

## TEST VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### HEAD OF SERVICE'S URGENT DECISION

Cabinet/Committee: Cabinet  
Chairman: Cllr Ian Carr  
Head of Service: Paul Wykes

#### SUBJECT

Replacement Refuse Collection Vehicle (RCV) now written off following accident

#### REASON FOR URGENCY

(After consultation with the Chief Executive)

The Environmental Service run a fleet of 13 Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCV's) for the collection of domestic waste and dry mixed recyclables Towards the end of July one of the RCV's was involved in a road traffic accident. As a result of this accident the vehicle was damaged beyond repair. The insurance company wrote off the vehicle and a settlement value has now been agreed. The waste and recycling service has limited options in terms a spare capacity to cover the front line rounds and had no alternative but to hire in a replacement vehicle. The replacement vehicle costs the service £850 per week and has been on hire since early August. Hire costs are not recoverable via the insurance company.

The Environmental Service needs to replace the written off vehicle. Consideration was given to procuring a second hand replacement. However, after an extensive search only one was available for sale in the UK that met our specification (except for colour). Unfortunately, the vendor was a rental company that had gone into receivership. Experience shows that vehicles from rental companies are not worth the risk due to the life they have experienced.

Since the introduction of the Alternate Bin Collection system (ABC) a fund has been set aside for the replacement of the RCV fleet. However, there is not currently any delegated authority to spend any of this fund. In addition to this, the lead time, from the point of order, for a new RCV is 12 to 14 weeks. The earlier the order is placed the less the Council has to spend on hiring in a replacement vehicle.

The Council are in the process of entering into a framework agreement for the replacement of vehicles and plant with the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO). ESPO have now provided a replacement cost for an identical vehicle.

All they need to proceed is an order from the Council.

The vehicle reserve currently stands at £800,000. The Council have agreed a settlement figure for the written off vehicle of £49,500 (the vehicle was 4 ½ years old) and the cost of a new vehicle is £136,209.

**DECISION**

That the Head of Environmental Services be authorised to purchase a replacement Refuse Collection Vehicle through the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) at a capital cost of £136,209 using the vehicle reserve fund.

Head of Finance's Signature ..... *W. Fullbrook* ..... Date: *29/9/10*

Head of L & D's Signature ..... *S. Nay* ..... Date: *29.9.10*

CE/Corporate Director's Signature: ..... *ag Jensen* ..... Date: *29/9/10*

Chairman's/Vice-Chairman's  
(Overview & Scrutiny Committee)  
Signature: ..... *T. R. Shaw* ..... Date: *29/9/10*

~~Chairman's/Vice-Chairman's of Cabinet/Committee~~ <sup>Set</sup> ..... *J. Allan* ..... Date: *29/9/10*

Head of Service's  
Signature: ..... *R. Wye* ..... Date: *29/9/10*

Reported to Committee on ..... *27/10/10* ..... Date: .....

**DISTRIBUTION**

- 1. Chief Executive
- 2. Corporate Director (AF)
- 3. Corporate Director (CM)
- 4. Head of Legal and Democratic Services
- 5. Head of Administration (original for report to Committee)

**BACKGROUND PAPER:** None