

**REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 15 NOVEMBER 2004**

**REPORT ON: SUPPLY OF SPECIALIST MINIBUSES FOR KINGSPARK SCHOOL**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

**REPORT NO: 758-2004**

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 This report seeks approval to accept the offer for the supply of two specialised minibuses for Kingspark School.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that:

2.1 The Education Committee award the purchase of two specialised minibuses for Kingspark School to A M Phillip Ltd, Forfar in the total amount of £49,280

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 The Depute Chief Executive (Finance) has stated that this expenditure can be met from the Education Capital Budget for 2004/2005.

### **4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Nil.

### **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Nil.

### **6.0 BACKGROUND**

6.1 The purchase is to replace two vehicles, both of which are beyond economical repair.

6.2 Offers were received from the following companies

For 1 No Mini Bus	A M Phillip Ford Transit	Mutch Tayside LDV Convoy
Supply 13 seater specialist Mini Bus	£23,000	£22,000
Passenger Heater	990	1,050
Estimate for provision of wheelchair ramp	Incl	800
Estimate for additional wheelchair fittings	100	Incl
Estimate for Dundee City Council livery etc	<u>550</u>	<u>550</u>
Estimated Total Cost	24,640	24,400
	<u>x 2</u>	<u>x 2</u>
For 2 No Mini Buses	<u>49,280</u>	<u>48,800</u>

6.3 The Council's motor assessor was contacted and requested to comment on the offers received.

The main comments received were:

- a) The LDV benefits from an additional one years manufacturers warranty.
- b) The LDV's basic rear wheel drive design is now dated and will more quickly appear old.
- c) The LDV suffers from very high initial depreciation.
- d) The Ford Transits front wheel drive is compatible with the experiences and preferences of the Education Department drivers, particularly in adverse conditions.
- e) Manufacturers parts are generally less expensive for the Ford Transit than the LDV Convoy and should therefore reduce running costs.

Of the two quotations received the Assessor considers the Ford Transit should in the long term offer best value.

Both buses offer a higher standard of comfort and satisfy all relevant safety criteria relating to the transportation of special needs pupils.

The Ford Transit model is similar to earlier vehicles purchased for the Kingspark mini bus fleet and is favoured by the Education Department drivers.

## **7.0 CONSULTATION**

7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and the Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

## **8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1 NIL

Anne Wilson  
Director of Education