
Report To:	Finance & Staffing Committee	Date:	24 February 2025
Contact Officer:	Paula Harrison		
Subject:	Roadside Sweeper/Weed Control		

1. Request for Quotation

- 1.1 In response to this Committee, the Parish Manager has uploaded a request for quotations on the national enquiry database portal – Contract Finder. To date, only one company has responded. The quotation letter is attached as **Appendix A**.
- 1.2 It is anticipated that Swindon Borough Council will cover the cost of the main arterial routes however this is not confirmed.
- 1.3 It is likely that West Swindon would benefit from two roadside sweeps at both ends of the growing season e.g. April and October. The Parish Council could time an end of season sweep to coincide with heavy leaf fall in the Autumn. It should be noted that the Contractor is basing the costs on an estimated 10 days work and the end result may be more or fewer days are required. It is difficult to predict for the first sweep but should become more routine thereafter.
- 1.4 The Contracts Finder invitation included quotes for pavement sweeping. Feedback has been that this is not a service that external companies are interested in providing due to high costs and challenges with maintenance. The Parish Council could consider the acquisition of its own pavement sweeper at a future date.

2. Financial and Policy Considerations

- 2.1 The Parish Council is taking on Swindon Borough Council responsibilities by embarking on the delivery of roadside and/or pavement sweeping. It is unlikely that once a Parish has begun a programme of sweeping that it will then be resumed by the Borough Council at a future date.
- 2.2 The costs consideration should be for two sweeps. The budget for Machine Hire 2025/26 was increased to £25,500 in order to accommodate this new initiative.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 That this Committee authorises the commissioning of HGV road sweeping as per Appendix A for one round in the first instance with a report summarising the impact being considered by this Committee before a second round later in the year.
- 3.2 That this Committee allows for the commissioning of the arterial roads in the event that Swindon Borough Council does not progress or fund this itself.