

## **FC65. ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT AND SHOPMOBILITY – ORDER OF MALTA DIAL-A-JOURNEY LTD**

In terms of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this item had been called in to Council by Councillors Alexander and Kenna.

With reference to Standing Order 30, Provost Reid referred to an application made by Order of Malta Dial-a-Journey Ltd for a deputation to be heard at the meeting in respect of this item.

Council **CONSENTED** to hear the deputation.

Mr H Coutts, Chairman, Dial-a-Journey, accompanied by Mr D Hearsum, Chief Executive and Ms K Welsh, Chair of the Stakeholders Group, addressed Council on proposals to tender for the provision of accessible transport services and in particular the Council's duties in regard to the Equalities Act 2010.

Council then asked questions of Mr Coutts, Mr Hearsum and Ms Welsh.

Thereafter, there was submitted (circulated) (a) Extract of Minute of Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 15 November 2011, and (b) Report by the Director of Development Services to the said meeting presenting an update on options for the delivery of accessible transport.

Councillor C Martin, seconded by Councillor Nimmo, moved that:-

- (1) operation of the Shopmobility service be offered to the Order of Malta Dial-a-Journey under a new Service Level Agreement from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2017 at £49,000 (plus inflation) per annum for acceptance within one month of the offer;
- (2) the already authorised Service Level Agreement from April to September 2012 be extended to 31 March 2013;
- (3) a tender is issued for the Accessible Transport and Taxicard Booking Service for the Falkirk Council area only, and
- (4) funding of the Accessible Transport, Shopmobility and Taxicard Booking Services be exempted from the annual corporate external funding review because they are reviewed on a longer term basis by the Policy and Resources Committee.

By way of an Amendment, Councillor Meiklejohn, seconded by Councillor McNally, moved that Council:-

- (1) does not put out to tender the Dial-a-Journey and Shopmobility Services as detailed within paragraph 3.1 of the Report, but instead agrees to enter into a Service Level Agreement for both services from 2012 – 2017;
- (2) recognises the overfunding of the Shopmobility element of the company was cross subsidising the Dial-a-Journey element and therefore agrees not to reclaim the £15,000 referred to in paragraph 2.3.4 of the Report;

- (3) agrees that the funding for the 2012/13 financial year be set at current year levels plus inflation, and
- (4) continues to work with colleagues in Stirling and Clackmannanshire Councils to ensure the continuation of the Forth Valley wide service, with officers reporting back on the outcome of negotiations

In terms of Standing Order 21.4 (i), a vote was taken by roll call, there being 30 Members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the Motion (17) – Provost Reid; Depute Provost Black; Councillors Blackwood, Buchanan, Goldie, Gow, Fry, Lemetti, C MacDonald, Mahoney, C Martin, CR Martin, McLuckie, Nicol, Nimmo, Patrick and Waddell.

For the Amendment (13) – Councillors Alexander, Carleschi, Coleman, Hughes, Jackson, Kenna, McNally, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie, Spears, Thomson and Turner.

Accordingly, **AGREED** in terms of the Motion.