

P&D MAINTENANCE CONTRACT (BRIEFING)

Parking, Highway and Marine Service



Plymouth City Council currently have over 200 parking payment machines which were supplied and installed and maintained by IPS UK Ltd and Flowbird UK LTD, the machines generate an income in excess of £2m per annum to the parking trading account, from both on street and off-street locations including Card and Cash facilities.

The machines currently in place age from 1 to 22 years and require a significant amount of maintenance each year to keep operational, this includes twice yearly servicing and on call reactive maintenance plan.

When the machines were purchased, there was no consideration or procurement exercise for a contract to support the maintenance activity throughout the life of the machines or to cover the ancillary costs associated with the day-to-day operations of the machines and the back-office reporting systems. The machines in question come with a 12-month post installation warranty and all machines are now outside of that period, however due to the previous maintenance programme they still operate effectively and will continue to do so for the next 3-5 years

With advances in technology and the expectation of consumers we would expect to run a procurement exercise to replace these machines over the next 3-5 years. Ensuring the Council has a formal contractual arrangement in place for maintenance and back-office support for the current assets will protect the income to the city over the period for the interim period by ensuring a robust and compliant parking machine network

The risk with not formalising contractual arrangements is significant in the inability for Plymouth City Council to protect the parking income stream, the inability to deliver a viable, managed highway network and prevent the enforcement of the Road Traffic Act and Traffic Management Act,

The parking machine industry is manufacturer specific and there is not the ability for one provider to manage and maintain competitor's equipment and there is currently no independent solution available.

It is therefore proposed to tender for a 5 year (1+1+1+1+1) contract with a value for £1,750,000 to cover each of the current manufacturer's machine assets, it is proposed to undertake this through a single supplier contract through a recognised framework.

The recommendation is that the Council delegate authority to the Service Director for Street Services, to procure and award the tender as outlined above.