

REPORT TO: PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
REPORT ON: SMARTBUS - GROUNDWORKS
REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION
REPORT NO: 54-2004

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To authorise the funding of preliminary groundworks to establish a new electrical supply at every bus shelter location.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that approval is given to expend £450,000 which includes an allowance of £17,666.69 for contingencies and £40,000 for professional fees.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The overall expenditure of £450,000 will be met from the Public Transport Fund Award of £1,350,000 from the Scottish Executive to Dundee City Council in 2003/04.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Access to facilities, services, goods and people is not achieved at the expense of the environment and accessible to all.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Every opportunity is taken to make Dundee a more family friendly and barrier free City.

6 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 Approval of the Council's successful Public Transport Fund bid for the Smartbus project was received from the Scottish Executive on 10 April 2003. The project involves the upgrading of all the bus shelters in Dundee with the aim of encouraging greater use of public transport.
- 6.2 To ensure expenditure is achieved in the current financial year, an initial contract has been prepared for the establishment of electrical connections to the new bus shelters. The installation of the new shelters will follow on in a later contract. The use of solar panels at these locations is not feasible due to the electrical loading requirements although solar panels will be used at many other locations where appropriate.
- 6.3 The works entail making a connection with the electrical mains supply, which has to be completed by Scottish and Southern, and then laying a duct a new cable to the shelter position. An offer of £94,448 has been received from Scottish and Southern for their jointing works.
- 6.4 In view of the nature of the work, the restricted timescales available and to ensure expenditure within the current financial year, the Chief Executive agreed to dispense with the normal tendering procedures. An offer of £297,885.31 was received from Tayside Contracts for the ducting works using the rates in their partnership contract with the Council for Street Lighting maintenance. A comparative offer of £374,487 was obtained

from Scottish and Southern, which demonstrates that Tayside Contracts offer provides value for money.

6.5 The overall expenditure is as follows:-

Jointing works by Scottish & Southern	£94,448.00
Ducting and Cabling by Tayside Contracts	£297,865.31
Contingencies	£17,666.69
Professional Fees	<u>£40,000.00</u>
	£450,000.00

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.

7.2 In view of the timescales involved, this report was approved by the Director of Planning and Transportation in consultation with the Convener and spokespersons from the other groups.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.

Mike Galloway
Director of Planning & Transportation _____ Date _____

Convener
Planning & Transportation _____ Date _____

Spokesperson SNP Group _____ Date _____

Spokesperson Conservative Group _____ Date _____

Spokesperson Liberal Democrats
Group _____ Date _____

KL/RG/EH

8 January 2004

Dundee City Council
Tayside House
Dundee