



REPORT TO EXECUTIVE

PORTFOLIO AREA: LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Date of Meeting: 18th April 2011

Public

Key Decision: Yes

Recorded in Forward Plan: Yes

Inside Policy Framework

Title: REPLACEMENT PAVEMENT SWEEPERS - RELEASE OF CAPITAL

Report of: The Assistant Director Local Environment

Report reference: LE 09/11

Summary:

This report seeks approval for the release of capital funding for the purchase of mechanical pavement sweeping vehicles.

Recommendations:

That the Executive approves the release of capital funds for the purchase of mechanical pavement sweeping vehicles.

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Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OPTIONS

In order to maintain and improve standards of street cleaning in Carlisle, both in the commercial area and in residential streets replacement mechanical sweepers are required. Manual methods are effective in removal of litter, however detritus accumulates to an unacceptable degree due to the time elapsed between mechanised cleansing. This issue is compounded by the use of salt mixed with gravel during winter gritting.

A comparison of the mechanisation deployed by a sample of local authorities reveals the figures below:

	HGV Sweepers	Light Road Sweepers	Pedestrian Machine	Total
Burnley Borough C	2	4	0	6
Preston City Council	2	7	0	9
Hyndeburn Borough C	4	0	6	10
Carlisle City Council	2	1	2	5

The budget resolution for 2011-12 includes a capital allocation of £100,000 for the purpose of purchasing additional pavement sweepers and the Neighbourhoods and Green Spaces team has tested the performance of a number of different machines.

It is proposed that the payback period for these machines should be 5 years at £20,000 per annum and that this, plus the maintenance costs, will be derived from savings in efficiency as a result of the machines being deployed.

Options:

1. Reject the recommendation and do not purchase the mechanical sweepers.
(This option would result in no improvement to the standards of cleanliness of Carlisle's streets.)
2. Accept the principle but allocate only a proportion of the funds.
(This option would only produce improvements if the allocated sum was sufficient to purchase and operate at least one machine.)
3. Accept the recommendation and allocate the full £100,000 of capital.

(This is sufficient for the purchase of 2 mechanical sweepers which will make an immediate improvement to the Council's performance in street cleaning)

2. CONSULTATION

2.1 Consultation to Date

- Operational Staff
- DEFRA quality standards

2.2 Consultation proposed.

- Neighbourhood Forums

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive approves the release of capital funds for the purchase of mechanical pavement sweeping vehicles.

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To enable the capital programme to be implemented.
2. To enable the City Council to improve its performance in street cleaning.

5. IMPLICATIONS

- Staffing/Resources – Positive impact. Efficiency is increased, maintenance costs on obsolete machines are decreased.
- Financial – The purchase of mechanical pavement sweeping vehicles was approved as part of the 2011/12 capital programme as an invest to save project. The report requests the release of the capital budget of £100,000 to enable the scheme to progress.

The purchase of these 2 additional cleansing vehicles will subsequently increase the total number of cleansing vehicles within the section from 5 to 7. The section was originally due to replace their existing 2 pedestrian sweepers in 2010/11. However, the purchase was delayed due to the transformation programme and a carry forward request is due to be submitted totalling £26,000 and will be subject to approval through the year-end process. The additional costs of operating and maintaining these

“new” vehicles along with the existing pedestrian sweepers will need to be contained within current budgets.

- Legal – The machinery will assist the Council in meeting its cleansing obligations.
- Corporate – Positive – Cleanliness of City improves as in Corporate Plan.
- Risk Management – Reduces reputational risk from littered streets
- Environmental – Improved by better cleaning operation
- Crime and Disorder – Improves due to streets being cleaner
- Impact on Customers – Positive – Improved environment
- Equality and Diversity – Positive – Improved environment

Impact assessments

Does the change have an impact on the following?

Equality Impact Screening	Impact Yes/No?	Is the impact positive or negative?
Does the policy/service impact on the following?		
Age	Yes	Positive
Disability	Yes	Positive
Race	No	
Gender/ Transgender	No	
Sexual Orientation	No	
Religion or belief	No	
Human Rights	No	
Health inequalities	Yes	Positive
Rurality	No	

If you consider there is either no impact or no negative impact, please give reasons:

Improved environment is for all, but older and disabled people benefit from safer streets. An improved environment has indirect health benefits.

If an equality Impact is necessary, please contact the P&P team.