

**Report To: Policy & Resources Committee**

**Date: 20 September 2011**

**Report By: Corporate Director Regeneration and  
Environment**

**Report No: SSC/ENV/IM/11.93**

**Contact Officer: Ian Moffat**

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**Subject: Winter Maintenance Resilience – Funding for additional equipment**

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## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval for additional funding for winter maintenance equipment to improve the Council's winter maintenance resilience.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 A meeting of the CRMT was held on 16 August 2011 to review of the plans and resources that were in place to deal with winter maintenance readiness.
- 2.2 It was identified during this meeting that there were areas of the Council's assets that were not well served by mechanical assistance for snow clearing and gritting of priority public footways.
- 2.3 The report provides details of equipment and associated estimated costs for providing the equipment that would assist in improving the Council's resilience to adverse weather conditions during the winter maintenance period.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That the Committee consider the report and agree that the equipment as detailed in paragraph 4.5 be funded from the remaining "free" balance in the general fund reserves.
- 3.2 That the Committee note that in the first instance the equipment will be utilised to treat footway priority areas as identified within the Winter Service, Policy, Procedures and Resources Document. The cost of such work will be included within the Council's Winter Maintenance Budget and that any other requests to provide assistance out with these areas will be dependent on available resources and will be done on a rechargeable basis by Environmental and Commercial Services.
- 3.3 That it be remitted to the Head of Environmental and Commercial Services to prioritise the use of the equipment and labour during severe winter weather.

**Ian Moffat**  
**Head of Environmental and Commercial Services**

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A meeting of the CRMT was held on 16 August 2011 to review of the plans and resources that were in place to deal with winter maintenance readiness.
- 4.2 During this review it was identified that a number of Council assets were not adequately resourced to deal with adverse winter weather particularly the clearance of snow and ice. In particular there was a shortage of mechanical assistance for the clearing of priority footways.
- 4.3 It was requested that a report was brought forward to the Policy & Resources Committee detailing equipment that would be appropriate for this task and the associated costs of procuring.
- 4.4 As part of the fleet replacement programme there are a number of items of equipment that had been procured which are capable of being used, with the addition of specific attachments, to assist with snow clearing and gritting.  
In addition it is also recommended that resilience can be enhanced by the procurement of 5 No. Footway Snow Blowers.
- 4.5 The following chart details the equipment recommended for this task and the estimated costs associated with the specific equipment being requested.

Item	Fitting	Quantity	Price per Unit	Est. Cost
Scag Mowers	Footway Plough	10	£1,100.00	£11,000.00
Mini Tractor	Footway Plough	1	£1,300.00	£ 1,300.00
	Footway Gritter	1	£1,800.00	£ 1,800.00
	Cab Assembly	1	£4,000.00	£ 4,000.00
Mid Tractors	Plough	4	£2,000.00	£ 8,000.00
Footway Snow Blowers		5	£1,200.00	£ 6,000.00
			Total Estimate	£32,100.00

- 4.6 Procurement and delivery of the ploughs for the Scag Mowers and the Mid Tractors will be around 4 weeks from approval and the fitments etc for the Mini Tractor and the procurement of Footway Snow Blowers will be in the order of 6 – 8 weeks.

## 5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 That the Committee approve funding from the remaining “free” balance in the general fund reserves. that will allow the procurement of the equipment as detailed in 4.5 above.

## 6.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 As a result of the CRMT meeting on 16 August 2011 it was identified that there was a need for additional mechanical assistance to assist with snow clearing and gritting within the Council's estate.
- 6.2 This report provides details of how, with additional funding, existing mechanical equipment can be converted to address this need as well as the provision of footway snow blowers.
- 6.3 The resources required to operate the above equipment will be provided by Environmental and Commercial Services on a rechargeable basis.

## 7.0 IMPLICATIONS

### 7.1 Financial:

This investment would be a one-off cost; however there would be additional annual maintenance costs to maintain the equipment serviceable.

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
General Fund Reserves		2011/12	£32,100		Subject to P&R Approval
E&CS	Fleet Maintenance	Recurring	£1,560	Extra Winter maintenance budget allocated February 2011	Contain within extra Winter Maintenance resources agreed as part of 2011/13 budget

7.2 Legal: Improving the Council's winter maintenance resilience may reduce potential litigation in terms of its responsibility to staff, pupils and the general public using the Council's facilities during the winter maintenance period.

7.3 Human Resources: There are no Human resources implications