

## Record of officer decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	<b>Award of school transport contracts (Ref 0621)</b>																																											
<b>Date of decision:</b>	12 July 2021																																											
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Acting Assistant Director Highways and Transport																																											
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	Economy & Place Scheme of Delegation updated 28 April 2021 Transport and Access Line 78 – Award of contracts for future passenger transport services tendered																																											
<b>Ward:</b>	Countywide																																											
<b>Consultation:</b>	Members were consulted during the Passenger Transport Review reported to Cabinet in April 2017 which set out the approach to the provision of services for public, education and special needs transport.  The report has been reviewed by: Legal services Finance																																											
<b>Decision made:</b>	<p>The decision has been taken to:</p> <p>Award school transport contracts as detailed in the table below:</p> <table><tr><th>Contract</th><th>Supplier</th><th>School</th><th>Annual Value</th><th>Bids</th><th>Term</th></tr><tr><td>EM211L</td><td>Blue Line Taxis</td><td>Earl Mortimer</td><td>£11,020</td><td>4</td><td>2 Months</td></tr><tr><td>AL211</td><td>Blue Line Taxis</td><td>Almeley Primary</td><td>£10,830</td><td>3</td><td>5 years</td></tr><tr><td>AC213P</td><td>N Maddy</td><td>Aconbury Centre</td><td>£585</td><td>4</td><td>3 Weeks</td></tr><tr><td>WB211</td><td>I &amp; S Coaches</td><td>Weobley</td><td>£21,660</td><td>6</td><td>3 years &amp; 1 term</td></tr></table> <p>Approve contract price variations as detailed in the table below.</p> <table><tr><th>Contract</th><th>Annual Increase</th><th>% Increase</th><th>Reason</th></tr><tr><td>AC383P</td><td>£8581</td><td>33%</td><td>Route extension for additional passenger</td></tr></table>						Contract	Supplier	School	Annual Value	Bids	Term	EM211L	Blue Line Taxis	Earl Mortimer	£11,020	4	2 Months	AL211	Blue Line Taxis	Almeley Primary	£10,830	3	5 years	AC213P	N Maddy	Aconbury Centre	£585	4	3 Weeks	WB211	I & S Coaches	Weobley	£21,660	6	3 years & 1 term	Contract	Annual Increase	% Increase	Reason	AC383P	£8581	33%	Route extension for additional passenger
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<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	To ensure that the council manages its transport services effectively whilst also meeting its statutory duties and ensures children are transported to school in line with eligibility.																																											
<b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b>	The Passenger Transport Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) complies fully with current procurement legislation, the Councils contract procedure rules, and established best practice. Applicants to join the DPS have to complete a thorough evaluation questionnaire which is then checked for compliance by Passenger Transport and Commercial Services. Applicants are only allowed to join the DPS if they meet all of the specified criteria. The e-portal used to carry out tendering exercises under the DPS ensures that contracts are securely advertised to all qualifying parties. The Passenger Transport DPS ensures that contracts are awarded fairly and transparently based on specified evaluation																																											

	<p>criteria. Selection questionnaires, contract specifications and conditions of contract have been written in consultation with legal and commercial services.</p> <p>These contracts are required to provide transport to students who hold statutory entitlement. Contract WB211 being a replacement for an existing contract handed back by a supplier, and the remaining contracts being additional capacity.</p> <p>The financial implications of these changes are:</p> <p>Contract EM211L provides transport for a LAC child and is to be funded by the LAC team</p> <p>An increase in SEN school transport costs of £8,217 in the 2021/22 financial year which can be afforded from Transport &amp; Access budgets</p> <p>An increase in mainstream school transport costs of £12,477 in the 2021/22 financial year which can be afforded from Transport &amp; Access budgets.</p>
<b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b>	Not to proceed with re-tendering or the award of contracts. This is not recommended as this is likely to result in services being withdrawn and could mean that the council breaches its statutory responsibilities relating to school transport
<b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b>	None

Signed

Mairead Lane  
Acting Assistant Director Highways & Transport

Date: 12 July 2021