

**North East Derbyshire District Council**

**Cabinet**

**10 May 2017**

**Taxi Licensed Vehicle Testing Arrangements**

**Report of Councillor M Gordon, Portfolio Holder with Responsibility for Environment**

This report is public

**Purpose of the Report**

- To recommend entering in to contract with Chesterfield Borough Council in the continued undertaking of their taxi and hackney carriage (licensed vehicle) inspection arrangements.

**1 Report Details**

- 1.1 The Council has undertaken safety inspection of taxi and hackney carriage (licensed) vehicles on behalf of Chesterfield Borough Council over several years; during which time, Chesterfield have periodically reviewed their arrangements.
- 1.2 Chesterfield recently re-market tested their service requirements to meet internal procurement requirements and establish 'value for money; further to which, North East Derbyshire District Council submitted bids and was notified that it was the successful bidder.
- 1.3 This report is concerned with seeking approval to enter in to contract with Chesterfield Borough Council for continued delivery of their taxi and hackney carriage (licensed) vehicle testing arrangements.

**2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 2.1 It is recommend that the Council enter in to contract with Chesterfield Borough Council for the continued delivery of their Taxi and hackney carriage (licensed) vehicle testing service over a three year period with option to extend for a further two years (5 years total). It is recommended that authority to enter into the option to extend is delegated to the Assistant Director (Streetscene) in consultation with the Portfolio Member.
- 2.2 Continued delivery of a Taxi and hackney carriage (licensed) vehicle testing service to Chesterfield Borough Council will generate annual income of £80,000 (approx.) which makes positive contribution towards resource cost and overhead recovery.

### **3 Consultation and Equality Impact**

- 3.1 Taxi and hackney carriage (licensed) vehicle testing arrangements are undertaken in compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements and will meet policy requirements of Chesterfield Borough Council as set out in their contract conditions and specification.

### **4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 4.1 It was not in this Council's interest to refrain from submitting bids in respect of Chesterfield Borough Council's requirements; in particular, as North East Derbyshire District Council employ resources in delivery of the service and income received makes a positive contribution towards cost and overhead recovery.

### **5 Implications**

#### **5.1 Finance and Risk Implications**

- 5.1.1 Sustained delivery of a Taxi and hackney carriage (licensed) vehicle testing service to Chesterfield Borough Council will generate annual income of £80,000 (approx) which is subject to the level of vehicles presented for inspection and testing.

#### **5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection**

- 5.2.1 In accordance with section 50 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, Councils require the proprietor of any hackney carriage or of any private hire vehicle licensed by them to present such hackney carriage or private hire vehicle for inspection and testing at approved garages within the locality.
- 5.2.2 Local Authorities may grant licences to use vehicles as:-
- (a) Private hire vehicles under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976;
  - (b) Hackney carriages under the Town Police Clauses Act 1847.
- 5.2.3 The contract period will be for three years with option to extend up to a further two years (5 years total).

#### **5.3 Human Resources Implications**

- 5.3.1 The Council employs two staff in delivery of a Taxi and hackney carriage (licensed) vehicle testing service to Chesterfield Borough Council. Entering in to a new contract will sustain those staff's employment with this Council and negate the requirement for a TUPE transfer to an alternate service provider.

### **6 Recommendations**

- 6.1 Cabinet approves the entering in to contract with Chesterfield Borough Council for the continued delivery of their Taxi and hackney carriage (licensed) vehicle testing service over a three year period with option to extend for a further two years (5 years total).

**7 Decision Information**

<p><b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b>          (A Key Decision is an executive decision which results in income or expenditure to the Council of £50,000 or more or which has a significant impact on two or more District wards)</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b>          (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>District Wards Affected</b></p>	<p>None (Chesterfield Borough Council)</p>
<p><b>Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting Our Communities to be Healthier, Safer, Cleaner and Greener</li> <li>• Providing our Customers with Excellent Services</li> </ul>

**8 Document Information**

Appendix No	Title
N/a	N/a
<p><b>Background Papers</b> (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)</p>	
N/a	
Report Author	Contact Number
Steve Brunt (Assistant Director Streetscene)	01246 217264\593044