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# Award of Local Bus Network Tender

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<b>Committee considering report:</b>	Delegated Officer Decision – 6 October 2016
<b>Portfolio Member:</b>	Councillor Jeanette Clifford
<b>Date Portfolio Member agreed report:</b>	23 August 2016
<b>Report Author:</b>	Matthew Metcalfe
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b>	DOD3200

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## 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To inform of the results of the recently tendered local bus network of services and the intention to award the contract for the operation of these services using delegated powers.

## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 To award Local Bus Contract WBC127 to Reading Transport for a period of 5 years (plus a further 3 years subject to performance) so that the retendered local bus services can commence operation on Monday 5 September 2016.

## 3. Implications

- 3.1 **Financial:** The retendering of certain bus services into a single network of services has delivered savings to the Council as required by the phase one and two savings consultations held earlier this year.
- 3.2 **Policy:** The new local bus services are an essential element of the Council's Transport Policy.
- 3.3 **Personnel:** The retendering of the bus services was managed by Matthew Metcalfe with assistance from Peter Walker, Transport Services Manager, Mike Sullivan, Contracts and Procurement Officer and Shiraz Sheikh, Principal Solicitor.
- 3.4 **Legal:** The Council has a legal responsibility to ensure the provision of socially necessary transport services.
- 3.5 **Risk Management:** If the retendered bus services do not commence operation on Monday 5 September, then many communities will not have bus services in place that they require for a multiple of purposes such as getting to work or school, for hospital appointments and shopping trips.
- 3.6 **Property:** N/A
- 3.7 **Other:**

## 4. Other options considered

- 4.1 No other options have been considered.

## 5. Executive Summary

- 5.1 In order to deliver savings to the public transport budget, a retendering of certain local bus services was carried out through the Official Journal of the European Union. This exercise will result in substantial savings to the Council. Following approval by Procurement Board on 23 August 2016, Corporate Board are now being advised that the contract for the operation of these services will be awarded to Reading Transport so that they can commence operation of the bus services on the 5 September 2016. The bus services that these replace end on Saturday 3 September.
- 5.2 It should be noted that this contract is being awarded in two stages. The first award has been made using delegated powers and covers the initial 6 week period from 5 September to 14 October 2016. The second award, which is the subject of this report, will be awarded under delegated powers in accordance with the revised constitution agreed at Council on 15 September 2016.
- 5.3 This 'for information' item will also be presented to the next Operations Board

## 6. Conclusion

- 6.1 It is imperative that the contract for the retendered network of local bus services is now awarded. This will ensure that these services commence operation on 5 September and that there is continuity of the provision of bus services for the communities served.

## 7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix A - Supporting Information
- 7.2 Appendix B – Equalities Impact Assessment