



DRAFT PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE

PROPOSED INDIVIDUAL DECISION BY THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ENVIRONMENT

TOPIC - STREETCARE TEAM PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT

PROCEDURAL INFORMATION

The Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 4, Section 22 of the Council's Constitution provides for a decision to be made by an individual member of Cabinet.

In accordance with the Procedure Rules, the Corporate Director (Governance), the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance are consulted together with Chairman and Vice Chairman of The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and any other relevant overview and scrutiny committee. In addition, all Members are notified.

If five or more Members from those informed so request, the Leader may require the matter to be referred to Cabinet for determination.

If you wish to make representation on this proposed Decision please contact the relevant Portfolio Holder and the following Committee Administrator by 5.00pm on Wednesday 27 March 2013.

Contact Officers:

Case Officer: Andy Hickman, 01962 848 105, ahickman@winchester.gov.uk

Committee Administrator: Nancy Graham, 01962 848 235, ngraham@winchester.gov.uk

SUMMARY

The Streetcare team need to purchase a new mobile high powered jetting machine in order to clear blockages in land drainage and sewage systems in addition to various cleaning functions that the team has to perform. This equipment is vital in order to perform statutory duties.

There is sufficient budget in the current 2012/13 revenue budget to pay for the replacement jetter. However, a formal decision is required as the funding has to be transferred to the capital programme.

PROPOSED DECISION

1. That the Head of Access and Infrastructure be authorised to incur expenditure of up to £25,000 (such expenditure to be funded by a virement from the existing 2012/13 Streetcare revenue budget) for the purchase of a jetting machine.
2. That consequential changes to the Capital Programme and General Fund Revenue Budget (as set out in the Resources section of the Decision Notice) be approved, in accordance with Financial Procedure Rule 7.4.

REASON FOR THE PROPOSED DECISION AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

The Council's Streetcare Team took on responsibility for clearing blockages when the new Environmental Services Contract began in October 2011 (prior to this date, such matters had been dealt with by Serco under the Depot Services Contract).

It would be possible to contract out clearance work to contractors, rather than purchase the equipment proposed. However, it is considered that purchase and operation by the Council would be more cost-effective, and would also ensure an efficient service is carried out, dealing with blockages as soon as required, and avoiding delays which might occur if a third party contractor was to be used.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There is sufficient uncommitted budget to cover the cost of this equipment in the Streetcare supplies and services budget for 2012/13 (as at the end of February 2013 there was expenditure of £117k against a full year budget of £242k). A budget Virement is therefore requested to be transferred to the Capital Programme to enable the purchase of the Jetter.

The Jetter is estimated to cost £25,000 and it is hoped that it will be in use for at least 7 years.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN ON THE PROPOSED DECISION

The Portfolio Holder for Environment has been consulted.

FURTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE DRAFT PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE

n/a

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY THE DECISION MAKER OR A MEMBER OR OFFICER CONSULTED

n/a

DISPENSATION GRANTED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

n/a

Approved by: (signature)

Date of Decision

Councillor Roger Huxstep – Portfolio Holder for Environment