

Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	Alan Cavill, Director of Communications and Regeneration
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism and Place)
Date of Decision:	20 January 2020

BEACH PATROL VEHICLE REPLACEMENT

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 Land Rover 110 Defender for Tourism and Communications funded through Prudential Borrowing over a three year cycle on the costings outlined in paragraphs 9.1 to 9.4.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To assist in ensuring the effective delivery of a Beach Patrol Service. The use of Prudential Borrowing has been identified as the most cost-effective method of purchase. The replacement of the vehicle at this point ensures emergency reliability and provides a warranty which gives assurance as regards reliability and maintenance costs.

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.

5.2 The existing Beach Patrol Land Rover is fast approaching its cost effective/reliable replacement date of 1st April 2020.

5.3 The continuity of this emergency vehicle is pivotal to safeguarding Blackpool’s coastline. During 2018 the Beach Patrol Service attended 308 serious incidents involving 4046 members of the public. The Beach Patrol service successfully reunited 104 lost children/vulnerable adults who had been found in distress on the beach and promenade, safely back with their carers.

5.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.5 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 The recommendation is to replace the Beach Patrol Land Rover over a three year cycle through the Prudential Borrowing scheme. This will ensure emergency reliability, a three year warranty (meaning no expensive repairs) and reflects a strong corporate image.

- 9.2 The residual value of the current Beach Patrol Land Rover stands at approximately £24,000 if part exchanged with a new Land Rover (November 2019 valuation – Land Rover dealership as a cost appraisal part exchange)
- 9.3 The purchase of the new Land Rover 110 Defender at a cost of £25,275 will be spread over three years (net of part exchange), with annual repayments of £8,425 plus interest, which is accounted for within the revenue budget.
- 9.4 The Beach Patrol Land Rover is 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.
- 9.5 The vehicle purchase needs to be expedited, as production lead times for required specialist bespoke equipment preparation will take a minimum of three months.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

- 10.1 Failure to replace the Beach Patrol Vehicle could leave the Council vulnerable in relation to:
- 10.2 Potential legal implications in the event of loss of life in the area covered by Beach Patrol
 - Negative media coverage
 - Reputational damage to the resort

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?

N/A

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