

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET MEMBER REPORT FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES****DATE: 12 NOVEMBER 2014****LEAD OFFICER: RUSSELL PEARSON, CHIEF FIRE OFFICER, SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE****SUBJECT: TO PURCHASE EMERGENCY RESPONSE VEHICLES TO SUPPORT CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY AND OFF ROAD CAPABILITY FOR SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE.****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

To approve that Surrey County Council's Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) purchase of 26 fire station based 'red fleet' vehicles. These are a robust operational utility 4x4 off and on road vehicle.

The Part 2 report demonstrates why the recommended Supplier offers best value for money. Part 2 includes commercially sensitive information.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It is recommended that the business case for these vehicles is approved and
2. The contract is awarded to the preferred supplier as agreed on the basis set out in the Part 2 report.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The proposal supports the Fire Authority's statutory requirement to provide a fire and rescue service.

DETAILS:**Background and Procurement Strategy**

1. The 26 4x4 'red fleet' vehicles will enable SFRS to meet the needs outlined in the SFRS Climate Change Strategy, enabling emergency response vehicles to be used in more varied terrains and conditions.
2. The new vehicles will have additional safety features, lower maintenance requirements and lower fuel consumption. They will provide environmentally superior engines producing fewer exhaust emissions, which will not generate charges when entering the London Low Emission Zone.
3. Three procurement options were considered, but following a disappointing response through the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) Blue Light Framework, the vehicles were re-tendered and purchased through the Overseas Journal European Union (OJEU) Open Tender process. Leasing

the vehicles was rejected as a recent tender exercise demonstrated that this would incur an increase in costs.

4. On-going body maintenance and day to day running repairs of the new vehicles will be undertaken in-house by SFRS.
5. The estimated lifespan of the new vehicles is 10 years.
6. As part of the market and procurement analysis, SFRS reviewed the opportunity to collaborate with neighbouring fire authorities in the SE7 Region through the South East Fire Services Procurement Group. All SE7 fire authorities were asked if they wished to be included in the tender process but none were in a position to tender at this time.

Key Implications

7. Appropriate contract management and monitoring will take place and be reviewed at regular contract meetings.

CONSULTATION:

8. Key stakeholders have been consulted at all stages of the commissioning and procurement process including the Cabinet Member for Community Services, Associate Cabinet Member for Fire and Police Service, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service, Procurement and Commissioning, Legal Services, and the South East Fire Services Procurement Group.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

9. Significant risks were appropriately identified and mitigated. These included operational, financial, environmental and reputational risks.

Financial and Value for Money Implications

10. Full details of the contract value and financial implications are set out in the Part 2 report.

Section 151 Officer Commentary

11. All material financial and business implications have been considered as part of this report. The expected costs are set out within part two of the report. The vehicle purchases have been planned as part of the Fire Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Programme which has been approved by the Investment Panel and budgeted for within the 2014-2019 Medium Term Financial Plan.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

12. The Fire Rescue Services Act 2004 sets out the requirements which SFRS must comply with, these include extinguishing fires in its area and protecting life and property. The legislation sets out that the Fire Rescue Authority (FRA) must secure the provision of the personnel, services and equipment necessary to efficiently meet all normal requirements, each of which must be taken into account.

- 13. To ensure compliance with the core functions, SFRS has undertaken a competitive procurement exercise in accordance with EU Procurement Standing Orders, to procure 26 4x4 station based 'red fleet' vehicles.
- 14. The contract offers the Council various protection mechanisms such as ensuring that the vehicles are of the best available design, of the best quality material and workmanship, be without fault and to conform in all respects with the specification supplied by the Council to the Provider. The supplier is required to comply with all applicable regulations or other legal requirements concerning manufacture, packaging and delivery of the vehicle. The supplier will be required to provide training to SFRS staff in the use and maintenance of the vehicles.

Equalities and Diversity

- 15. There is no requirement for an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) as there are no implications for any public sector equalities duty due to the nature of the goods being procured. The contractor, however, will be required to comply with the Equalities Act 2010 and any relevant codes issued by the Equality and Humans Commission.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 16. The timetable for implementation is as follows:

Action	Date
Cabinet Member decision to award	12 November 2014
'Alcatel' Standstill Period	17 to 27 November 2014
Contract Signature	28 November 2014
Contract Commencement Date	1 December 2014

- 17. The Council has an obligation to allow unsuccessful suppliers the opportunity to challenge the proposed contract award. This period is referred to as the 'Alcatel' standstill period.

Contact Officer:

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Consulted:

Kay Hammond, Cabinet Associate Member for Fire and Police Services
 Helyn Clack, Cabinet Member for Community Services
 Surrey Fire and Rescue Services
 Procurement and Commissioning
 Legal Services
 South East Fire Services Procurement Group

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