

**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 Environment & Operations
-------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------

<b>IN CONSULTATION WITH:</b>	Executive member
----------------------------------	------------------

<b>PORTFOLIO AREA:</b>	Environment
------------------------	-------------

**SUBJECT: Refuse Collection Vehicles Purchase**

**1. DECISION**

Approve the purchase of 3 x Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCV's) via Direct Award to Dennis Eagle through the ESPO Specialist Vehicles Framework (215-20)

**2. REASON FOR DECISION**

An expression of interest was recently conducted on lot 1 (RCV's) of ESPO's specialist vehicles framework. The expression of interest demonstrated that only Dennis Eagle were interested in supplying our requirement due to the specific nature of our requirement. Two other suppliers responded confirming they would not be interested and no responses were received from the other suppliers on lot 1.

Dennis Eagle have since then, been approached directly to provide a finalised quotation in accordance with the Council's full specification.

Each RCV will cost £235,396.00 bringing the total for 3 vehicles to £706,188.00.

**3. BACKGROUND**

Two RCV's were purchased last year as part of the annual fleet replacement programme. The purchase of these vehicles followed the exact same approach which involved an expression of interest followed by a direct award to Dennis Eagle through the ESPO Specialist Vehicle Framework (215-20).

Historically, the Council has conducted full tender exercises for RCV's however, these have only ever resulted in getting a single response from Dennis Eagle with other suppliers choosing not to respond or being deemed non-compliant due to our requirement for narrow track RCV's.

Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, similar to a lot of Council's throughout the country, have a requirement for their RCV's to fit down lots of narrow streets due to the large number of terraced housing in Blackburn with Darwen. Due to this, a narrow track chassis must be included within the specification for the RCV's.

The nature of the RCV market means no other supplier can provide a narrow track chassis at a competitive price, which gives Dennis Eagle a major advantage. Conversations were held with staff from ESPO who reinforced that no other supplier would even bid for a narrow track RCV if a tender were to be published.

Following the market research and advice from ESPO, it was decided that a direct award to Dennis Eagle through the framework was the most effective option, as this would save the time and money of conducting a further competition, only to receive a single response from Dennis Eagle.

#### **4. KEY ISSUES AND RISKS**

Direct Award – Using a direct award to purchase the vehicles means no competitive tender exercise will be conducted. However, following the expression of interest, due to the Council's specific requirements and the nature of the RCV market, this particular route to market is deemed the most cost and time effective.

Lead-time – Dennis Eagle have stated that the current lead-time for new vehicles is 32-34 weeks from receipt of order. However, the Council anticipated long lead times and can continue to use the old vehicles until the new RCV's arrive.

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

No major financial implications – The cost of the vehicles will be met from approved capital budget.

#### **6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Use of the ESPO Framework as set out is in with accordance with the Council's Contract and Procurement Procedure rules and the Public Procurement Regulations.

#### **7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

No major resource implications.

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

- Further competition through the ESPO Specialist Vehicles Framework (Lot 1) – This was rejected due to the results from the expression of interest, advice from staff at ESPO and existing knowledge of the RCV market which suggests no other supplier is capable of providing a narrow track RCV at a competitive price.

***Further information is available via the following link [ ] or from the report author***

## 9. CONSULTATIONS

The Executive member of Environment has been consulted about this decision

## 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>
-----------------	----------

<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Joanne Byrne/Mark Hailwood</b>
-------------------------	-----------------------------------

<b>DATE:</b>	31-10-23
--------------	----------

<b>BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:</b>	Vehicle Replacement Programme – Exec Board Paper
------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------