

Decision title

Award Report for the Contract to Supply, Deliver and Collect **Depolluted Vehicles**

Recommendation by

Decision Number

Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Central Operations

LFC-0163-D

Protective marking: OFFICIAL

Publication status: Published with redactions

Summary

LFC-0163 seeks approval to award the contract for the Depolluted Vehicles and associated services to the Supplier named in Appendix 1 – Confidential Tender Evaluation.

The proposed contract award will ensure the provision of a range of vehicles that have been depolluted for use by fire station personnel for local and area training exercises whilst achieving best value for money for the London Fire Commissioner (LFC). A full Open OJEU procurement process was undertaken to ensure it was open to as many suppliers as possible. The tender evaluation included rigorous evaluation of quality, price, financial standing with the quality evaluation being conducted by officers from Central Operations.

Decision

The London Fire Commissioner approves a five-year contract for the provision of depolluted vehicles and associated services to the supplier named in Appendix 1 – Confidential Tender Evaluation at a cost of £611,691.

Dany Cotton QFSM London Fire Commissioner

Date 31-07-19

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Report title

Award Report for the Contract to Supply, Deliver and Collect **Depolluted Vehicles**

Report to Date

Operations Directorate Board 26 March 2019 Commissioner's Board 10 April 2019

Report by Report number LFC-0163

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Summary

This report seeks approval to award the contract for the Depolluted Vehicles and associated services to the Supplier named in Appendix 1 – Confidential Tender Evaluation.

The proposed contract award will ensure the provision of a range of vehicles that have been depolluted for use by fire station personnel for local and area training exercises whilst achieving best value for money for the London Fire Commissioner (LFC). A full Open OJEU procurement process was undertaken to ensure it was open to as many suppliers as possible. The tender evaluation included rigorous evaluation of quality, price, financial standing with the quality evaluation being conducted by officers from Central Operations.

Recommended decision

That the London Fire Commissioner approves a 5 year contract for the provision of Depolluted Vehicles and associated services to the supplier named in Appendix 1 - Confidential Tender Evaluation at a cost of £611,691.00.

Background

- 1. London Fire Brigade is required to attend road traffic collisions (RTC's) to extricate persons from vehicles in the event that they are unable to exit the vehicle or it is unsafe for them to do so. It is a requirement that Firefighters are trained in how to do this safely, efficiently and quickly.
- 2. The purpose of the proposed contract is to deliver a service to supply, deliver and collect depolluted vehicles for familiarisation and continuing professional development of operational personnel in the application of extrication techniques for road traffic collisions. Firefighters undertake this familiarisation exercise at Fire Stations or outside training venues. Vehicles therefore need to be representative of those currently on the roads across London boroughs and fully de-polluted to ensure health, safety and environmental risks are mitigated.

3. Fire Stations raise orders according to their training requirements, 3 weeks in advance through the purchase order management system (PoMS). The ordered depolluted vehicle is delivered via flatbed truck by the contractor to the station yards designated RTC training area. Subsequently, the contractor picks up the cut up vehicle on the date specified by the Fire Station on the original order. The vehicle remains the legal property of the contractor at all times.

Considerations

- 4. Within the procurement there was a need to balance LFB requirements to provide a range of vehicles which are encountered operationally that challenge crews knowledge and ability against realistic expectations that could be met by the supplier in delivering the vehicles e.g. a double decker bus. It was also considered that the intended contractor would need to meet a number of specific criteria set against basic Health and Safety and Environmental and legislative requirements, namely:
 - That all vehicles supplied must meet End-of-Life Vehicle Regulations (ELV) 2003 (as amended);
 - That the contractor possess all relevant licences and evidence those licences prior to the contract starting; and
 - That all vehicles will be supplied and collected within specific timescales.

Procurement options

5. Two procurement options were considered:

Option 1 - Multi lot procurement based on 4 area commands.

6. Consideration was given to splitting the four area commands into individual Lots in order to attract a wider pool of contractors from the local areas. Other Fire and Rescue Services had chosen this type of lot service structure due to their inability to find a supplier that could deliver vehicles to their entire area. For London however, market research showed that many suppliers were unable to meet the mandatory requirements within the specification, particularly on having the necessary licenses to fully depollute vehicles. Therefore this option was not considered viable.

Option 2 - Single source supplier procurement covering all areas

- 7. Consideration was given to award a contract to a single pan London supplier. This option was chosen because market research had indicated there were experienced SME suppliers who are capable of delivering this service across London. The single source route also offered best value for money from an aggregation of demand benefiting from the potential for economies of scale. There would also be less costs associated with implementation of the contract when compared to option 1.
- 8. Additional benefits of option 2 included a single point of contact for any contract management issues and improvement suggestions, lower purchasing costs associated with sending orders and receiving invoices.

Procurement Process

9. Procurement investigated collaborating on this requirement with other Fire and Rescue Services. Greater Manchester FRS advised this service was delivered through arrangements with local scrap car suppliers and on a lot basis as they struggled to find a supplier who could service their wide range of locations. Surrey FRS met their requirement through an SME who delivered to a restricted area.

The regional nature of the business prevented collaborative contracts within the fire sector and the size of the LFB precluded many collaborations and severely limited the final market suppliers.

- 10. A Prior Information Notice on Tenders Electronic Daily (TED) the European public procurement journal and an advertisement on Contracts Finder were issued on the 20 July 2018 and was accepted by four potential suppliers. Market engagement was conducted with interested suppliers and large vehicle recovery service providers. This provided a valuable insight into the market.
- 11. Although there was interest it was found that the market is small as there were few suppliers who had the necessary logistical resources and correct environmental accreditations to meet Brigades specification for fully depolluted vehicles. A lack of understanding of the OJEU tendering process was also found with potential SME suppliers.
- 12. Due to the restricted market and value of the contract exceeding the OJEU threshold, an Open OJEU procurement was undertaken. Efforts were made to make the tendering document as simple as possible to ensure it was not overly onerous for potential tenderers.

13. The award criteria used in the procurement process was as follows:

Criteria	ltem	Section Weightin g	Overall Weighting
Price	Total Price	60%	
Quality	Specification met	Pass/Fail	
	Delivery and Collection	20%	
	Management of the contract	10%	35%
	Improving training	5%	
Social Value	Sustainable Transport		5%

A detailed breakdown relating to the tender evaluation are stated in Appendix 1 - Confidential Tender Evaluation to this report.

Conclusion

- 14. Following the completion of the procurement exercise, it is recommended that this contract be awarded to the supplier named in Appendix 1 Confidential Tender Evaluation as this will ensure that the Brigades requirement of depolluted vehicles are met.
- 15. The recommended supplier has established that they have the appropriate infrastructure for servicing the contract throughout the proposed term.

- 16. Despite a detailed process to attract a range of suppliers, only one tender for the contract was received.
- 17. Central Operations, in consultation with Procurement, believe that the supplier recommended within this report offers the most appropriate, sustainable and best value provision for the Brigade.

Finance comments

18. This report seeks approval to award the contract for the Depolluted Vehicles and associated services at an estimated cost of £611,691.00 over the next five years i.e. £120k pa. The budget for scrap cars is incurred from the operational equipment budget of £269k pa and it is expected that the cost of £120k pa for scrap cars will be contained within the existing resources available.

Workforce comments

19. There are no direct workforce implications associated with the contents of this report requiring staff side consultation.

Legal comments

- 20. Under section 9 of the Policing and Crime Act 2017, the London Fire Commissioner (the "Commissioner") is established as a corporation sole with the Mayor appointing the occupant of that office. Under section 327D of the GLA Act 1999, as amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2017, the Mayor may issue to the Commissioner specific or general directions as to the manner in which the holder of that office is to exercise his or her functions.
- 21. By direction dated 1 April 2018, the Mayor set out those matters, for which the Commissioner would require the prior approval of either the Mayor or the Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience (the "Deputy Mayor").
- 22. Paragraph (b) of Part 2 of the said direction requires the Commissioner to seek the prior approval of the Deputy Mayor before "[a] commitment to expenditure (capital or revenue) of £150,000 or above as identified in accordance with normal accounting practices...".
- 23. The Deputy Mayor's approval is accordingly required for the Commissioner purchase Depolluted Vehicles and associated services at a cost of £611,691.00.
- 24. The statutory basis for the actions proposed in this report is provided by section 5A of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 under which the Commissioner must procure services they consider appropriate for purposes incidental to their functional purposes.
- 25. Furthermore, under section 7 (2)(a) of the aforementioned legislation, the Commissioner has the power secure the provision of personnel, services and equipment necessary to efficiently meet all normal requirements for firefighting.
- 26. The General Counsel also notes that the proposed procurement of the goods and service provider is in compliance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Sustainability implications

- 27. The report details the Environmental considerations that were taken into account within the procurement, including all vehicles supplied must meet the End-of-Life Vehicle Regulations 2003 (as amended) and that the contractor possesses all relevant licences, which have been provided and verified
- 28. The following sustainment procurement issues were considered and had a 5% weighting in the evaluation criteria. demonstrated compliance within its method statement, however it has also been identified that there are still elements which they are working to achieve.

Criteria	Tender Response
Steps taken to reduce air emissions (PM, NOx and, CO2) when delivering the services in regards to transportation and any other sources of emissions.	 Approached company offering various Transport Programs that promotes efficient driving through fuel savings rewards. Drivers struggling will be sent on a course on how to become an efficient driver. Deliveries and collections in the same areas will be combine and drivers will ensure that no unnecessary journeys are made.
Working towards ULEZ compliance for Central London from 8 April 2019 and inner London (bounded by the North and South Circular roads) from 25 October 2021.	 By March 2019 will have three vehicles that meet the standard for ULEZ and this will be increased to six by March 2020. All vehicles for this contract will meet the required emission standard. By April 2019 all HGV Vehicles will be fitted with Full 360 Degree Vision Cameras in addition to Side Scan Sensors and Turning/Reversing Audible Warnings.
Additional social value benefits, for example improving safety measures for cyclists and deliveries in low emission vehicles out of peak hours.	 All drivers will be attending a Vulnerable Road User Training Course. A quantity based discount for some of the vehicle classes will be offered, reducing costs and reducing environmental impacts.

Equalities implications

- 29. The Public Sector Equality Duty applies to the London Fire Brigade when it makes decisions.
- 30. The duty requires us to have regard to the need to:
 - a. Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other behaviour prohibited by the Act. In summary, the Act makes discrimination etc. on the grounds of a protected characteristic unlawful.
 - b. Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - c. Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
- 31. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, gender, and sexual orientation. The Act

- states that 'marriage and civil partnership' is not a relevant protected characteristic for (b) or (c) although it is relevant for (a).
- 32. The supplier named in Appendix 1 Confidential Tender Evaluation provided their tender based on the LFC standard terms and conditions which will be used to form the subsequent contract. Clause 22 of LFC standard terms and conditions ensures that the Supplier shall not itself, or through a servant or agent, discriminate against any person on any grounds contrary to the provisions of the Equality Act 2010; and the Supplier shall comply fully with the terms of the Commissioner's Equalities Protocol, as set out in Schedule 6 Part B (Protocols). Such compliance is a condition of the Agreement. In the event that the Supplier fails to comply in any material respect with any of the terms (1) (7) of the Equalities Protocol, the Commissioner shall have the right to terminate the Agreement.
- 33. An Equality Impact Assessment was conducted and considered how those with protected characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership status may be impacted both positively and negatively. Because of the nature of this procurement, it was deemed that there were no adverse impacts identified on any particular characteristic in a negative way. It was however considered that the use of this procurement does contribute, in its finality, to good community relations by way of delivering continuing efficiency to operational response by ensuring staff have an awareness of the diverse population of London, all of which may suffer the misfortune of becoming trapped due to accident within a vehicle or other transportation by road. Operational staff also become aware of the challenges in preserving the dignity amongst those with beliefs, race or religion and disabilities within minority groups across the response area who may have become trapped and require extricating in a sensitive and more mindful way. No data is currently available to determine identification of protected characteristics at RTC's although a number of internal and external sites were visited, TFL, https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/publications-andreports/road-safety and internal LFB data collection sources. The LFC is satisfied that the arrangements meet the requirements of Equality Act 2010 and LFC responsibilities within Public Service Equality Duty.

List of Appendices to this report:

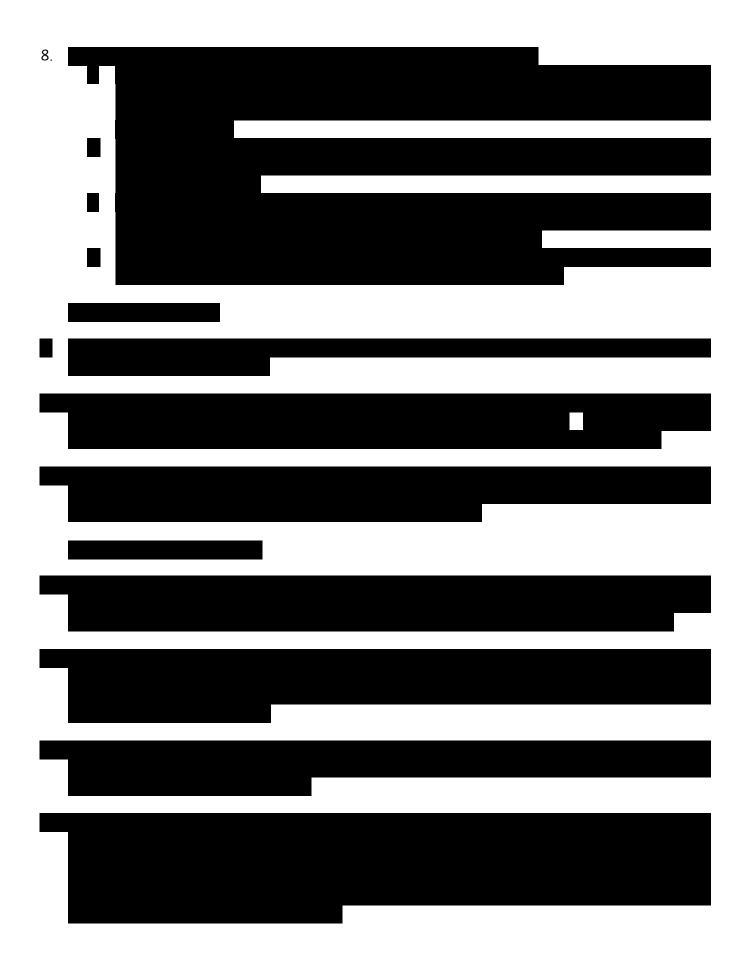
Appendix 1 - Confidential Tender Evaluation



Appendix 1 – Confidential Tender Evaluation

Recommendation

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Appendix 1 – Break down of Estimated Order Quantity and Cost



North West Area



South East Area



South West Area



