
REPORT TO: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

AGENDA ITEM: 12

DATE OF MEETING: 30th MAY 2002

CATEGORY:

REPORT FROM: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

OPEN

MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT: PAUL EVANS (EXTN. 5764)

DOC: s:\cent_serv\committee reports\environmental services\30 may 2002\clinical report.doc

SUBJECT: VEHICLE PROCUREMENT – CLINICAL WASTE VEHICLE

REF: PE

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

TERMS OF REFERENCE: ES07

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That Members' approve the re-fitting of an existing vehicle to collect clinical waste.

2.0 Detail

- 2.1 At its meeting on 14th February, Committee approved the procurement process for a new vehicle for the collection of infectious clinical waste and the selection of the most economically advantageous tender received.
- 2.2 The new vehicle was required due to new statutory regulations, introduced at the start of the year, whereby infectious clinical waste for incineration must be collected in rigid containers within an enclosed vehicle. The Council's existing van is not large enough to hold the number of containers required and does not have a tail lift to enable the containers to be loaded and unloaded. The non-infectious clinical waste, however, may still be collected in the existing vehicle.
- 2.3 Since the introduction of the new system, and the subsequent receipt of tenders, it has become established that the collection of the infectious waste can be completed within one working day thus questioning the economics of purchasing a new vehicle for one day's work per week.
- 2.4 The Street Cleansing fleet contains a tipper vehicle fitted with a caged body which is not now required every day of the week due to the greater availability of the Toilets Cleaning van since the closure of a number of the toilets in April 2000.
- 2.5 The vehicle could be re-fitted with a new body and a tail lift thus enabling the clinical waste collections to be undertaken as well as offering more flexibility in the cleansing functions carried out.

3.0 Financial Implications

- 3.1 £3,600 has been allowed in the budget for the annual leasing and running costs (excluding fuel) of a new vehicle.

3.2 The costs of re-fitting the existing vehicle with a new body and a tail lift could be financed via an operating lease over a four period, the remaining life expectancy of the vehicle, at an estimated cost of £1,800 per year.

4.0 Conclusions

4.1 The option of re-fitting the existing vehicle will realise an annual saving to the Council of £1,800 as well as providing greater flexibility in the Street Cleansing fleet.

4.2 It is proposed, therefore, to proceed with the above option.