to end in November 2009. Remploy has confirmed that should the contract be renewed, costs will increase to £109,510.64.
- 3.7 Remploy Managed Services offer excellent terms and conditions to its employees. Should the contract be tendered, TUPE conditions would apply and based on informal discussions with other local authorities it is unlikely that competing contractors would be able to offer a lower tender price than that offered by Remploy, should staff choose to transfer.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The increase in contract costs of £12,295.54 will require additional funding to be met from existing resources.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct policy implications from this report.

6.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no direct sustainability, best value, or legal implications resulting from this report.

7. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES.

- 7.1 Children & Young People in Halton – The CCTV operation could assist the police in incidents involving children. These include incidents related to missing children, underage drinking and bullying.
- 7.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton – It could be argued that the presence of CCTV encourages economic growth as businesses may be attracted to areas where they feel more secure.

- 7.3 A Healthy Halton – Violence related incidents are a priority and the CCTV control room staff and Cheshire Police work in partnership to prevent assaults and injury by identifying potential incidents at an early stage.
- 7.4 A Safer Halton - The Town Centres and Local Areas CCTV programme contributes to make Halton safer and works closely with partners to tackle crime and provide public reassurance in the areas of CCTV coverage.
- 7.5 Halton’s Urban Renewal - The assurance that CCTV can offer to retail premises can encourage economic growth especially in the town centres.

8.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 8.1 There are no direct risks associated with this report

9.0 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY ISSUES.

- 9.1 Remploy Managed Services have pioneered equality and opportunity for all by assisting disabled people seeking, and wishing to remain in sustainable mainstream employment opportunities.

10.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Background information	Traffic Section, Rutland Hse.	Steve Johnson,. x 3010