

OFFICER DECISION RECORD SHEET

Name of decision maker: Assistant Director – Corporate and Contracted Services

Service Area: Licensing

Title of Decision: Approval to award contract for Taxi Testing

Decision made and reasons:

Decision: The approval to award contract for Taxi testing for a 4 year period to EDS Treads

Reason:

The Council is responsible for ensuring the safety of the public when using licensed hackney carriage and private hire vehicles. A key aspect of this is ensuring that vehicles have the relevant annual safety checks, including the Council's own standards, in addition to the standard MOT required of other road vehicles. This tender was required to ensure that a suitable testing station carries out this work on behalf of the Council.

This tender was advertised as an Open (below OJEU) process on the Supply Hertfordshire portal and on Contracts Finder in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015.

Eds Treads submission was the best value for money solution and shows a high quality of service can be provided against the evaluation criteria of the tender.

Reports considered:

The Procurement report attached.

Officers/Councillors/Ward Councillors/Stakeholders Consulted:

Nathan March – Licensing Team Leader

Financial Comments: The financial transaction for the taxi testing will be between EDS Treads and the vehicle owner, so should have no impact upon DBC income & expenditure.

There are financial/reputational risks from not having a designated MOT testing station.

Darren Flanagan. Accountant for CEO & Regen

Deputy Monitoring Officer Comments:

The proposed award of contract follows a procurement process which was compliant with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and the Council's procurement standing orders.

Officers should ensure that an appropriate signed contract is in place prior to commencement of services

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Deputy S151 Officers Comments:

There are no financial implications for the council as a result of this officer Decision.

Implications:

Value for Money:

Despite only one tender submission being received, the quality of service being offered exceeded the specification requirements in many areas. The price of the Taxi Testing being offered is good value for money for the Taxi Service provider's price quoted is not much higher than the cost of an MOT for a domestic vehicle, despite additional testing requirements.

Financial:

No budget required. This contract arrangement does not require any expenditure by the Council. All costs associated with this contract are paid for by the Taxi Service providers.

Risk: If this contract is not awarded

The Council will not have an authorised testing station, and will not be able to effectively ensure that the vehicles that are being licensed meets its required standards. This will lead to the Council being unable to have confidence in the safety of vehicles it is permitting to be used as private hire vehicles and hackney carriages and the public who use this transport will be put at risk as a result.

In addition to putting the public's safety at risk, should incidents occur, or information be requested on the testing of such vehicles via Freedom of Information, or other means, the Council's reputation could be severely damaged. From a financial perspective, should an incident occur causing damage or harm to any individual or their property, they may seek to recover compensation from the Council should they consider this to have occurred as a result of the Council failing in its duties to regulate such transport.

Officer Signature:

Date: