

# Public Document Pack

## Officer Decisions

Friday, 8th November, 2024  
10.00 am

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### AGENDA

1. **Contract Award for the Flexibus Service**  
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2. **Contract Award for the Maintenance of the Automatic Bollards in Blackburn Town Centre**  
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3. **Approval of contract award for Phase 3 Capital Highway Surfacing Package**  
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Date Published: 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024  
Denise Park, Chief Executive

Agenda Item 1

**RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER  
DELEGATED AUTHORITY FROM  
EXECUTIVE/COUNCIL/COMMITTEE   
DELEGATED POWERS OUTLINED IN  
THE CONSTITUTION**



<b>DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION TAKEN BY:</b>	Strategic Director of Growth & Development
<b>DELEGATED BY:</b>	Executive (March 2024)
<b>IN CONSULTATION WITH:</b>	Executive Member
<b>PORTFOLIO AREA:</b>	Growth and Development

**SUBJECT: Contract Award for the Flexibus Service**

**1. DECISION**

Approve the contract award of the Flexibus Service to Travel Assist for a 12 month period with the option to extend for up to a further 2 years should additional funding become available.

**2. REASON FOR DECISION**

As part of the further bus service improvements for the BSIP programme new routes were approved by the Executive Board in February 2024. This Flexibus Service was one of those routes approved and a tender process has now been undertaken.

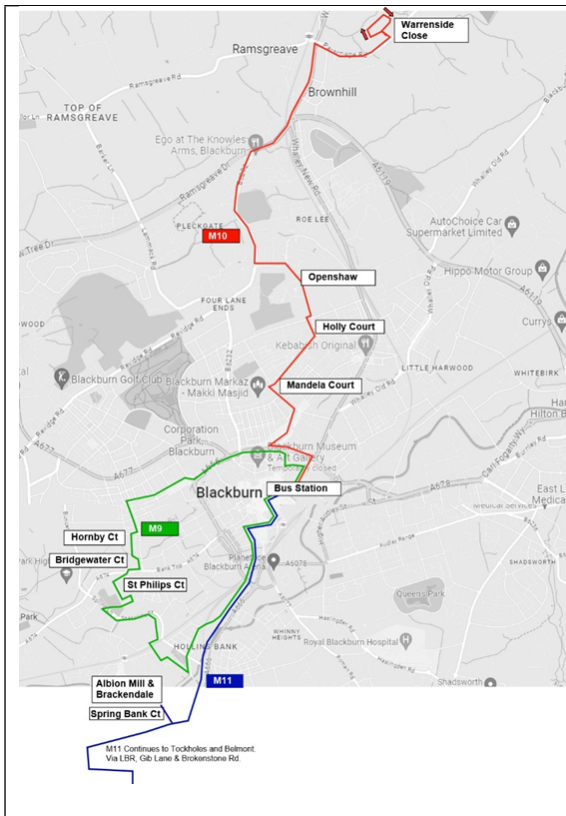
Travel Assist were the only operator who bid for this bus service and therefore the contract is to be awarded to them.

**3. BACKGROUND**

In 2015/16 services linking sheltered accommodation with Blackburn town centre were removed due to funding being restricted for bus services. Many complaints have been received from residents living in sheltered accommodation about the lack of a bus service provision into Blackburn where they can use their bus pass, (Bus passes cannot be used on dial-a-ride services) It was therefore approved to re-introduce a service linking –

- Warrenside Close, Openshaw, Holly Court, Mandela Court and Blackburn Bus Station;
- Hornby Court, Bridgewater Court, St Phillips Court and Blackburn Bus Station;
- Blackburn Bus Station with Spring Bank Court, Albion Mill & Brackendale, Tockholes & Belmont.

The Flexibus route is detailed below:



#### 4. KEY ISSUES AND RISKS

There are no identifiable key issues or risks associated with the decision to award this contract. The Council have received many complaints from residents living in the sheltered accommodation so the provision of this service is a positive step forward to giving them access to Blackburn Town Centre.

#### 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The annual cost of providing this service is £134,500 and can be met from funding provided by the Government in support of the Bus Service Improvement Plan. At this stage, there is sufficient funding for the service to be provided up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.

There is currently no funding allocation from Government beyond March 2026 and so in considering the option to extend the contract for this service, consideration will need to be given to the sustainability of the service, if it is to be continued.

#### 6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The procurement process has been carried out in accordance with the Council's Contract and Procurement Procedure rules and the Public Procurement Regulations.

The tender was advertised through an FTS (Find a Tender Service) open process which gave every operator the ability to bid. The tender was then evaluated in accordance with the following criteria;

- 85% - Price
- 15% - Social Value

#### 7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Resources needed to undertake the work associated with the development and delivery of this programme of works will be provided by the Council's Highways team and supported by the DfT and delivered through the Enhanced Partnership with bus operators.

#### **8. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

No other options were considered, as the proposed bus service was included in the Executive Board Report – Bus Service Improvement Plan, which was approved by Executive Board and the contract has been procured through a tender process.

#### **9. CONSULTATIONS**

This proposal was subject to detailed consultations with bus services operators through the Enhanced Partnership, together with other stakeholders, emergency services and the wider community.

#### **10. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

All Declarations of Interest of the officer with delegation and any Member who has been consulted and note of any dispensation granted should be recorded below: None.

<b>VERSION:</b>	<b>1</b>
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<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Carmel Foster-Devine/Joanne Byrne</b>
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<b>DATE:</b>	10 October 2024
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<b>BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:</b>	Executive Member Decision – Procurement Process for New Routes as part of BSIP Executive Board Report – Bus Service Improvement Plan – 08/02/2024
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Agenda Item 2

**RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER  
DELEGATED AUTHORITY FROM  
EXECUTIVE/COUNCIL/COMMITTEE   
DELEGATED POWERS OUTLINED IN  
THE CONSTITUTION**



<b>DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION TAKEN BY:</b>	Strategic Director of Growth & Development
<b>DELEGATED BY:</b>	Executive (October 2024)
<b>IN CONSULTATION WITH:</b>	Executive Member
<b>PORTFOLIO AREA:</b>	Growth & Development

**SUBJECT: Contract Award for the Maintenance of the Automatic Bollards in Blackburn Town Centre**

**1. DECISION**

Approve the contract award of maintenance of the automatic bollards in Blackburn Town Centre to ESS Systems Ltd.

**2. REASON FOR DECISION**

The automatic bollards within Blackburn Town Centre require an enhanced repair and maintenance programme to ensure they remain fit for purpose, including the need to manage unauthorised vehicle access during pedestrianised hours.

An independent access system company have assessed our bollard systems and advised that they are able to maintain and repair, which, in turn, will enable the Council to review and address wider Town Centre highway, parking and security management issues.

These works will also ensure the Council’s bollard system can be maintained by any approved contractor. Repairing the current system is urgently needed to maintain Town Centre security and a safe environment for pedestrians.

It is anticipated that the works will be completed within 6 weeks of the contract being awarded.

**3. BACKGROUND**

The maintenance and repair of the automatic bollards is an urgent priority, and will form part of a wider highway, parking and security strategy for the Town Centre.

#### 4. KEY ISSUES AND RISKS

The proposal is to reduce the current risks associated with the bollards needing repair and maintenance. Once the system is repaired and a maintenance regime in place the town centre will be safer for all users.

By appointing this contractor we will also ensure the Council's bollard system can be maintained by any approved contractor.

#### 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of this work is expected to £74,096 and will be funded by way of a virement from the Asset Management Strategy Fund in the Council's Capital Programme.

#### 6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

This contract will be subject to a waiver in accordance with Council's Contracts and Procurement Procedure rules.

#### 7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no major resource implications as the work will be carried out by an approved contractor.

#### 8. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

The option of the Council directly undertaking these proposed is not possible as we do not have the internal expertise to repair and maintain an automatic bollard system. Appointing a contractor in this way has given us independent advice and enabled us to repair the bollards, whilst undertaking further work on how to keep the town centre safe and secure longer term.

#### 9. CONSULTATIONS

N/A

#### 10. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of the officer with delegation and any Member who has been consulted, and note of any dispensation granted should be recorded below:

<b>VERSION:</b>	<b>1</b>
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<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Carmel Foster Devine/Joanne Byrne</b>
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<b>DATE:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
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<b>BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:</b>	Town Centre Review Report
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Agenda Item 3

**RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER  
DELEGATED AUTHORITY FROM  
EXECUTIVE/COUNCIL/COMMITTEE   
DELEGATED POWERS OUTLINED IN  
THE CONSTITUTION**



<b>DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION TAKEN BY:</b>	Strategic Director of Growth & Development
<b>DELEGATED BY:</b>	Executive (October 2024)
<b>IN CONSULTATION WITH:</b>	Executive Member
<b>PORTFOLIO AREA:</b>	Growth & Development

**SUBJECT: Approval of contract award for Phase 3 Capital Highway Surfacing Package**

**1. DECISION**

Approve the contract award of Capital Surfacing Phase 3 Package to Aggregate Industries.

**2. REASON FOR DECISION**

A list of projects and surfacing sites to improve/maintain highway infrastructure was approved in the Executive Board Report "Highways Capital Programme 24/25".

The contract package for the following approved sites went on to lot 1:

- Alderman Arthur Townsend Way, Blackburn
- Greenhead Avenue, Blackburn
- Jack Walker Way, Blackburn
- Kelsall Avenue, Blackburn
- Shadsworth Road, Blackburn
- Sough Road, Darwen
- Troy Street, Blackburn
- Vale Street, Darwen
- West Park Road, Blackburn

Within Lot 1 for Footway and Carriageway Surfacing treatments, there are three contractors available. Tarmac Trading Ltd, Bethell Group plc and Aggregate Industries.

Tarmac Trading Limited, Bethell's and Aggregate Industries provided responses to during the tender process and all responses were valid.

The contract is to be awarded to Aggregate Industries as they have submitted the lower tender price.

### 3. BACKGROUND

A framework has been set up, consisting of 4 lots to ensure we have a wide range of solutions for carriageway and footway treatments. The contractors appointed to the framework were scored based on their quality and social value submissions. Each individual package of works/contract goes onto the framework for a mini competition which is based 100% on price.

### 4. KEY ISSUES AND RISKS

The main risk lies within the delivery timeframe for the surfacing works. The contract declared an allowed timeframe for the work to be undertaken to manage the impact on the network. Aggregate Industries submitted a proposed programme timeline as requested and this is within the contract requirements, so whilst the risk still exists, it has been mitigated and is considered to be very low with a minimal impact on the network.

### 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No major financial implications – The tender return was lower than the available budget for the projects.

### 6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications, the procurement process has been carried out in accordance with the Council’s Contract and Procurement Procedure rules and the Public Procurement Regulations.

### 7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no major resource implications, the capital surfacing contract will be managed by existing staff within the Highways service.

### 8. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

No other options were considered, the surfacing projects were included in the “Highways Capital Programme 24/25” which has been approved by Executive Board and the contract has been procured through the agreed framework for such works.

### 9. CONSULTATIONS

None

### 10. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of the officer with delegation and any Member who has been consulted, and note of any dispensation granted should be recorded below:

<b>VERSION:</b>	<b>1</b>
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<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Paul Fletcher</b>
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<b>DATE:</b>	08/10/2024
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<b>BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:</b>	Highways Capital Programme 2024-25 Executive Board Report
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