

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE - 14TH NOVEMBER 2001

REPLACEMENT/ADDITION OF CEMETERY MACHINERY

Report by the Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to lease various types of equipment used to deliver the service of the Cemeteries Business Unit.

2. BACKGROUND/CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 The cemeteries business unit requires to replace grounds maintenance and excavation machinery.
- 2.2 There are at present 5 ride-on mowers with grass collection boxes operating within the unit these were previously purchased by this section. These machines have been in operation for 4 years and are now proving uneconomical to repair.
- 2.3 The Business Unit also had 2 Smalley excavators operating within the service. These excavators have been predominantly operating at Grassyards Road cemetery and Riccarton cemetery. Both excavators were purchased approximately 10 years ago, 1 excavator is still operational, whilst the other is now totally beyond repair and is being used for spare parts. It is also envisaged that the remaining excavator has a limited life span and is also becoming uneconomical to repair.
- 2.4 Operation requirements have now been reviewed and it is proposed that the following equipment is required to ensure that the service is delivered to the specification set out in the Service Level Agreement covering cemeteries;
- (I) 3 mini excavators
 - (II) 1 stone breaker attachment
 - (iii) 6 ride-on grass mowers with collection box facilities

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The capital costs involved in the purchase of this machinery and equipment is:-
- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| 6 Ride-on Mowers | £18,000 |
| 3 mini excavators | £48,000 |
| 1 stone breaking attachment | £3,000 |
- 3.2 All lease costs for the replacement, additional machinery will be met from existing budgets.

3. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Nil

4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 The replacement of the above machinery is essential in ensuring the timeous interment of the dead. It will also ensure the continuous delivery of the grounds maintenance specification for cemeteries.

4.2 The new equipment will also provide a safer working environment for employees and the public.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 It is recommended that the committee:

- (i) Approve the acquisition of replacement machinery as described in the report;
- (ii) Instruct the Director of Finance to set up the appropriate leasing arrangements; and
- (iii) Otherwise note this report.

William Stafford
Director of Community Services

WS/BM/RNR
22nd October 2001

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS NIL

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AGENDA