

AGENDA ITEM 12

RURAL, ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

29 MAY 2013

REPORT OF HEAD OF COMMUNITIES & NEIGHBOURHOODS

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT- REQUEST TO PURCHASE

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 For Members to approve the project mandate, business case and a supplementary estimate to purchase a replacement front line ride on mower/flail unit.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That Members of the Rural, Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee approve the project Mandate (App A), Business case (App B) and recommend to the Policy, Finance & Administrative Committee a supplementary estimate of £25,000 to purchase a replacement front line ride on mower/flair unit.**

3.0 KEY ISSUES / BACKGROUND

- 3.1 During the past five seasons the Council's Environmental Maintenance Team has overall been delivering an increasingly well received service, increasing professionalism in the way the operatives carry out their duties and importantly having access to appropriate and suitable machines, plant and kit.
- 3.2 The machine currently in use is overdue for replacement and of a similar type purchased in early 2007 and has been working effectively for five seasons, however it is now the subject of an increasing number of faults and running problems typically associated with machines of this age which have been regularly and heavily used.
- 3.3 The replacement machine requested is of a similar type to that due to be taken out of service. This type of machine has been in use for a number of seasons during which time a noted improvement in the services performance has been observed and accordingly is known to be well suited to the work required in Melton making this machine an ideal and appropriate choice.
- 3.4 Officers are developing a proactive plan of replacement and renewal so that in future any replacements are planned based on up to date condition audits.

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The importance of well maintained and kept green environments is fully in line with the Council's direction towards:

Cleaner greener places, improvement in environment to support physical and mental wellbeing and to ensure a well run council.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Members are asked to approve a supplementary estimate to the Policy, Finance & Administrative Committee for £25,000 from existing Renewal and Replacement Budget within the Grounds Maintenance budget.

5.2 The replacement machine has the highly desirable capacity to work as either a flail unit or a rotary cutting unit .The cost of this machine supplied as road ready is £27,000 (we are being offered a PX payment of £2,000 for the unit that needs replacing) making a capital requirement of £25,000.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

6.1 No direct legal implications have been identified.

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 There are no direct community safety implications arising from this report.

8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 No equality impact assessment implications have been highlighted at this stage,

9.0 RISKS

Probability



Very High A				
High B				
Significant C				
Low D				
Very Low E			1	
Almost Impossible F				
	IV Neg- ligible	III Marg- inal	II Critical	I Catast- rophic

Impact



Risk No.	Description
1	The equipment is not replaced

10.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE**

10.1 There are no climate change implications arising from this report.

11.0 **CONSULTATION**

11.1 The Grounds Maintenance service is a high profile service discussed at all priority neighbourhood residents meetings.

12.0 **WARDS AFFECTED**

12.1 All wards are affected

Contact Officer: Raman Selvon

Date: 15 May 2013

Appendices A Project Mandate
 B Business Case

Background Papers: None

Reference: X: C'tees, Council & Sub-C'tees/REEA/2013-14/29-05-13/Grounds Maintenance Equipment – Request to Purchase