

FLEET REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME

Tipper Vehicles, Traffic management Vehicles & Luton Box Van



1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this document is to accompany the business case for the procurement of vehicles from the Fleet replacement programme covering Phase 2 & 3, and the Fleet Decarbonisation programme CEIF.

This procurement will see the replacement of 40 vehicles, ten that have reached end of life and 30 that have been on long term hire. Four of these vehicles have been identified as suitable for change to fully electric alternatives within this phase.

Financial provision for the replacement of vehicles was budgeted at £1,842,281 and the procurement will see Capital spend of £1,775,188 so well within the allocated budget.

Replacement vehicles will be provided with a 5year warranty and more fuel efficient than current models helping to reduce our overall carbon emissions.

2. BACKGROUND

Fleet Replacement is an ongoing plan to replace aging fleet across the service. Maintenance costs are high for aged vehicles - The majority of the Plymouth City Council (PCC) operational vehicles have an effective life of five to eight years beyond which they suffer from breakdowns and require increased reactive maintenance. This results in vehicle downtime increasing and unscheduled maintenance can impact on service delivery efficiency by increasing staff costs, adding further additional cost if expensive short-time hire is required.

Build a more sustainable fleet – Optimisation of vehicle renewal is an accepted part of effective fleet management enabling costs to be minimised and service delivery to be enhanced. The program provides an opportunity to incorporate further improvements to the fleet, including:

- Optimisation of operations to reduce the number of vehicles and therefore cut costs.
- Consistency and quality of service delivery which will improve customer satisfaction and lead to a reduction in both complaints and enquiries.
- Improvements in Health & Safety through the deployment of vehicles that support a safety-first culture.

Many of the vehicles proposed for replacement support statutory services. Domestic waste collections are provided to every resident; street cleaning and green space maintenance services are highly visible within the city. These services can be severely affected by vehicle downtime.

Reduce our carbon footprint by embracing new technologies that reduce emissions and improve air quality.

3. PROPOSED CHANGES AND REASONS

The proposal is to procure vehicles within the Fleet replacement program, award the contract for the following vehicle lots.

- 3.5t Single Cab Tipper (Single Wheel) - Quantity of seven
- 3.5t Crew Cab Tipper (Single Wheel) - Quantity of eleven

- 3.5t Tipper with Tool Pod - Quantity of eight
- 3.5t Single Cab Caged Tipper c/w Drop Side Panels, Roof & Rear Doors - Quantity of four
- 3.5t Single Cab Traffic Management Vehicle (Electric) - Quantity of two
- 3.5t Luton Box Van with Tail Lift (Electric) – Quantity of two
- 7t Crew Cab Beavertail Tipper – Quantity of six

These vehicles are required to support the Council's Street Scene and Waste department, which delivers waste collection, street, cleansing weed management, leaf fall management as well as maintaining green spaces including parks and playing fields. These services are all highly visible and touch the daily lives of every resident and visitor to the city.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Continue to operate end of life vehicles with high maintenance costs and increased downtime.

Continuing with costly hire vehicles, this option does not give best value for money.

Replace with electric or alternative fuels, this option is not currently affordable by service borrowing, four vehicles are being replaced through this decision as suitable replacements are possible.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The total capital cost included in this decision is for £1,775,188 funded by £1,574,426 of service borrowing, and a further £200,762 funded by the Climate Emergency Investment Fund.

The Fleet Replacement programme is funded by service borrowing over the asset life of the vehicles currently eight years for the vehicle types being replaced.

Four vehicles are being replaced for Electric alternatives which are funded through the Climate Emergency Investment fund

The Tender has come in on budget for the replacement of the vehicles being awarded.

Inflation and delays with awarding the tender have a financial risk to increase costs of vehicles.

6. TIMESCALES

The procurement process was undertaken using Halton Housing c/o Link Group who formed the framework though undertaking an open competition procurement exercise in compliance with all public procurement regulations to appoint suppliers to the framework.

Suppliers have been assessed on their financial, technical, insurance, experience and references environmental and health & safety procedures, business continuity plans.

The requirement was submitted electronically via the Supplying the South West Procurement Portal (DN752115) to all named suppliers on the Halton Housing Procurement of Fleet (Vehicles and Associated Assets) Framework 2024 FTS ref 2024/S 000-011167, Lot 2 - Light commercial vehicles up to 7.5t including OEM minibuses and Lot 3 - Light commercial vehicle conversions including passenger transport.

The Contract award for Vehicles needs to be in place by April 2025, this will give the manufacturers the required time to supply and build vehicles within the council's required delivery time scales.