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TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBOURHOODS COMMITTEE MEETING ON OCTOBER 18, 2011
FROM:	CINDY HOWARD DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
SUBJECT:	TENDER 09-71 SUPPLY, FITTING, ADJUSTMENT AND REPAIR OF OPHTHALMIC SPECTACLES

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Director of Social and Community Support Services, with the concurrence of the Executive Director of Community Services and the Deputy City Treasurer, the following report **BE RECEIVED** for information:

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

Board of Control August 26, 2009.

BACKGROUND

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Community and Neighbourhoods Committee with the contract extensions for the Supply, Fitting, Adjustment and Repair of Ophthalmic Spectacles for the Discretionary Benefits program and Dearness Services.

Context

The Discretionary Benefits Program (DB) provides eligible low income Londoners and London residents receiving Social Assistance benefits with financial assistance to purchase or repair prescription eyeglasses, not covered under any other type of benefit.

Vision care for children is a mandatory benefit provided under the Ontario Works Act while vision care for adults is a discretionary benefit that may be provided to OW participants as well as low-income Londoners.

In 2009, a tender was issued for the Supply, Fitting, Adjustment and Repair of Ophthalmic Spectacles for DB as well as Dearness Services. Four (4) bids were received as a result of the tender call.

Hakim Optical along with Gregory's Optical submitted the lowest overall bids and both companies meet our terms, conditions and specifications for all areas. Contracts were issued to both companies for a two year period, ending September 30, 2011 with options to renew for a third and fourth year. We have just renewed the contracts for one year, expiring September 30, 2012. Between the two (2) vendors, the Community Services Department will continue to provide service to all beneficiaries in all quadrants of the City as well as the residents of the Dearness Home.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The programs and services provided through DB to social assistance recipients are cost shared with the Province and is scheduled to be fully uploaded to the Province by 2018. The municipal share in 2011 is 18.8% and in 2012 is 17.2%. Services provided to non-social assistance recipients are funded 100% by the City.

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The cost for vision care services is approved in the 2011 operating budget. Estimate total net cost per year to the City of London is approximately \$30,000.

There is no financial impact for the Dearness Services contract.

Acknowledgements

This report was prepared by Susan Godin, Manager, Social and Community Support Services and Chris Ginty, Procurement Officer, Purchasing and Supply.

RECOMMENDED BY:	
CINDY HOWARD, DIRECTOR SOCIAL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES	
CONCURRED BY:	CONCURRED BY:
MIKE TURNER DEPUTY CITY TREASURER	ROSS L. FAIR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

cc: Heather Colyer, Director of Care, Dearness Home
 Susan Godin, Manager, Social and Community Support Services
 John Freeman, Manager, Purchasing and Supply
 Anna Lisa Barbon, Manager, Financial and Business Services