

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 20 OCTOBER 2003

REPORT ON: TENDERS – SCOTTISH CITIZEN ACCOUNT SMARTCARD CONSORTIUM

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT NO: 688-2003

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek the Committee's approval of a tender process for a consultancy contract carried out by the Scottish Citizen Account Smartcard Consortium (SCASC), for whom Dundee City Council are acting as lead authority.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Council endorses the decision to award the contract to Schlumberger Sema.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 SCASC have an annual budget for this year and next of £200,000 per annum. This is made up of a contribution of £20,000 per annum from each of the 10 local authorities awarded Modernising Government Fund 2 monies by the Scottish Executive for smartcard projects. The recommended tender price is £120,500 and will be met in full by the SCASC budget.

4. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 SCASC is an example of local authorities combining to reach agreement on standards and an operating framework. The aim of this is to reduce the costs and materials used as well as maximise the benefits of smartcard deployments within Scottish Local Government.

5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None

6. BACKGROUND

6.1 Dundee City Council agreed to act as the lead authority for the 10 authorities combining to form SCASC. Therefore for the purposes of financial audit and entering legal contracts the Council acts as the accountable body.

6.2 An invitation to tender was advertised for consultants to be appointed to carry out consultancy work for SCASC with the following objectives:

- report on a sustainable business model for local authority smartcards in Scotland
- consult on the options for a national consortium framework for managing smartcard deployment and recommend the best value option
- assist with the migration plan for authorities to move to the agreed framework

- 6.3 Six valid tenders were received in accordance with the Council's tender procedures. These were evaluated by a panel drawn from six of the local authorities represented on SCASC. The panel decided to shortlist four of the tenders for a Stage 2 of the evaluation. The results of the like for like price comparison between the four shortlisted tenders are shown in the table below:

Tenderer	Price
Schlumberger Sema	£120,500
PCL and JMP	£122,230
Steer Davies Gleave, Consult Hyperion and ESP	£123,000
BT	£140,400

The panel also scored the presentations and tender documents of the companies above against detailed selection criteria and Schlumberger Sema also scored the highest on this evaluation.

- 6.4 At the SCASC meeting on 9 October 2003 the recommendation of the selection panel to appoint Schlumberger Sema was agreed. The tender procedures and evaluation process has been fully documented and is available in a file for audit and inspection when required. On this basis it is recommended that the Council endorses the decision to award the contract to Schlumberger Sema.

7. **CONSULTATIONS**

Through the Scottish Consortium process all of the member authorities of SCASC have been fully consulted on the contents of this report.

8. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Report No 842-2002, Smartcard – Modernising Government Fund, Policy and Resources Committee 9 December 2002.

Chief Executive..... 14/10/03

APPENDICES