

10 PROVISION OF WEATHER FORECASTING SERVICE FOR WINTER MAINTENANCE (AN113-2010)

A consortium of Dundee City Council, Angus Council, Fife Council and Perth and Kinross Council issued tenders for the winter maintenance forecasting service. It is considered that a consortium procurement of this service provides cost benefits through economies of scale and shared tender administration, training costs etc and is in line with the government's shared procurement strategy.

For winters 2010/11 and 2011/12, two providers were invited to tender on the basis of a one year contract with the option to extend by one further year subject to satisfactory performance in year 1. Prices were requested for a specified core service and for enhanced services which vary in detail between providers. Submissions were therefore analysed on the basis of both quality (30%) and cost (70%) with the outcome as indicated in the table below:

	Quality Score	Quality Index	Cost (£)	Cost Index	Overall Score
Year 1 - 2010/2011					
MeteoGroup	176	30.0	£59,355.10	60.1	90.1
Met Office	151	25.7	£51,990.0	70.0	95.7

Based on the cost and quality assessment as described above, the tender from Met Office was the most advantageous with Dundee City Council's resulting share being £9,537.64.

It should be noted that if the contract is extended into the second year the contract rates will be increased in accordance with any rise in Retail Price Index over the preceding 12 months.

Committee is asked to authorise the acceptance of the tender from Met Office and to agree to the one year contract being extended by one year to 2011/2012 subject to a satisfactory service being provided in the first year and no significant developments in other providers' technology.