

**CABINET MEETING - 11 MARCH 2015**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I**

**Title of Report:**

Procurement of Replacement Gritting Vehicles

**Author(s):**

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**Purpose of Report:**

To seek Cabinet approval for the procurement of 6 replacement gritting vehicles.

**Description of Decision:**

Cabinet is recommended to approve the procurement of 6 gritting vehicles to replace existing ones in use to maintain the efficiency and effectiveness of the winter gritting service as part of the planned equipment replacement programme.

**Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?**

\*Yes

**If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework**

**Suggested reason(s) for Decision:**

In accordance with the Constitution, Cabinet approval is required to the principle of letting a contract exceeding £250,000 in value.

**Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:**

To delay the replacement of this equipment would reduce operational efficiency and increase maintenance costs.

**Impacts analysed;**

Equality  Privacy  Sustainability  Crime and Disorder

Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution? Yes/No

Is it included in the 28 day Notice of Decisions? Yes/No

**Scrutiny Committee**



**REPORT OF THE DUPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**PROCUREMENT OF REPLACEMENT GRITTING VEHICLES**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek approval for the procurement of 6 replacement gritter vehicles.

**2. DESCRIPTION OF DECISION**

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to approve the procurement of 6 gritting vehicles to replace existing ones in use to maintain the efficiency and effectiveness of the winter gritting service as part of the planned equipment replacement programme.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Street scene Fleet and Transport Unit operates a planned replacement programme for gritting vehicles ensuring they are replaced, as they become uneconomic to maintain and operate. Gritting vehicles are acquired, operated and replaced on a 10 year cycle due to their higher purchase cost. Currently the Council operates a fleet of fifteen of these vehicles, all of which are used on front line operational duties and of which six are due for replacement.
- 3.2.1 Driven by the Fleet and Transport service review, the Fleet and Transport Unit evaluated the items of equipment due for replacement in 2015 /16. The cost of maintenance and repair of the Council's older gritting vehicles is increasing and reliability decreasing, due to them approaching the end of their operational life. The review has identified that 6 vehicles require replacing during 2015/ 2016.

- 3.5 There are no direct employee implications resulting from this proposal.

- 3.6 The method of financing the acquisition will be determined by the Director of Finance upon receipt of tenders.

**4. PROCEDURE**

- 4.1 The total capital purchase value of the equipment is approximately £540K and is, therefore, subject to the procurement regulations and Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) procedures.
- 4.2 The successful supplier (s) will provide the gritting vehicles in accordance with the Council's specification.

## 5. REASON FOR DECISION

- 5.1 In accordance with the Constitution, Cabinet approval is required to permit the letting of a contract exceeding £250,000 in value.

## 6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1 To delay the replacement of the gritting vehicles would result in reduced efficiency and increased maintenance costs due to the age of the vehicles. Furthermore these vehicles operate critical functions on the frontline of Responsive Local Services; not to replace this equipment will impact on the operational efficiency of the winter maintenance service.

## 7. IMPACT ANALYSIS

- 7(a) Equalities - An Equalities Impact Assessment has been considered and will be undertaken as part of the vehicle procurement process. It is anticipated this decision will not introduce any new equality issues.

- 7(b) Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) – The proposal will not introduce any new PIA issues

## 8. OTHER RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS / CONSULTATIONS

- (a) Financial Implications – The Director of Finance has been consulted on this proposal and confirms that there is provision through the capital programme to procure the equipment as part of the fleet replacement project.

## 9. LIST OF APPENDICES

None

## 10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Fleet and Transport Review working paper outlining the maintenance, operational cost and efficiencies of the proposal.

These can be obtained by contacting Colin Curtis, Assistant Head of Street scene, on (0191) 5614525 or email:  
colin.curtis@sunderland.gov.uk