

REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 9th JUNE 2003
REPORT ON: TAXI CONTRACT
REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF SUPPORT SERVICES
REPORT NO. 411-2003

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To enable the Council to review its taxi transport arrangements and to appoint a firm until 31st March 2004.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the contract be awarded to Handy Taxis on the terms and conditions outlined in this report.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Taxi costs are met from user departments' own existing revenue budgets and these costs will be contained within the 2003/04 Revenue Budgets.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This review was undertaken from a perspective of Local Agenda 21. In particular, that resources are used efficiently and waste is minimised.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Council's own taxi transportation needs are adequately catered for.

6 REPORT

- 6.1 The existing contract has been in operation since 1st June 1998 when the former District Council taxi services contract was combined with that of Social Work to allow Social Work to benefit from the discounted meter rate contract.
- 6.2 Local taxi firms were invited to submit details of services they provided and charges involved.
- 6.3 Four firms submitted details as outlined in the attached appendix.
- 6.4 All firms bidding indicated they had codes in place for dress, conduct and fleet cleanliness. Users will be asked to report to the Director of Support Services any instances of failure to meet acceptable standards in relation to dress, conduct and vehicle cleanliness as well as timeousness. This will allow the Council to take any shortfalls in standards to the firm's management which has not been necessary in relation to the current contract with Handy Taxis.
- 6.5 Dundee Taxi Cab Co. Ltd. also submitted information in relation to new technology in respect of a smart card system. In addition, Dundee Taxi Cab Co. Ltd. undoubtedly have the greater number of vehicles for disabled passengers, however, through feedback from users of the contract with Handy Taxis the number of vehicles available for disabled passengers adequately meets the Council's own needs. As detailed in the summary attached, Handy Taxis' discount off the metered rate within the City boundary is 6% greater than Dundee Taxi Cab Co. Ltd. Based on previous years' taxi usage, this additional 6% represents approximately £5,500 per annum.

- 6.6 Within the tender documentation issued it was stated the contract would be for an initial period of 12 months, however, it is felt appropriate this contract should now be brought into line with the Council's financial year.
- 6.7 Having regard to all the factors involved it is recommended that the contract be awarded to Handy Taxis.

7 CONSULTATIONS

This report has been the subject of consultation with the Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Director of Social Work.

Patricia McIlquham
Director of Support Services

29th May 2003
Date

SUMMARY OF TENDERS FOR COUNCIL TAXI CONTRACT

ADMINISTERED BY SUPPORT SERVICES

Company Name	No of Cars	No of Cars for Disabled Passengers	Licences Suspended in Last Year	Dress Code	Code of Conduct	Fleet Cleanliness Code	No of Drivers who have attended Disability Awareness Course	Discount off metered rate within the City boundary	Discount off metered rate outwith the City boundary
Dundee Taxi Cab Company	63	9	None	Yes	Yes	Yes	90%	20%	Nil
Handy Taxis	155	2	None	Yes	Yes	Yes	100%	26%	26%
Tay Taxis (1993) Ltd	22	3	None	Yes	Yes	Yes	100%	10%	Nil
Tele-Taxis	122	2	None	Yes	Yes	Yes	100%	15%	15%