

Key Decision Required:	No	In the Forward Plan:	No
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FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES PORTFOLIO HOLDER

April 2021

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR

A.1 Purchase of a Hot Wash Street Cleaner from Colchester Borough Council: Tender Exemption and Budget Virement

(Report prepared by James Ennos and Andy White)

PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To seek approval to for a £35,000 virement from the Naming and Numbering income budget to an expenditure code, as well as exemption from procurement rules to enable the purchase of a “Hot Wash” street cleaner from Colchester Borough Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY / CURRENT POSITION

Over the last year, the Street Ranger team has cleaned the town centre pavements using a steam cleaner, receiving both praise and complaints.

Colchester Borough Council is currently selling their hot wash machine. The purchase of this machine by TDC would allow less heavily fouled sections of town centre paving to be cleaned quickly reducing the impact on shoppers and shopkeepers. The steam cleaner will still be necessary for more heavily soiled areas.

Funding for purchase can be identified from other budgets.

The Leisure & Tourism Portfolio Holder has made an in principle decision to acquire the cleaner but a transfer of funds and exemption from procurement rules are also required.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that exemption from the Council’s Procurement Rules is agreed and approval is given for virement of £35,000 from the Naming & Numbering income surplus to enable the Corporate Director (Operational Services) to purchase the “Hot Wash” Street cleaner from Colchester Borough Council for a sum of £35,000.

PART 2 – IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

DELIVERING PRIORITIES

The Council’s Corporate Plan includes priorities relevant to this matter

- Public spaces to be proud of in urban and rural areas

- Joined up public services for the benefit of our residents and businesses
- Vibrant Town Centres
- Develop and attract new businesses
- Support existing businesses

FINANCE, OTHER RESOURCES AND RISK

Finance and other resources

Allocation of budget to enable the purchase of Colchester Borough Councils "Hot Wash Machine" for £35k.

The above costs can be met by the additional income achieved from the Naming and Numbering Budget in 2020/1.

Risk.

Officers have inspected the washer and agreed for some identified repairs to be completed before purchase.

LEGAL

Procurement rules set out within the Council's constitution (part 5.63 para 2.2 (a)) require that where the value of the contract or procurement is estimated to be less than £50,000 exemption may be granted by the Chief Financial Officer in consultation with the Finance and Corporate Resources Portfolio Holder.

Additionally the authority to transfer finances at this level is delegated to the Finance and Corporate Resources Portfolio Holder.

Accordingly both matters are combined into this report for consideration.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Consideration has been given to the implications of the proposed decision in respect of the following and any significant issues are set out below.

Crime and Disorder / Equality and Diversity / Health Inequalities / Area or Ward affected / Consultation/Public Engagement.

Crime and Disorder – No direct implications

Equality and Diversity – No direct implications

Health Inequalities – No direct implications

Net Zero Emissions – The machine is diesel powered as the most practical option given the heating and other energy requirements. Re use of a previously used machine is an environmentally responsible option because of the entrained carbon involved in manufacture/recycling/disposal.

Area or Ward affected – Frinton, Brightlingsea, Walton, St James, Pier, Harwich and Kingsway Wards

BACKGROUND

Over the last year, the Street Ranger team has thoroughly cleaned the town centres using

the Gladiator MP700 machine and has received a lot of praise from both the public and shop keepers, but there have also been complaints regarding cleaning pavements during the day. Avoiding daytimes with existing equipment would reduce productivity.

Due to the success of the deep clean which has been carried in all areas using the MP700, it is now possible to increase productivity by purchasing a hot wash machine. Colchester Borough Council is currently selling their hot wash machine for £35k.

The machine is around 4 years old and is understood to have cost around three times the proposed price when new. The purchase of this machine would allow sections of paving to be clean quickly allowing the shop fronts to be cleaned before 9 am, the Gladiator MP700 would be used on the areas which require a deeper clean (removal of Gum and grease)

CURRENT POSITION

The Leisure & Tourism Portfolio Holder has given approval in principle for Engineering Services to purchase a 'Hot Wash' street cleaner from Colchester Borough Council.

The Street Naming & Numbering income has surpassed the target in 2020/21 by £40,233.00 by reinvesting the additional income will enable the Street Rangers team to work more effectively improving the public realm and ensuring minimal disruption is caused to shoppers and local businesses in this already difficult period for town centres.

The Portfolio holder has made the in principle decision which is subject to a call-in period until the 27th of April 2021. It remains to agree exemption from procurement rules and to transfer funds identified for the purchase.

BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR THE DECISION

None