

FALKIRK COUNCIL

**EXTRACT of MINUTE of MEETING of the POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on TUESDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2011 at 9.30 a.m.**

**PR64. ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT AND SHOPMOBILITY – ORDER OF MALTA DIAL-A-JOURNEY LTD**

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

Committee **CONSENTED** to hear the representation.

Mr Coutts, Order of Malta Dial-a-Journey addressed the Committee on matters relating to the item, and, along with the Mr Hearshum and Ms Welsh answered questions from Members.

The meeting adjourned at 10.30 am to consider the points raised in the presentation made by Order of Malta Dial-a-Journey, and reconvened at 10.45 am with all in attendance as per the sederunt.

With reference to the Minute of Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 18 October 2011, (paragraph PR58 refers) there was submitted Report (circulated) dated 9 November 2011 by the Director of Development Services (a) referring to the meeting of the Member/Officer/Dial-a-Journey Working Group, held on 27 October 2011, and (b) presenting an update on the options for the delivery of accessible transport.

Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Fry moved acceptance of recommendations (a), (b), and (d) contained within the Report, and in addition, with regard to recommendation (c) a tender be issued for the Accessible Transport and Taxicard Booking Service for the Falkirk Council area only.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Kenna moved that:-

- (a) Committee 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
- (b) Committee 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
- (c) The funding for the 2012/13 financial year be set at current year levels plus inflation, and

- (d) Falkirk Council continue 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

On a division 4 Members voted for the Motion and 4 Members voted for the Amendment.

There being an equality of votes and in terms of Standing Order 21.6 the convener used his casting vote for the Motion.

Accordingly **AGREED:-**

- (1) that 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) that 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) that the funding of the Accessible Transport, Shopmobility an 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.