

Civic Centre, Castle Street,  
Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8AN

Main Tel: 01685 725000

www.merthyr.gov.uk



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
**MERTHYR TUDFUL**  
**MERTHYR TYDFIL**  
County Borough Council

## **CABINET REPORT**

Date Written	21st January 2021
Report Author	Paul Lewis
Service Area	Protection and Safety
Committee Division	Cabinet
Exempt/Non Exempt	Non Exempt
Committee Date	3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2021

*To: Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen*

# **School Transport Contract Awards – Delegated Authority**

## **1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The Council has a statutory duty to provide Home to School Transport for students residing in the County Borough who meet the appropriate criteria.
- 1.2 The current contract term ends in the July 2021 requiring a new contract tendering round.
- 1.3 Due to the current Pandemic and potential risk to staffing levels there is a risk to accessing specific student data and needs there may be a risk to timescales not being met in the process of a contract awards.
- 1.4 To mitigate such risk delegated authority is requested to reduce any delay to timescales linked to the award of school contracts.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that**

- 2.1 The delegated authority to allow officer award as detailed in 3.5 of this report, to meet the timescales necessary for the award of home to school transport be approved.

### 3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council has a statutory duty to provide Home to School Transport for students residing in the County Borough who meet the appropriate criteria. Currently there are in place 180 separate school contracts with a total value of £2,584,323
- 3.2 The current contract term ends in the July 2021 requiring a new contract tendering round to take place for School Transport from September 2021. Contract tendering will be conducted in accordance with
- 3.3 As part of Business Continuity planning for the current Pandemic there is a potential risk to staffing levels and risk to accessing specific student data and needs which are required in the panning of appropriate transport provision.
- 3.4 Delegated authority is requested to mitigate any risk to the timescales linked to the assessment approval and award of contracts.
- 3.5 The Deputy Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Public Protection will have responsibility for signing off the tender awards.

### 4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 4.1 None

### 5.0 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	Not Applicable
<b>1. Merthyr Tydfil Well-being Objectives</b>	0 of 4	0 of 4	4 of 4
<b>2. Sustainable Development Principles - How have you considered the five ways of working:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Long term</li><li>• Prevention</li><li>• Integration</li><li>• Collaboration</li><li>• Involvement</li></ul>	0 of 5	0 of 5	5 of 5
<b>3. Protected Characteristics</b> <i>(including Welsh Language)</i>	0 of 10	0 of 10	10 of 10
<b>4. Biodiversity</b>	0 of 1	0 of 1	1 of 1

**Summary:**

This report provides information to Elected Members regarding the current position of school transport contracts and that a decision is to be made under delegated authority. As such the information in this report has neither a positive nor negative impact on our well-being objectives, five ways of working, protected characteristics, nor biodiversity.

**ALYN OWEN  
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**COUNCILLOR GERAINT THOMAS  
CABINET MEMBER FOR  
REGENERATION AND PUBLIC  
PROTECTION**

<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>		
<b>Title of Document(s)</b>	<b>Document(s) Date</b>	<b>Document Location</b>
<b>Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?</b>		<b>No</b>

***Consultation has been undertaken with the Corporate Management Team in respect of each proposal(s) and recommendation(s) set out in this report.***