

REPLACEMENT ROAD SWEEPING VEHICLE

Submitted by: Head of Operations – Roger Tait

Portfolio: Environment and Recycling

Ward(s) affected: All

Purpose of the Report

To seek authority to replace a road sweeping vehicle which has reached the end of its serviceable life span and which is now uneconomical to maintain, subject to approval of funding by Council.

Recommendation

That subject to Council approval of the funding the Executive Director – Operational Services is authorised to seek tenders for a replacement road sweeping vehicle and, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Recycling, accept the lowest suitable tender received.

Reasons

To enable the Council to continue to fulfil its statutory obligations in relation to street cleansing.

1. **Background**

1.1 The Streetscene Business Unit currently delivers street cleansing services to fulfil the Council's statutory obligations in relation to this function and maintain satisfactory levels of street and environmental cleanliness across the Borough.

2. **Issues**

2.1 Street Cleansing Operations are carried out using a fleet of vehicles designed to maximise efficiency and performance. The fleet includes a large road sweeping vehicle which is deployed on a year-round basis to carry out scheduled street cleaning and which is particularly intensively used for leaf clearance operations during the autumn and winter of each year. The usual life expectancy of a vehicle with this level of intensive use is between 5 – 7 years, but with prudent servicing and maintenance, the vehicle has been kept in service beyond the expected duration.

2.2 The existing road sweeping vehicle is now 10 years old and has reached the point where it is uneconomical to maintain.

3. **Options Considered**

3.1 Hire – the ongoing cost of vehicle hire is more expensive than purchase over the life of the vehicle

3.2 Purchase – This option is more economical and there will be a modest re-sale value for the vehicle at the end of its useful life

4. **Proposal**

- 4.1 That subject to Council approval of the funding the Executive Director – Operational Services is authorised to seek tenders for a replacement road sweeping vehicle and, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Recycling, accept the lowest suitable tender received.

5. **Reasons for Preferred Solution**

- 5.1 To enable the Council to continue to fulfil it's statutory of obligations in relation to street cleansing.

6. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

- 6.1 Creating a cleaner, safer and sustainable Borough.

7. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

- 7.1 The Council has a statutory obligation to provide the Street Cleansing function.

8. **Equality Impact Assessment**

- 8.1 No adverse impact has been identified in relation to this report.

9. **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 9.1 The estimated capital cost of purchasing a replacement road sweeping vehicle is £125,000. It is proposed to fund the cost of procuring the road sweeping vehicle from the approved General Fund Capital Programme.

10. **Major Risks**

- 10.1 The major risks associated with this report are as follows:

RISK	CONTROL MEASURE
Inability to deliver service and fulfil statutory obligation	Procure vehicle
Adverse financial impact	Purchase vehicle rather than ongoing hire costs
Reputational damage through inability to deliver service	Procure vehicle
accidents relating to leaf fall (slips/skids etc)	Implement leaf clearance programme
Inability to respond to incidents requiring the street cleansing function	Procure vehicle

11. **Key Decision Information**

- 11.1 The decision involves significant expenditure, affects all wards in the Borough and has been included in the forward plan.

12. **Earlier Cabinet Resolutions**

None