

REPORT TO: PLANNING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE - 11 JUNE 2007

REPORT ON: ONGOING MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION

REPORT NO: 265-2007

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the continuation of maintenance agreements associated with the Dundee Public Transport Information Systems.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee remits the Director of Planning & Transportation to take action to finalise contractual negotiations for the maintenance agreements relating to the Dundee Public Transport Information Systems with contract duration of 3 years with a 2year extension option (based on satisfactory performance).

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The total cost will be £194,203.57 per annum. The cost of these agreements can be met from the Planning and Transportation Departments Revenue Budget. An annual Retail Price Index adjustment will be included.

4 SUSTAINABILITY POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Quality public transport information systems help reduce dependence on the private motor car, thus bringing environmental benefits in line with sustainability policy for Transport and Travel.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Approximately 50% of Dundee's population is reliant on public transport and reliable information provision ensures confidence in public transport is maintained.
- 5.2 The Dundee Public Transport Information Systems have embraced the full range of technologies to assist with access for all. Availability of information at all bus stops, via the internet (www.dundeetravelinfo.com), wap (wap.dundeetravelinfo.com), SMS, telephone (traveline 0870 608 2608) ensures that accurate and reliable information is accessible 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

6 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 Over the period from 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2006 Dundee City Council was awarded approximately £10 million in grants from the Scottish Executive's Public Transport Fund to undertake a radical step change in passenger waiting and information systems.

- 6.2 This included:
- a Real Time Passenger Information system for all bus services operating in and around Dundee;
 - b on-line and kiosk based interactive journey planning;
 - c interchange displays within city centre and at Ninewells Hospital;
 - d timetable displays at all bus stops and shelters across the city; and
 - e intelligent Traffic Signal Priority capability for late running buses.
- 6.3 This step change has resulted in positive feedback from users (Report 701-2005) and was recognised by the award of two Scottish Transport Awards for Travel Information (2004 and 2006). In addition, at a national level the previous two Transport Ministers for Scotland have cited Dundee as the standard that all other transport authorities should aspire to achieve in terms of building a quality public transport system. Also, the National Transport Strategy issued by the Scottish Executive in December 2006 included Dundee as a Case Study of good practice.
- 6.4 The Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership Regional Transport Strategy submitted to the Scottish Executive for Ministerial approval commits to building on the Dundee public transport information standards and delivering region wide.
- 6.5 These significant improvements are providing real efficiency improvements in terms of resources and are being delivered with the same staffing and resources as were available prior to 2002, through the use of improved software and tools known as Intelligent Transport Systems.
- 6.6 These advanced systems and associated equipment have been maintained over the past 24 - 36 months through negotiated maintenance agreements and achieving best value rates agreed as part of the initial procurement exercise(s).
- 6.7 To ensure the continuation of the public transport information systems it is necessary to secure longer duration contracts with rates based on those assessed during the initial procurement process.
- 6.8 In order to continue to achieve best value it is essential that the systems maintenance will continue to be provided by the original suppliers who initially provided the systems and it is proposed to enter into a 3 year contract with a 2 year optional extension with each of the three suppliers.
- 6.9 Annual maintenance rates for each of the district customers of the Dundee Public Transport Information System are attached in Appendix 1.
- 7 CONSULTATIONS**
- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 Scottish Transport Awards and Public Transport Initiatives - Report 701-2005.
- 8.2 Scotland's National Transport Strategy.
- 8.3 TACTRAN Regional Transport Strategy for Ministerial Approval.

Mike Galloway
Director of Planning & Transportation

Alan Lewis
Assistant Head of Transportation

AL/NHG/KM

9 May 2007

Dundee City Council
Tayside House
Dundee

APPENDIX 1**MAINTENANCE RATES FOR THE DUNDEE PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2007/2008****1 Advanced Communication and Information Systems (ACIS)**

Maintain Real Time Passenger Information System, including 315 shelter signs, central server, Private Radio Transmitters, Intelligent Traffic Signal Bus Priority System, Server to Server feed and viewing tools:

£82,965.57

2 Region Services Ltd

Maintain City Centre and Ninewells Hospital Interchange electronic signage, 15 interactive journeyplanning kiosks, interchange audio announcement systems, and server to server link to ACIS:

£50,000

3 Steer Davies Gleave (including Travel Info Systems)

Maintain www.dundetravelinfo.com, kiosk journeyplanners viewing software, timetable display production systems walk and cycle route planners, interactive, schematic maps and server to server link to ACIS:

£61,238.00

All above rates include system maintenance, telephone support, hardware warranty (excluding vandalism) and online viewing tools.