

Bath & North East Somerset Council

DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Charles Gerrish, Cabinet Member for Service Delivery Cllr Malcolm Hanney, Cabinet Member for Resources	
DECISION DATE:	On or after 11 th September 2010	PAPER NUMBER 1
TITLE:	Service Delivery Capital funding approvals - Haycombe Cemetery Extension and Mobile technology for environmental enforcement	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE: E 2158
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: None		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 Applications have been made for capital funding to support the following projects:

- The extension of Haycombe Cemetery into adjoining Council owned land
- The provisional of new mobile technology to support environmental enforcement

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet members are asked to agree the following:

2.1 Capital funding of £200k for the extension of Haycombe Cemetery.

2.2 Capital funding of £35k for new mobile technology to support environmental enforcement.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Extension of Haycombe Cemetery:

This project will incur a borrowing cost of £9k per year that will be off-set by the extra income that will be generated by the new extension.

3.2 New mobile technology to support environmental enforcement:

This project will incur a borrowing cost of £13k per year until 2013/14 that will be off-set by income generated from the service of fixed penalty notices for littering and dog fouling offences.

4 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

4.1 This decision supports the corporate priority of improving the public realm.

5 THE REPORT

5.1 Extension of Haycombe Cemetery:

The extension into one of the fields that was purchased when the Cemetery was opened in 1937, is necessary to ensure that the Council can continue to provide burial spaces for residents of Bath and North East Somerset. In particular, there is an urgent need to make provision for Roman Catholic burials as this section of the Cemetery is now almost full and there are no other open Roman Catholic burial sites in B&NES.

5.2 New mobile technology to support environmental enforcement:

The Council has already stated its holistic strategy on reducing the amount of litter that is deposited by the public; a fit for purpose operational service for clearing litter, an appropriate level of awareness among residents and communities about the need for the responsible disposal of litter and an appropriate enforcement strategy to ensure compliance.

The Council has recently embarked upon the second strand of this strategy with the launch of the 'Bin it!' campaign and will soon follow this up with appropriate enforcement. The mobile technology will enable Enforcement Officers to issue fixed penalty notices at the time of witnessing offences, thus reducing administration time. In addition the technology will be used by Dog Warden Officers who issue fixed penalty notices for dog fouling offences.

Both business cases have been presented to the Council's Project Initiation Development Group and have been approved for Cabinet Member decision.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 The report author and Cabinet members have fully reviewed the risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

7 EQUALITIES

7.1 Equalities impact assessment has been carried out and no negative impacts have been identified.

8 RATIONALE

8.1 Extension of Haycombe Cemetery:

This project is crucial to preserving burial spaces for the future and ensuring that the Council can continue to provide a local choice for residents of Bath and North East Somerset.

8.2 New mobile technology to support environmental enforcement:

This investment is necessary to ensure that enforcement with respect to environmental offences, such as litter and dog fouling, is effective and robust.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 Consideration was given to delaying the extension to Haycombe Cemetery however in view of the critical need for burial spaces this was not deemed possible.

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 The following will be consulted regarding this proposal: *Staff; Other B&NES Services; Section 151 Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer*

10.2 Consultation has already taken place with the Council's Project Initiation Development Group and by circulation of this report.

11 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

11.1 Issues that have been considered in reaching this decision include: *Customer Focus; Property; Other Legal Considerations.*

12 ADVICE SOUGHT

12.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Council Solicitor) will have had the opportunity to input to this report prior to it being cleared for publication. The Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director- Finance) has already been consulted via the Project Development Group.

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Background papers	<i>None</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	