

**4.2 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF TWO, TWELVE SEAT BUSES**

(CF2009059:RR)

Responsible Director: Peter Aumann

***RECOMMENDATION****That Council:*

1. *Awards Patterson Cheney Pty Ltd, trading as Knox Star Mercedes, the contract for the supply and delivery of two, twelve seat buses for the sum of \$177,020.00 (inclusive of GST and Stamp Duty).*
2. *Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute the contract agreement.*

***INTRODUCTION***

This report seeks Council's acceptance of a tender for the purchase of two, twelve seat buses to support the delivery of Council's community transport programs.

***BACKGROUND***

Council has a fleet of five buses in its Community Transport pool. Four of these buses have up to 12 seats and one is a 22 seater Toyota Coaster. The buses are primarily used to transport frail aged residents participating in Council sponsored activities or community group activities. The buses are also available for hire when not required for these activities.

The Toyota Coaster and one of the twelve seat buses are scheduled for replacement in 2008/09. The twenty two seat bus is not often being used to transport more than twelve passengers, requires a driver with a light rigid truck licence and has higher operating costs than the twelve seat buses, so after consultation with the bus program managers, it was decided to replace the twenty two seat bus with a twelve seat bus. For the small number of occasions when a larger bus is required, one will be hired, or two smaller buses will be used. The hire costs will be covered by the lower operating costs of the smaller buses.

***DISCUSSION***

Public tenders were then called on 10 November 2008 for the supply of two replacement buses.

Only one tender was received from Patterson Cheney Pty Ltd, trading as Knox Star Mercedes for the sum of \$177,020, inclusive of GST and stamp duty.

The tender submission was evaluated on the following criteria.

1. Occupational Health and Safety
2. Whole of life cost
3. Availability of the tendered buses
4. Compliance with the specification
5. Locality of service and spare parts agent

The submission was evaluated by:

- Richard Scott - Co-ordinator, Fleet Services
- Robert Renshaw- Manager, Asset Services

The price analysis was based on life cycle costing. This included consideration of fuel costs, planned maintenance costs, and the disposal value after 5 years or 100,000 km of travel. The purchase price was also assessed and the price submitted by Knox Star Mercedes when compared with the Mercedes Government price schedule and is considered to provide a good result for Council.

Knox Star Mercedes tendered the Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Transfer, twelve seat mini bus, which is a diesel powered. The vehicle meets the requirements of the specification and has the following features:

- A high roof that allows passengers to stand fully upright
- A spacious luggage area at the rear of the bus that will safely accommodate six walking frames.
- Electronic Stability Program (ESP) with Anti Brake-locking System (ABS)
- Driver and front passenger air bags
- Height adjustable head restraints
- Lap sash seat belts for each passenger
- Four wheel disc brakes

This product offers passengers and drivers the latest in vehicle safety technology.

The buses are able to be delivered by June 2009.

#### ***FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS***

Funds are available from the Capital Works fleet replacement program for the purchase of these vehicles and the proposal is consistent with the Council's replacement strategy.

The buses to be replaced are to be sold at public auction as this provides the best return to Council.

#### ***IMPLEMENTATION***

Contract documents will be signed, sealed and exchanged with the successful supplier following approval of this report.

#### ***CONCLUSION***

Following the tender process, the submission from Knox Star Mercedes of Patterson Cheney Pty Ltd to supply two, Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Transfer, twelve seat mini buses are considered to be competitively priced and meet all the needs of the user groups and requirements of the specification and should be accepted.