

Scotland Excel

To: Executive Sub Committee

On: 10 February 2017

Report by Director Scotland Excel

Request for Associate Membership of Scotland Excel by Glasgow Prestwick Airport

1 Introduction

In addition to the 32 local authorities who are full members of Scotland Excel applications can be made for Associate Membership by organisations such as council arms length organisations, community groups, charities, housing associations and voluntary organisations which are a public body or a body that engages in activities of a public nature.

Organisations apply to Scotland Excel for Associate Membership to allow them to access the frameworks for goods and services which we have in place for our full members. Associates do not have the opportunity to influence the future contract delivery schedule which is reserved for the full local authority members.

2 Application

Glasgow Prestwick Airport (GPA) was purchased by the Scottish Government in November 2013 to protect jobs and safeguard a strategic infrastructure asset. The airport is of strategic and economic importance to the local area as well as the country as a whole.

GPA is deemed to be a “Non-Departmental Public Body” within the public sector landscape and is sponsored by the Scottish Government’s Transport Directorate.

Access to Scotland Excel’s contracts is requested to allow additional value to be generated for GPA, and in turn the Scottish Government, by cash-savings from contracts and reduced resource in undertaking separate procurement exercises

3 Legislative Position

Before any application is submitted to committee for consideration checks are made into the organisation including scrutiny of the Memorandum & Articles of Association, finances and the type of contracts that the organisation wishes to access. Membership commences once committee has approved the application and a Membership Agreement between Scotland Excel and the organisation is signed. The Membership Agreement protects Scotland Excel and Renfrewshire Council in the event of default by the Associate Member in any contract.

Scotland Excel monitors all requests from organisations to become associate members to ensure that all legal requirements are met. In this case GPA qualify for membership as they, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970, are a public body and the purpose of accessing Scotland Excel's services is to facilitate the discharge of those functions and activities.

4 Recommendation

It is recommended to committee that the GPA's application to join Scotland Excel as an associate member be approved, at an annual fee of £500, subject to completion and signing of the agreement document.