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**Report To:** Environment & Regeneration Committee      **Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016

**Report By:** Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources      **Report No:** ERC/ENV/RG/280

**Contact Officer:** Brendan Hurrell      **Contact No:** 01475 712654

**Subject:** Collaborative Contract for Supply of Fruit and Vegetables

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## 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to request Committee approval to participate in a collaborative procurement exercise with other Councils for the Supply of Fruit and Vegetables.

## 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 North Ayrshire Council has invited Inverclyde Council and East Ayrshire Council to participate in a tender exercise leading to a contract for the supply of Fruit and Vegetables.
- 2.2 The involvement of the 3 Local Authorities brings a collaborative approach to the procurement and should activate a likelihood of economies of scale and associated cost efficiencies. This is a repeat of the current collaborative agreement with the same Councils. The current supplier is George Carruthers and Sons Limited. The current spend on this contract is £90,000 per annum. The contract is being advertised on a 2 year initial basis with two additional 1 year options.
- 2.3 The ability to access this contract will allow the Council to collaborate with other Councils and engage in knowledge sharing and contract management. North Ayrshire Council is willing to lead the tender exercise which will save on Officer time and represents a good example of joint working and the sharing of services. There are a number of capable suppliers who are able to operate and deliver services within the market. A collaborative procurement with the resultant increased profile will enhance the likelihood of suppliers tendering and getting best value.
- 2.4 Contract Standing Order 12.1 requires Committee approval for collaborative procurements that are not led by Scotland Excel or Procurement Scotland.

## 3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Committee is asked to approve the request to take part in this collaborative procurement exercise as per Contract Standing Order 12.1.

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Council takes part in a number of collaborative contracts on a national basis with all public sector bodies and with other Local Authorities via Scotland Excel. There are also opportunities to collaborate on a more local basis with Local Authorities in the West of Scotland and this contract is an example of this kind of partnership working.
- 4.2 This is a repeat of the current collaborative agreement with North Ayrshire and East Ayrshire Councils. The current spend on this contract is £90,000 per annum. The contract is being advertised on a 2 year initial basis with two additional 1 year options.

## 5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 North Ayrshire Council is willing to lead the tender exercise which will save on Officer time and represents a good example of joint working and the sharing of services. There are a number of capable suppliers who are able to operate and deliver services within the market. The proposed collaborative procurement with the resultant increased profile will enhance the likelihood of suppliers tendering and getting best value.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

### 6.1 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/(Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments

### 6.2 Legal

Legal Services have been consulted on the content of this report.

### 6.3 Human Resources

None

### 6.4 Equalities

None

### 6.5 Repopulation

None

## 7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None