

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No 9

meeting date: 19 JUNE 2018
title: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018/19 – HOOK LIFT VEHICLE REPLACEMENT SCHEME
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
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1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To seek approval from members for a new capital programme scheme request for the current financial year.
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:
- Community Objectives – none identified
 - Corporate Priorities - to continue to be a well-managed Council providing efficient services based on identified customer need.
 - Other Considerations – none identified.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Service committees manage their services within the budgets agreed at the beginning of the financial year. The budget was approved by Special Policy and Finance Committee on 6 February 2018 and by Full Council on 6 March 2018.
- 2.2 Any revenue or capital expenditure over and above what has already been approved must be agreed by this Committee.
- 2.3 Due to the timing of the last meeting of Community Services Committee and the urgency with which this vehicle is required, this request has come directly to this committee for consideration rather than as a decision item via Community Services Committee. However, as an action agreed by CMT, the issue was reported verbally to community services committee at their meeting on 22 May 2018, and is minuted as such.

3 CAPITAL SCHEME REQUEST – REPLACEMENT FOR HOOK LIFT VEHICLE PN07 VWG

- 3.1 The ground maintenance section operate a hook lift vehicle (PN07 VWG) which has in the past been considered for replacement as part of the capital programme bidding rounds.
- 3.2 Due to the inability to fund all prospective bids submitted as part of the capital programme bidding rounds, this vehicle replacement was not progressed, with a view to examining alternative ways of working in order to remove the need for the vehicle.
- 3.3 It has since been identified by the Head of Culture and Leisure Services in a report to CMT on 16 May 2018 that it is not possible to implement alternate ways of working that eliminate the need for the replacement of this vehicle.
- 3.4 The current vehicle is a bespoke vehicle and was purchased in 2007. The vehicle is used for delivering the grounds maintenance programme at the cemetery and on various other sites around the borough.

- 3.5 The approximate cost of keeping the vehicle on the road for another year is estimated at approximately £8,000, provided that no further major parts fail. Due to the age of this vehicle and the risk of further parts failing it would need to be replaced in the current financial year.
- 3.6 Should the vehicle fail, the service would need to hire a vehicle and trailer as well as look to involve the refuse service to remove waste material from the cemetery. In its current state, the vehicle is unlikely to last the current season.
- 3.7 This capital scheme request proposes that the vehicle is replaced with a like for like vehicle at an estimated cost of £50,000. This is not provided for within the existing capital programme and as such would require financing.
- 3.8 It is proposed that the vehicle cost is financed using resources from the Business Rates Growth Earmarked Reserve.

4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 In past capital programme bid reviews the replacement of this vehicle has been declined, with a view to the head of service identifying alternative working practices in order to eliminate the need for the vehicle.
- 4.2 It has now been agreed at CMT, together with the head of service, that a replacement for this vehicle is still needed.
- 4.3 This requirement has been reported to Community Services Committee verbally on 22 May 2018.
- 4.4 Approval is now sought from this committee for the financing of the vehicle replacement.

5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

- 5.1 Approve the capital scheme request of £50,000 for the hook lift vehicle replacement scheme and for this to be financed from the Business Rates Growth Earmarked Reserve.

HEAD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
PF36-18/LO/AC

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES