



BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE CABINET

WEDNESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2023, AT 6.00 P.M.

PARKSIDE SUITE - PARKSIDE

SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTATION 3

The attached papers were tabled at the meeting.

4. **Governance Systems Task Group Report** (Pages 3 - 4)
6. **Grass Verge Maintenance** (Pages 5 - 6)

S. Hanley
Acting Chief Executive

Parkside
Market Street
BROMSGROVE
Worcestershire
B61 8DA

13th September 2023

This page is intentionally left blank

Overview and Scrutiny Board Meeting 11th September 2023
Recommendation on the subject of the Governance Systems Task Group's
report

Recommendation

Bromsgrove District Council should have a hybrid Leader and Cabinet governance model from May 2024 onwards. To achieve this model, the Council should do the following:

- a) Agree changes to the Council's constitution during the 2023/24 municipal year, as detailed in the report.
- b) Introduce working protocols designed to embed more collegiate working in the Council's governance culture.
- c) Introduce Cabinet Advisory Panels.
- d) Take action to improve communication with Members.
- e) Introduce a Memorandum of Understanding between all political group leaders to maintain these working arrangements for at least the next four years.

Financial Implications for recommendations:

There will be a need to employ another full time equivalent Democratic Services Officer to facilitate the additional workload involved in the hybrid Leader and Cabinet model of governance. This officer would be employed on a Grade 7 at a cost of £40k (plus on costs).

The changes to the constitution required for a hybrid Leader and Cabinet structure can be delivered as part of ongoing updates to the constitution which have already been incorporated into the budget framework.

Legal Implications for recommendations:

Review and revision of the Constitution is governed by Article 15 of the Constitution.

Resource Implications:

There will be a need for the Constitution Review Working Group to consider changes to the constitution and the content of proposed working protocols at meetings held throughout the 2023/24 the year. This won't require any additional resources to be allocated to the review of the constitution.

The introduction of Cabinet Advisory Panels will result in an increase in workload for the Democratic Services team and therefore an additional Democratic Services Officer will need to be recruited.

This page is intentionally left blank

Cabinet Report

13 September 2023

Report title: Grass Verge Maintenance - ADDENDUM

This document is presented as an addendum to the previously circulated report on Grass Verge Maintenance for consideration by Cabinet on 13 September 2023.

In light of the scale of funding required to support this proposal, it has been identified that there is potential to reduce the Capital Funding requirement in the 2023/24 financial year, by deferring a final decision on the purchase of the second flail mower until the end of the 2024/25 grass cutting season. This could also be supported by a review at the end of the 2024/25 grass cutting season to support a decision on the additional investment at this point.

If this amendment is supported, the Financial Implications from the original report would be amended to reflect the following:

Capital Investment Required		
2023/24	Flail Deck Mower	£30,000
	Three Brush Cutter Strimmers	£2,100
2024/25	Flail Deck Mower	£30,000
2025/26	The Capital Funding for 2023/24 and 2024/25 would support a reduction in the existing mowing fleet of two rotary mowers at an estimated saving of £34,000 on the Capital replacement budget over the following three years for existing rotary mowers. The Capital Replacement budget will be updated to support the replacement costs of the new specification of mower as part of the fleet replacement programme.	-£34,000.00
2026/27		
2027/28		

This would not change the overall Capital Investment required, and the report is still provisionally seeking £62,100 additional Capital investment, but is now spreading that over two financial years.

The final decision to use the Capital Investment suggested for the 2024/25 financial year would be subject to consultation with the Portfolio Holder, Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services, and the Section 151 Officer, and linked to successful implementation of the proposed naturalised verge maintenance during the 2024 grass growing season.

This page is intentionally left blank