

**TAYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE BOARD****REPORT BY THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER****15 NOVEMBER 2010**

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**PROCUREMENT OF AERIAL RESCUE PUMP****Abstract**

This Report seeks Members approval to amend the method of procurement agreed at the last meeting of the Board for the third aerial rescue pump for Tayside Fire and Rescue.

**1 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Members approve the procurement of the third aerial rescue pump for Tayside Fire and Rescue utilising the Firebuy Framework Agreement for the supply of Aerial Appliances.

**2 BACKGROUND**

At the Board meeting on 4 October 2010, the Board approved the procurement of a third aerial rescue pump for Tayside Fire and Rescue (Report FB/10/30 refers). The Board approved procurement from a Tayside Fire and Rescue contract through the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) as the method of procurement.

Subsequent to the approval a review has been carried out of the Scottish Government's terms and conditions for the management of contracts. This review has necessitated revisiting the method of procurement to ensure compliance with Scottish Government terms and conditions. Two methods of procurement were considered:

Option 1 – Retender with a Scottish Government terms and conditions compliant Tayside Fire and Rescue contract through the Official Journal of the European Union.

Option 2 – Purchase from the Firebuy Framework Agreement for the supply of Aerial Appliances.

Following consideration of the above options, the following conclusions were reached:

Option 1 was discounted as the time required for the complete tender process to be concluded was considered to be excessive. This would have led to an unnecessary delay in the construction of the appliance.

Option 2 was the preferred option as this would enable Tayside Fire and Rescue to place an order immediately for a third aerial rescue pump to Tayside Fire and Rescue's specification and at the price quoted in the original tender with the supplier approved by the Board.

On 14 October 2010 the UK Government announced that Firebuy would be one of the Non-Departmental Public Bodies which would be closed and that closure would be effective from Spring 2011. Tayside Fire and Rescue has taken legal advice from lawyers specialising in public sector procurement and has been given assurances regarding the procurement of the aerial rescue pump utilising the Firebuy Framework Agreement for the supply of Aerial Appliances.

### **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The purchase price of the aerial rescue pump will remain unchanged. The cost of purchasing the appliance from the Firebuy Framework Agreement is £5,000. This fee, paid to Firebuy, contributes to the overall set up and ongoing administration costs of the Framework Agreement. This cost can be contained within the existing capital budget provision.

### **4 CONSULTATION**

The Clerk and Treasurer have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

### **5 CONCLUSION**

It is necessary to adopt an alternative method of purchasing the third aerial rescue pump to ensure compliance with relevant current procurement legislation and associated guidelines and terms and conditions.

S Hunter  
Chief Fire Officer

#### **Background Papers**

No background papers, as defined in Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

Fire and Rescue Headquarters  
DUNDEE