11(a) MILL O' MAINS BUS SERVICE (AN258-2014)

Committee is asked to note the award of a contract to Stagecoach Strathtay to operate an hourly bus service between Mill O' Mains, Linlathen and Dundee City Centre.

On 8th August, 2014, National Express Dundee gave the Council notice that it intended to deregister the vast majority of journeys on its Service 36. National Express Dundee indicated that the journeys were no longer commercially viable.

In mid October 2014, following two public meetings, a decision was taken by the Council to save the service in the short term by paying a weekly subsidy to National Express Dundee. This payment was agreed until 10th January, 2015 and would allow the Council time to assess options and put out a tender for a replacement service.

The Council subsequently undertook a tender and received bids from four local bus operators. The lowest daily cost was submitted by Stagecoach Strathtay.

Using delegated powers, the Director of City Development awarded the contract to Stagecoach Strathtay. The replacement service will operate under contract from 12th January, 2015 to 13th August, 2016.

The total cost of the subsidy is dependent on passenger usage because fares revenue taken on the service will be used to fund the cost of the subsidy. The subsidy can be met from the 'supported services – registered' budget.

Council Officers will seek views from the community over the next twelve month period to help inform decisions about the future needs of bus users.