

# Portfolio Holder decision record sheet

<b>Name of decision maker:</b>	Councillor Robin Bromham
<b>Portfolio:</b>	Neighbourhood Operations
<b>Date of Portfolio Holder decision:</b>	11/04/2024

<b>Title of decision:</b>	Purchase of Small Cess Pool Tanker
<b>Part II:</b>	
<b>Part II reason:</b>	

**Background to report:**

The Council provides a commercial cesspool collection service in and around the Borough of Dacorum. The collections from cesspools require a suitably adapted collection vehicle (tanker) to clear the tanks.

The Council requires a smaller sized tanker, due to the terrain of where these properties are built, these are mainly in rural areas as they are unable to be connected into the disposal network of sewers.

The delivery time or 'lead time' for all commercial vehicles is long at present owing to a combination of a backlog of orders built up during the pandemic, general supply chain problems and a particular issue with the supply of microchips. Specialist vehicles lead times are now in excess of 12 months.

The Waste Services team has been able to locate a new tanker which is available for delivery, and that would replace the current vehicle (T628) being used and no longer is fit for purpose.

**Decision made and reasons:**

**Decision**

1. To retrospectively set aside the Council's Procurement Standing Orders and award a direct contract to purchase the new Cesspool Tanker.

**Reason**

2. The Council have the opportunity to purchase a vehicle with a very short lead time but need to place the order urgently to secure the vehicle.

The vehicle would replace an existing vehicle that has started to have regular breakdowns and is causing the Service issues when trying to deliver the Cesspool Service to fee paying customers.

The Strategic Director and Head of Service for the Cesspool Service both support the procurement of this replacement vehicle.

**Reports considered:**

Commercial Board (CB) - Purchase of Small Cess Pool Tanker 06/03/2024

**Officers/Councillors/Ward Councillors/Stakeholders consulted:**

John Mootealoo, Head of Environmental Services  
Graham Patterson, Operations Manager

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Ben Hosier, Head of Commercial Development  
Clare Dempsey, Financial Planning and Analysis Manager

**Deputy Monitoring Officer comments:**

Section 1 Clause 20 allows the Council's Commissioning and Procurement Standing Orders to be suspended by the relevant Portfolio Holder if special circumstances are deemed to exist. The special circumstances justifying why a full procurement process was not required in this case are set out in the body of the report.

**Chief Financial Officer comments:**

The purchase of this vehicle will be financed through the existing approved fleet capital programme and will reduce the need to lease a vehicle. The cesspool service is currently under review and this vehicle will allow the served to be maintained whilst the service review is undertaken and longer term planning is concluded.

**Financial Implications:** The purchase of this vehicle will reduce the level of revenue expenditure the Service is incurring through leasing a vehicle

**Risk:** A purchase order needs to be placed prior to obtaining authority to award this contract to secure this vehicle

**Value for money:** The vehicle is available on a very short lead time, which will provide the Council with value for money

**Options considered and reasons for rejection:**

**Portfolio Holder's signature:**



**Date:** 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Details of any interests declared, and any dispensations given by the Standards Committee:**

**For Member Support Officer use only**

Date decision record sheet received from portfolio holder: 10/04/2024

Date decision published: 11/04/2024

Decision no: PH-011-24

Date of expiry of call-in period: 18/04/2024

Date any call-in received or decision implemented: