

Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	Alan Cavill, Director of Place
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Highways and Environmental Services
Date of Meeting :	20 February 2017

VEHICLE REPLACEMENT FOR BEACH PATROL - VISITOR SERVICES

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider the replacement purchase of the Beach Patrol Land Rover in order to support the delivery of Visitor Services.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To approve the replacement purchase of a new Beach Patrol Landover for Visitor Services funded through Prudential Borrowing.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To assist in ensuring the effective delivery of a Beach Patrol Service.

Prudential Borrowing represents the most cost effective way to purchase a required replacement vehicle.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

Outright purchase and lease options purchase have been considered however Prudential Borrowing is considered the most cost-effective method of purchase.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is: “The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Beach Patrol’s main purpose is to minimise or prevent incidents either occurring or escalating on the beach promenade or in the sea. This service is provided for both Residents and Visitors alike.

5.2 The Beach Patrol Land Rover is fast approaching its cost effective/reliable replacement date of 1st April 2017.

5.3 The continuity of this emergency vehicle is pivotal to safeguarding Blackpool’s coastline. In 2016 the Beach Patrol attended 350 serious incidents involving over 5,000 members of the public. The Beach Patrol successfully reunited 131 lost children / vulnerable adults who had been found in distress on the beach and promenade, safely back with their carers.

5.4 Finance

5.5 From a financial perspective, the recommendations are to replace the Beach Patrol Land Rover again over a three year cycle through the Prudential Borrowing scheme. This will ensure emergency reliability, a 3 year warranty (no expensive repairs) and reflect a strong corporate image.

5.6 The Beach Patrol vehicle has been recognised as having an economical working life of three years after which reliability and maintenance costs become prohibitive to providing a consistent and cost efficient service.

5.7 This vehicle purchase needs to be expedited, as production lead times for required specialist bespoke equipment preparation will take a minimum of three months.

5.8 The current residual value of the Beach Patrol Land Rover stands at approximately £21,000 if part exchanged with a new Land Rover (November valuation – Land Rover dealership as a cost appraisal part exchange)

5.9 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.10 List of Appendices:

None

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 Land Rover 110 Defender at £18,676 over three years (net of part exchange), with annual repayments of £7,124, which is accounted for within the revenue budget.

9.2 Full details are set out in paragraphs 5.4 to 5.8 of the Background Information

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Failure to replace the Beach Patrol Vehicle will leave the Council vulnerable to loss of reputation as safe family resort, Negative media coverage and potentially risks from lack of beach patrol cover.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? No

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process?

No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed:

Date approved:

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 Date of Decision:

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 Date Decision published:

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1