

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a Cabinet Member




REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER

Executive Decision Reference Number – T13 21/22

Decision	
1	Title of decision: To authorise Cornwall Council to carry out the procurement exercise for the Light Recovery of Vehicles, on the Tamar Bridge.
2	Decision maker (Cabinet member name and portfolio title): Councillor Jonathan Dreaan (Cabinet Member for Transport)
3	Report author and contact details: Philip Robinson (Service Director for Street Services)
4	<p>Decision to be taken:</p> <p>To authorise Cornwall Council to carry out the procurement exercise for the Light Recovery of Vehicles, on the Tamar Bridge, to its maximum possible term of 6 years on behalf of the joint authorities. Estimated total contract value is anticipated to be in the region of £1.2 to £1.3 M.</p> <p>To delegate 'Contract Award' to the Service Director for Street Services, for the procured service.</p>
5	<p>Reasons for decision:</p> <p>The operation of the TBTF is a 'joint undertaking' between Plymouth City Council and Cornwall Council under Statute. Governance is by means of a Joint Committee, consisting of appointed Councillors from both Councils, responsible for the Policy and decision making regarding the operation and service delivery of the TBTF.</p> <p>This report seeks to approve the procurement of Light Recovery Vehicles and delegate contract award to Service Director for Street Services. The estimated total contract value anticipated to be in the region of £1.2 to £1.3 M and the contract is intended to be in place for a period of 6 years.</p> <p>Light Recovery Vehicles are required to ensure the safe and continued operation of the Tamar Bridge.</p>
6	<p>Alternative options considered and rejected:</p> <p>Not proceed with procurement and contract award – Rejected on the basis that Light Recovery Vehicles are required to ensure the safe and continued operation of the Tamar Bridge.</p>
7	<p>Financial implications and risks:</p> <p>TBTF is funded on a 'user pays' basis, where the tolls are used for both operational and maintenance requirements. There are limited impacts on the Council MTFP regarding funding,</p>

	other than financing Member and Officer involvement.			
8	Is the decision a Key Decision? (please contact Democratic Support for further advice)	Yes	No	Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:
			X	in the case of capital projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of £3million in total
			X	in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1million
			X	is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the local authority.
	If yes, date of publication of the notice in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions	N/A		
9	Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council's corporate plan/Plymouth Plan and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget:	As a regional centre, Plymouth plays a major role economically, culturally and industrially, providing a focus for the innovation, technology and for the quality of life that it offer. The Tamar Bridge crossing is a vital strategic and local link that plays a key role in the City's ambitions to become a world class City.		
10	Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)	Swift removal of vehicles will result in less carbon emissions.		
Urgent decisions				
11	Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?	Yes	X	(If yes, please contact Democratic Support (democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk) for advice)
		No		(If no, go to section 13a)
12a	Reason for urgency: Light Recovery Vehicles are required to ensure the safe and continued operation of the Tamar Bridge.			
12b	Scrutiny Chair Signature:	Councillor Terri Beer (Lord Mayor) by email	Date	25/08/21

	Scrutiny Committee name:	Brexit, Infrastructure and Legislative Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee (The Lord Mayor signed in the absence of the Scrutiny Chair as per the constitution)		
	Print Name:	Councillor Terri Beer (The Lord Mayor)		
Consultation				
I3a	Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?	Yes		
		No	X	(If no go to section I4)
I3b	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?			
I3c	Date Cabinet member consulted			
I4	Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision?	Yes		If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer
		No	X	
I5	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Name	Anthony Payne	
		Job title	Strategic Director for Place	
		Date consulted	25/08/21	
Sign-off				
I6	Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	DS43 21/22	
		Finance (mandatory)	djn.21.22.93	
		Legal (mandatory)	lt/37200/240821	
		Human Resources (if applicable)		
		Corporate property (if applicable)		
		Procurement (if applicable)		
Appendices				
I7	Ref.	Title of appendix		
	A	Briefing report for publication		

	B	Equalities Impact Assessment						
Confidential/exempt information								
18a	Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?	Yes		If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in 18b below. (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)				
		No	X					
		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18b	Confidential/exempt briefing report title:							
Background Papers								
19	Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based. If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.							
Title of background paper(s)		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cabinet Member Signature								
20	I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget. In taking this decision I have given due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.							
Signature				Date of decision		25/08/21		
Print Name		Councillor Jonathan Drear						

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferries crossings are a 'joint undertaking' of Plymouth City Council and Cornwall Council, operating under statute since 1953.

1.2 The crossings are operated on a 'user pays' basis, with the tolls covering operational and maintenance costs, (hence no cost to the Council for this procurement) delivering public crossings at the Bridge and Ferry 24/7 365.

1.3 Stranded vehicles can cause severe delays to access and egress of Tamar Bridge and Saltash Tunnel, with very few opportunities for other vehicles to pass safely. Safety for travelling vehicles is a risk, as is the safety of the occupants in the vehicle.

1.4 The safety of Bridge operations require that vehicles breakdowns on the Bridge and in the tunnel are dealt with at the earliest opportunity for safety reasons.

1.5 The most effective way to maintain safety is by means of a specialist contracted service, 24/7 365 to provide light vehicle recovery, providing swift removal of vehicles, reducing risk of personal injury and journey delays.

1.6 The procurement of specialist services and materials are a regular occurrence, as would be expected, as the Bridge provides a unique link on the Devon / Cornwall border, with the A38 forming part of the Strategic Road Network (SRN) nationally.

2.0 Improving resilience and efficiency in procurement and Contract Award

2.1 Currently the process to procure and award a contract is the responsibility of both Councils, however the policy and process of both Councils differ, giving rise to anomalies and additional administration regarding timing, procurement decisions, application and contract award. Work is being undertaken to simplify the procurement and contract award process in respect of the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry.