

**DECISION NO: PCCG-2015-066**

**OFFICE OF POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

**LEAD CHIEF OFFICER:** Nigel Stephens - Assistant Director of Resources

**TITLE:** Provision of a Vehicle Recovery Scheme

**DATE:** 12 October 2015

**TIMING:** Urgent

**PURPOSE:** Approval

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

1.1 It is recommended that the contract for the Provision of a Vehicle Recovery Scheme be extended for a six (6) month period until 31 March 2016, with the existing supplier, The AA Ltd. This is in accordance with paragraph 122 (b) of the Manual of Governance.

1.2 This extension is provided for under the terms of the original Sussex Police National Framework Agreement for the Provision of a Vehicle Recovery Scheme.

**2. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND**

2.1 Gwent Police utilise a National Framework Arrangement for the Provision of a Vehicle Recovery Scheme, with the lead force being Sussex Police. The force have utilised this framework since 1 October 2012 when a decision was made to utilise a managed service to replace an in-house provision.

2.2 The national framework procurement process was carried out by Sussex Police and awarded to one supplier for a period of four (4) years and commenced on the 1 November 2011. Gwent Police awarded a contract under the framework for a period of three (3) years.

**3. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

3.1 Since the award of the contract for a managed service provision, Gwent Police have received an excellent service from AA Ltd, dealing with all the force requirements for vehicle recovery.

3.2 Gwent Police Fleet Department are very keen to continue with a managed service for vehicle recovery. The Contracts and Procurement Department were asked to establish if a new National Framework was to be carried out by the lead force, to supersede the expiring framework.

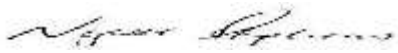

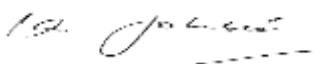
3.3 Sussex Police were contacted and have confirmed that they and Surrey Police were in the process of doing a new procurement process for a framework which they envisaged would be awarded to a supplier by 1 November 2015.

3.4 Following this confirmation, there is a requirement for Gwent Police to extend their current contract past the current expiry date to ensure that the service

	continues until the award of the new framework.
3.5	The incumbent supplier has confirmed that they are happy to continue to provide the provision for the six (6) month period and understand the reason for the force doing this. They have also confirmed that the service will continue in accordance with the existing terms and conditions, with no price increases.
4.	<b><u>NEXT STEPS</u></b>
4.1	On approval of this extension for six (6) month, an extension to contract document will be issued to the supplier who has confirmed that the existing service will be provided at the same rates and in accordance with the existing terms and conditions.
4.2	Sussex and Surrey have confirmed that the contract has been successfully awarded following the completion of the standstill period. The successful supplier being The AA Ltd, which results in a continued service for the force under the new framework.
4.3	Further to the award of the new framework, the original proposal for extension has been amended and now is required for a longer period. Due to the time taken to implement the new framework, the force will not be able to utilise the framework from the commencement date of the 1 November 2015 due to Surrey and Sussex being early adopters, which means they take priority on rolling out of the framework.
5.	<b><u>FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS</u></b>
5.1	For the six (6) month extension period, the approximate spend identified for Gwent Police is £375,870.
5.2	The six (6) month spend relates to recovery work on Police only work. Spend on this contract is extremely high due to the amount of recovery work that is carried out in the force area.
6.	<b><u>PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS</u></b>
6.1	There are no personnel considerations applicable to this extension period.
7.	<b><u>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</u></b>
7.1	The legal implications have been considered, although the extension period is outside of the original contract period set out by Gwent Police, the opportunity is still available to award a short period contract under the framework, due to its expiry date not being until the 31 October 2015. It is felt that the risk of challenge is reduced due to the impending award of the new framework scheduled for the 1 November 2015, publication of the OJEU Contract Notice for new framework by Surrey and Sussex Police.
8.	<b><u>EQUALITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS</u></b>
8.1	This report has been considered against the general duty to promote equality, as stipulated under the Single Equality Scheme and has been assessed not to discriminate against any particular group.

8.2	In preparing this report, consideration has been given to requirements of the Articles contained in the European Convention on Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998.
<b>9.</b>	<b><u>RISK</u></b>
9.1	<p>Should this extension not be granted, the force would be left with a break in the provision until the new framework has been awarded. This would create the following risks for the forces;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It would leave the force with no provision to provide assistance in vehicle related incidents where vehicle recovery is needed.</li> <li>• No provision would cause disruption for the force and the general public should a vehicle have the requirement to be recovered.</li> <li>• It could leave the force with increase cost for this period which would result from having to put an emergency procedure in place with other service providers who would inflate cost based on known the importance of the provision to the force.</li> </ul>
<b>10.</b>	<b><u>PUBLIC INTEREST</u></b>
10.1	Following approval of this report, the extension to the contract with AA Ltd will be made public to ensure scrutiny and transparency.
<b>11.</b>	<b><u>CONTACT OFFICER</u></b>
11.1	David Hatchley, Senior Procurement Officer
<b>12.</b>	<b><u>ANNEXES</u></b>
12.1	N/A

For OPCC use only

<b>Office of the Chief Constable</b> I confirm that <b>Provision of a Vehicle Recovery Scheme</b> report has been discussed and approved at a formal Chief Officers' meeting. It is now forwarded to the OPCC for <b>approval</b> .	
<b>Signature:</b> 	
<b>Date: 23 October 2015</b>	
	<b>Tick to confirm (if applicable)</b>
<b>Financial</b> The Chief Finance Officer has been consulted on this proposal.	✓
<b>OPCC (insert name)</b> The Chief Executive has reviewed the request and is satisfied that it is correct and consistent with the PCC's plans and priorities.	✓
<b>Legal</b> The legal team have been consulted on this proposal.	N/A
<b>Equalities</b> The Equalities Officer has been consulted on this proposal.	N/A
<b>Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive:</b> I have been consulted about the proposal and can confirm that financial, legal, equalities etc... advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate report to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent.	
<b>Signature:</b> 	
<b>Date: 29/10/15</b>	
<b>Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent</b> I confirm that I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct. The above request has my approval.	
<b>Signature:</b> 	
<b>Date: 29/10/15</b>	