

Forth Estuary Transport Authority

South Queensferry, 23 February 2007

Present:-

The City of Edinburgh Council – Councillors Marshall (Convener) and Grubb.

Fife Council – Councillors Cameron, Martin, McGarry and Rumney.

West Lothian Council – Councillor King.

1 Minute

The minute of the Forth Estuary Transport Authority of 1 December 2006 was approved as a correct record.

2 Budget 2007/08

The proposed base budget for 2007/08 for recurring expenditure was £5.969m and non-recurring expenditure £19.585m giving a total gross expenditure £25.554m. Income was estimated at £12.122m leading net expenditure of £13.432m.

The Treasurer and the General Manager also gave details of the Capital Plan to 2021/22 and set out the arrangements for the reserves.

Decision

- 1) To approve the 2007/08 proposed budget.
- 2) To approve the indicative long-term Capital Plan to 2021/22.
- 3) To approve the arrangements for reserves set out in the report by the Treasurer.

(Reference – report by the Treasurer 9 February 2007, submitted).

3 Waterproofing and Resurfacing of Northbound Carriageway 2007

Three tenders had been submitted on a quality and price basis for the works to waterproof and resurface the northbound carriageway.

Following the quality evaluation one of the bids failed to meet the minimum quality threshold and the priced tender was returned unopened. A cost evaluation had been carried out on the two remaining tenders and the General Manager recommended acceptance of the lowest corrected tender which also scored the highest quality mark.

Decision

To accept the tender of £3,845,833.87 by Tarmac Ltd National Contracting to carry out the waterproofing and resurfacing of the northbound carriageway in 2007.

(References – Forth Estuary Transport Authority 1 December 2006 (item 7); report by the General Manager 23 February 2007, submitted).

4 Analysis of Bridge Traffic and Revenue

The General Manager gave an analysis of the traffic and revenue for 2006 and January 2007.

Decision

To note the information.

(Reference – report by the General Manager December 2006/January 2007, submitted).

5 Forth Replacement Crossing Study – Motion by Councillor Marshall

The Convener ruled that the following item, notice of which had been given at the start of the meeting, be considered as a matter of urgency given the recent announcement by the Scottish Executive.

The General Manager gave a presentation summarising the findings of the first three reports of five prepared by the consultants for Transport Scotland in connection with the Forth Replacement Crossing Study.

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The following motion by Councillor Marshall was submitted in terms of Standing Order 31:

“The Authority welcomes the recent announcement by the Scottish Executive that it is proposed to construct a new Forth crossing. This is consistent with policy previously adopted by the Authority.

The Authority instructs the Chief Executive to report on the respective roles of the Scottish Executive, Transport Scotland, FETA and, possibly, SESTRAN in relation to the planning and procurement of a new crossing and the management and maintenance of both this new crossing and the existing bridge.”

Decision

- 1) To note the presentation by the General Manager.
- 2) To approve the motion by Councillor Marshall.

Declaration of Interests

Councillors Marshall, McGarry, Martin, Rumney and King declared a non-financial interest as members of SESTRAN.

6 Replacement of Toll Collection Equipment

The Authority resolved that, under Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of this item on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

Members were updated on the current position in relation to the contract for the electronic toll collection equipment.

Decision

To approve the recommendations by the General Manager and to authorise officers to complete negotiations for the successful conclusion of the contract.

(References – Forth Estuary Transport Authority 29 October 2004 (item 5); report by the General Manager 23 February 2007, submitted).