

WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL STREET CLEANSING AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To consider the request by Warwick District Council that the Town Council contributes to the cost of certain items within the Street Cleansing and Grounds Maintenance Services contracts from the next financial year 2021.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Warwick District Council is in the process of tendering for its new street cleansing and grounds maintenance contracts which are due to commence on 1st April 2021. Initial tender submissions have been received which, in the context of the unprecedented pressures on the Council's finances, have required the Council to consider what services they are able to provide.

2.2 The District Council has therefore undertaken a post tender examination of the following services:

Town Centre Barrow Operatives – providing continual street cleansing and litter bin emptying throughout the day, 7 days a week, in all Town Centre areas.

Fixed raised planters located in Town Centre areas and entrances to towns - Spring and Summer bedding displays which includes ground preparation, planting, dead heading and weeding, removal of plants and general maintenance of the beds.

Watering of Town Council hanging baskets, planters and tubs throughout the summer period.

2.3 The District Council states that it is in a position where the continued provision of these services is unaffordable without funding support from the Town Council.

The Town Council is therefore asked to consider funding contributions as follows:

Type of provision	Anticipated annual cost of provision	Town Council requested annual contribution
Warwick Town Centre Barrow Operative	£40,000	£20,000

Fixed raised planters in Warwick town centre and entrances to town	£ 1,384	£ 1,384
Watering of WTC hanging baskets, planters and tubs	£4,060	£4,060
TOTAL	£45,444	£45,444

2.4 – Barrow Operatives tasks: This is a generic job spec not specific to the Town Centre.

- i. Removing Litter, debris and detritus. (Detritus cleared by the road sweeper)
- ii. Removal of dead animals. (Contract services come out when reported)
- iii. Removal of Graffiti and/or fly posting. (Contract services come out when reported)
- iv. Removal of vertical litter from lamp posts and street furniture (e.g. string, cable ties, etc.). (Custodians have carried out this task)
- v. Removal of weeds. (Not completed, see separate photos)
- vi. Emptying Litter Bins (in the middle of the day) Rangers in Parks do empty bins during the day.
- vii. Removal of any drug related Litter (including clinical sharps) (Contract services to be called)
- viii. Any other cleansing related work at the request of the Contract Administrator.

2.5 Facts:

Without the Barrow Operatives:

WDC will visit Warwick Town Centre each morning to empty all litterbins and sweep the streets using both mechanical sweepers and manual sweeping methods. The contractor is required to carryout the cleanse to Grade A standards as described by the Code of Practise on Litter and Refuse under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Fixed raised planters:

There are 17 raised planters in Warwick Town Centre and the entrances to the town. They have calculated this cost based on the initial tendered costs they have received as part of the procurement of the new Grounds Maintenance contract.

Watering of Town Council Hanging Baskets, planters and tubs.

There are 120 hanging baskets, 29 planters and 7 tubs provided by Warwick Town Council which WDC water throughout the summer. They have calculated this cost based on the initial tendered costs they have received as part of the procurement of the new Grounds Maintenance contract.

2.6 Recommendations:

Barrow Operatives:

We remove this service and monitor result. With a view to providing this service in future ourselves if it is needed. This is not a service we could financially support at present.

Watering of Town Council Hanging Baskets, planters, and tubs:

For us to provide this service it would be too costly.

We currently pay £607. This is for the additional baskets over the 129. This has been negotiated.

It would be good value to pay for the proposed £4,060 by increasing the precept.

The costs of baskets will increase in 2021. This will be discussed at C & C

Watering costs would be £12K approx. if we did it ourselves.

Fixed raised planters

This is an area we could take on extending Barn Close Nurseries contract to include:

We can investigate sponsorship from local business and or increase the precept to cover this cost of £1,384.