

PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING**TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY****MEETING: 16 MARCH 2009**

SUBJECT: PROCUREMENT OF AERIAL APPLIANCE**JOINT REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER, FINANCE OFFICER AND CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY**

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report sets out for the information of Members, the procurement arrangements in respect of an Aerial Appliance and seeks Authority approval to proceed with the award of a contract.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Included in the capital budget and vehicle replacement programme for 2009/10, is provision for the procurement of one Aerial Appliance. The new vehicle is intended to replace a Turntable Ladder which is now approaching the end of its operating lease, and which will be returned to the lessor at that time.

2.2 The Authority currently operates two types of Aerial Appliance, the Turntable Ladder (TTL), now due for replacement and Two Bronto Aerial Ladder Platforms (ALP).

2.3 The purchase price for an ALP is £484,015 with the TTL estimated at £470,015.

2.4 An evaluation of the risks within the Authority area and the operational capabilities of an ALP compared to a TTL have identified that both types of appliance would meet the operational needs of the service.

2.5 TWFR currently has two ALPs at present and it is proposed that the new appliance should also be an ALP, which replaces the only remaining TTL. Replacing the TTL with an ALP would provide many additional benefits to the service, including:

- a) Allowing a flexible staffing approach across all Aerial Appliances within the service, removing the need for detachments if an appliance is relocated.
- b) Reducing the specialist training requirements for operators who are qualified to operate both an ALP and TTL. This provides a projected efficiency of £2,524 every 2 years or £18,930 over the life of the vehicle.
- c) Training instructors will be able to specialise in ALP training with no need to maintain TTL skills. This provides a projected efficiency of £1,600 initially and every 3 years thereafter, or £8,000 over the life of the vehicle.
- d) Providing resilience as we will have more trained people to operate an ALP (three stations compared to current two)

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- e) Vehicle maintenance will be more efficient with technicians specialising in one type of Aerial Appliance. This provides a projected efficiency of £3,200 initially or £9,600 over the life of the vehicle.
 - f) Reducing stock levels of spare parts for maintenance. This provides a projected one off efficiency of £2,342 (cost of additional stock).
 - g) An ALP can use Gas Oil (red diesel), whereas the TTL must use standard Diesel. This provides a projected efficiency of £723 per year, or £10,845 over the life of the vehicle
- 2.6. Taking 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 above into account a total projected efficiency saving of £35,717 over the 15 year life of the vehicle is projected. It is therefore proposed to replace the current TTL with an ALP.

3 PROCUREMENT PROCESS

- 3.1 Firebuy currently has in place a framework agreement for the supply of aerial appliances.
- 3.2 In accordance with the requirements of the framework a supply request was issued to the only contractor on the framework for the supply of Bronto Aerial Ladder Platforms, Angloco Limited, Batley.
- 3.3 A completed supplier response was received from Angloco Limited in the sum of £484,015.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Provision is included in the Capital Programme (Vehicle Replacement Programme) 2009/2010 for the acquisition of an ALP. As with all assets purchased by the Authority through the Vehicle Replacement Programme, a full option appraisal will be undertaken at the point of acquisition to identify the best option for financing, including leasing and borrowing.

5 HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 It is considered that procuring an additional ALP as a replacement for the TTL will improve the health and safety impact for operational personnel as a result of the standardisation of this type of appliance.

6 EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no equality and fairness implications associated with this report.

7 RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Procuring this appliance would support the Authority's approach to risk management by reducing the potential for harm to operational personnel.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The Authority is requested to:-

- i) Endorse the procurement procedure adopted, which utilises a Firebuy framework agreement and:
- ii) approve acceptance of the supplier response from Angloco Limited, Batley in the sum of £484,015 for the procurement of an Aerial Ladder Platform.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The undermentioned Background Papers refer to the subject matter of the above report:

- Authority Report 23 February 2009 Capital Programme 2009/10