

Cabinet – 24 July 2013

Extension to Parking Enforcement Contract

Portfolio:	Councillor A Andrew
Related portfolios:	None
Service:	Neighbourhood Services
Wards:	All
Key decision:	No
Forward plan:	No

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to the extension of existing parking enforcement contractual arrangements. The extension is required to permit the further development of a replacement regional parking enforcement contract through framework arrangements with other Black Country boroughs.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Cabinet approve an extension of the current parking enforcement contractual arrangements with APCOA Parking (UK) Ltd until 28 February 2014.
- 2.2 That Cabinet approve the development of a replacement parking enforcement contract, through collaboration with other Black Country boroughs, where possible.
- 2.3 That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director for Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Transport, to enter into contractual arrangements with the most economically advantageous compliant tender received as a result of the replacement contract tendering exercise.

3. Report detail

- 3.1 The current parking enforcement contractual arrangements are based on a competitive tendering exercise undertaken by Sandwell Council, which Walsall, Wolverhampton and Solihull councils, all subsequently adopted via framework provisions.

- 3.2 The contract with APCOA Parking (UK) Ltd commenced in July 2008 and allowed for a base 5-year contract period followed by extensions of 2 years and 3 years respectively, subject to satisfactory performance of the contractor. The requested extension will cover approximately 6 months of the optional 2-year extension period available.
- 3.3 The proposed limited extension is to enable the Council to re-procure the current contract as soon as possible but within a timeframe which will enable it to collaborate with Sandwell Council and possibly also Wolverhampton City Council. Both Authorities have already extended their existing contractual arrangements with APCOA for similar reasons to those detailed in this report.
- 3.4 Given the change in the parking enforcement market over recent years, re-procurement of contractual arrangements is the most beneficial option available to the Council at this point in time. There is now more competition and the obvious benefits this could bring through improvements in service provision and cost efficiencies need to be realised.
- 3.5 Importantly the extension to existing arrangements will also permit the Council to continue to review its environmental enforcement services as a whole, prior to entering into a re-procurement exercise for the parking enforcement function. The identification of areas that may benefit from a more joined up approach to enforcement will be factored into any re procurement of the parking enforcement contract.

4. Council priorities

4.1.1 Communities and Neighbourhoods

- 4.1.1 Local communities rely upon the Council to implement and enforce suitable parking restrictions that maintain the safety and free flow of traffic in and around the neighbourhood. By doing so, the Council will assist residents and businesses to access local goods and services either on foot, by private motor vehicle or through the use of public transport.

4.2 Economy

- 4.2.1 The operation of safe and efficient highway network is vital for the local economy. The enforcement of parking contraventions will ensure the road network continues to support the needs of the local economy whilst also creating a suitable environment to attract new investment and jobs in the borough.

5. Risk management

- 5.1 Failure to ensure appropriate contractual arrangements are in place could leave the Council open to challenge of compliance against EU contract rules.

6. Financial implications

- 6.1 The cost of the proposed contract extension will be met from within existing revenue budgets. Contractual payments will be in line with the current 2013/14 budget profile for the parking service cost centre.
- 6.2 The re-tendering exercise will be used to maximise any opportunities for cost savings whilst ensuring a service provision remains suitable for the delivery of the Council's statutory duties.

7. Legal implications

- 7.1 This extension would be pursuant to an option to extend which is contained in Clause 4.1 of the existing Conditions of Contract, by two periods not exceeding 2 years and 3 years respectively.

8. Property implications

- 8.1 The existing contractual arrangements include for the Council provision of accommodation required to facilitate the operation of the contracted parking enforcement service. The re-procurement exercise will permit the review of accommodation provision to ensure this meets the Council aspiration for the management of its property portfolio.

9. Health and wellbeing implications

- 9.1 Failure to ensure appropriate contractual arrangements are in place to deliver the Council's parking enforcement role will result in unnecessary traffic congestion and associated air pollution. The reduction in associated traffic congestion and air pollution will have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of local residents.

10. Staffing implications

- 10.1 None directly associated with this report.

11. Equality implications

- 11.1 None directly associated with this report.

12. Consultation

- 12.1 This report has been produced in consultation with Legal, Procurement and Finance.

Background papers

None

Author

Paul Leighton
Group Manager

☎ 654695

✉ leightonp@walsall.gov.uk



Jamie Morris
Executive Director

15 July 2013



Councillor A Andrew
Portfolio holder

15 July 2013