

Purchase of electric cars – Award of contract approved.

8 There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability regarding the direct award of contract for the purchase of electric cars, advising that

- (1) the Council operated a fleet of approximately 1,600 vehicles and as part of its fleet life cycle, 180 Nissan Leaf electric vehicles that had been leased with financial support from Transport Scotland had reached the end of their contract period and would require to be replaced in 2025;
- (2) any new electric cars procured would require to fulfil the same transportation criteria for service delivery and required larger batteries compared to the existing fleet as this would provide greater reassurance to vehicle users and remove the requirement for constant re-charging of vehicles;
- (3) as the Council's Corporate Sustainable Procurement Strategy 2023-27 promoted the delivery of services in an innovative and efficient way, it was agreed that a direct award should be undertaken to deliver this contract as it would provide best financial value to the Council;
- (4) discussions with potential suppliers had highlighted an opportunity with Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd to procure a number of Nissan Leaf cars with the same specification of the current fleet, but with larger batteries and at a discounted rate due to the model being discontinued; and
- (5) following a benchmark exercise with suppliers, 28 vehicle options had been returned, with 12 meeting the specification requirements and Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd having returned the lowest price by a significant value.

After consideration, the committee approved the direct award of contract for the purchase of electric cars to Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd in the sum of £1,348,152.