



# EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION

<b>REPORT OF:</b>	Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education
<b>LEAD OFFICERS:</b>	Strategic Director of Children & Education (DCS)
<b>DATE:</b>	25 August 2023

<b>PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:</b>	Departments
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED:</b>	(All Wards);

**SUBJECT: Contract awards for home to school transport**

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To seek approval from the Executive Member for Schools and Education to award to successful providers who have submitted tenders for Home to School transport.

## 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Member:

- Approves the award of five contracts for Home to School transport for the period September 2023 to Easter 2025.
- Approves that the appropriate budget adjustments are made to reflect the increased costs, funded by way of a contribution from schools.

## 3. BACKGROUND

The Executive Member for Schools and Education previously approved for the re-tendering of 4 routes for home to school transport through a sealed bid process for the period September 2023 to Easter 2025. Subsequently an additional route needed to be included within the tender process due to supplier failure. A total of 8 suppliers are currently on the Council’s new framework for the provision of home to school transport and were invited to bid for the requirement with 7 suppliers providing bids against the routes. Supplier bids were evaluated against the approved criteria of 85% price and 15% social value, it is therefore recommended that these contracts are awarded to the highest scoring bidders as follows:

Route	Company being awarded
10/70	BPH coaches
10/84	Moving People
10/95	Moving People
10/832	Blackburn and Darwen Community Transport
10/975	Red Rose Travel

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#### 4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

If contracts are not awarded then the Authority would be at increased risk of being in breach of its statutory responsibility to provide transport for children and young people.

#### 5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

A continuation of service is required in order to meet the required statutory obligation of providing Home to School Transport.  
508B and 508C Education Act 1996 as amended.

#### 6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

When the contracts were let previously for the period 30<sup>th</sup> January to 21<sup>st</sup> July the increased cost was £39,828. A budget variation was therefore approved as follows for this period;

2022/23 - £15,619

2023/24 - £24,209

It was also mentioned that it was likely that when these contracts were let for the period up until Easter 2025 a further budget increase will be required.

Compared to the previous costs for the January to July period there has been a further increase in costs which including the additional route is just under a 4.4% increase.

A budget increase will therefore be required for the increased costs as follows;

2023/24 - £57,545

2024/25 - £84,104

The increased costs for the provision of the services will be funded by way of a contribution from schools.

#### 7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The procurement process used to tender these contracts complies with the requirements of the Council's Contract and Procurement rules and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

#### 8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no resource implications associated with this decision.

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#### 9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

**Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.**

Option 1  Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2  In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3  In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

**10. CONSULTATIONS**

None with this report.

**11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

**12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded and published if applicable.

<b>VERSION:</b>	<b>1</b>
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<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Peter Hughes</b>
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<b>DATE:</b>	02/08/2023
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<b>BACKGROUND PAPER:</b>	Executive Member Decision 24/02/2023 - Contracts for SEN and home to school transport
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