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Document Title	ELECTION RECESS ARRANGEMENTS – S43 OF STANDING ORDERS: Contract for the Provision of Supported Public Bus Services 01 April 2011 to 31 March 2015

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REPORT TO: Election Recess Arrangements – s43 Standing Orders

MEETING DATE:

BY: Executive Director of Communities

SUBJECT: Contract for the Provision of Supported Public Bus Services
01 April 2011 to 31 March 2015

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To award contracts for the provision of financially supported public bus services for the period from 11 June 2012 – 31 March 2015.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To award contracts for the provision of public bus services as detailed in Appendix A, that would otherwise not operate on a commercial basis during the period 11 June 2012 to 31 March 2015

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 To meet the transport requirements of residents and visitors not provided by bus service operators East Lothian Council procure, through a competitive tendering exercise those services deemed necessary by the Council. Contractors are awarded on a fixed term and fixed price basis subject to indexation. Current contracts were awarded in April 2011 and are due to expire on 31 March 2015.
- 3.2 First Edinburgh, part of the First Group bus company, which operates across the UK were successful in tendering for a number of Council routes in April 2011 and following award have been undertaking these routes on the Councils behalf. However, following an internal review within the First Group the Council was advised that First Edinburgh were restructuring their presence in south east Scotland and would not be in a position to continue to provide a service to the Council. East Lothian Council were formally advised on 4 April 2012 that supported service routes 44B, 110, 121, 123 and 129 would be terminated with effect from 1 July 2012 and commercial services 44, 44B and 129 would be terminated with effect from 10 June 2012.
- 3.3 In view of the reduction in service that would occur as a result of the withdrawal of services by First Edinburgh East Lothian Council

commenced a tendering exercise to determine if the services could be maintained through provision by other bus operators.

- 3.4 Documentation was sent to the operators identified within the current Supported Public Bus Services Framework Agreement and 4 tenders were returned, all of which were valid for tender evaluation.
- 3.5 The primary criteria regarding award are based on Cost Analysis, Quality and/or Innovation. As all contractors had previously submitted their Quality and Innovation criteria, cost analysis of the options presented was adopted in this case.
- 3.6 Tender evaluation was undertaken by an evaluation panel comprising Transport Services staff and representatives of Procurement and Legal Services

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None

5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 This report is not applicable to the well being of equalities groups and an Equality Impact Assessment is not required.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Financial – The part year additional expenditure of approx £62,000 can be funded within the Infrastructure Service 2012/13 budget while future ongoing provision will be addressed as part of the Infrastructure Service budget process for 2013/14
- 6.2 Personnel - None
- 6.3 Other - None

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None

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DATE	2 May 2012

Appendix A

Route	Route Description	Current Operator	New Operator	Increase	Description
44B	Pencaitland - Edinburgh	First	Lothian	£54,763.28	M-S evening, all Sunday restores full provision
110	Elphinstone - Cockenzie	First	Edinburgh Coach Lines	-£34,465.60	Arranged under existing Midlothian contract 328/428
121	Haddington - North Berwick	First	Prentice Coaches	£12,368.20	Enhanced service to Drem and Fenton Barns. Drop Sunday service
123	Haddington - Gifford/ Pencaitland	First	Prentice Coaches	£13,984.88	Restoration of circular service, New Winton included, no Sunday service
129	Port Seton - ocean Terminal	First	Eve Coaches	£72,970.56	M-Sat hourly from 0710 to 1924
328	Musselburgh - Royal Infirmary	First	Edinburgh Coach Lines	£7,425.60	Midlothian Contract