

## **10 PROVISION OF WEATHER FORECAST FOR WINTER MAINTENANCE (AN253-2002)**

Since the loss of local authority involvement in trunk road maintenance the consortium issuing tenders for winter maintenance weather forecasting has been reduced in size to three member councils, namely Angus, Dundee City and Fife. It is considered that a consortium procurement of this service still provides cost benefits through economies of scale and shared tender administration, training costs etc.

For winter 2002/03, three providers were invited to tender on the basis of a one year contract with the option to extend by one further year. 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 (40%) and cost (60%) with the outcome as indicated in the table.

	<b>Quality Score</b>	<b>Quality Index</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Cost Index</b>	<b>Overall Score</b>
PA WeatherCentre	574	100	36700	100	100
MetOffice - Option 1	558	97	65056	56	72
MetOffice - Option 2	480	84	45016	82	83
MetOffice - Option 3	420	73	37890	97	87
Oceanroutes	355	62	79935	46	52

PA WeatherCentre scored highest on both elements with an anticipated cost to the consortium of £36,700 (£35,400 in year 2 if extended), the Council's share of which is £11,050 (£10,600 in year 2 if extended). Angus Council was the lead authority in the issue and return of tender documents and PA WeatherCentre's tender has consequently been accepted by its Director of Roads in accordance with its Standing Orders.

Committee is asked to note the acceptance of PA WeatherCentre's bid and to agree to the contract being extended to 2003/04 subject to a satisfactory service being provided in the current year and no significant developments in other providers' technology.