



## **New 7.5 Tonne Narrow Access Vehicle Business Case**

### **Purpose of report**

In Tewksbury there are around 58 roads and up to a total of 600 properties with narrow lanes. In the current Ubico operation there is no small, narrow access vehicle in the fleet to enable collections to be carried out in line with revised risk assessments for operational practices and national health and safety guidance when collecting from narrow lanes, particularly in rural areas, and this report recommends that a 7.5 tonne vehicle be provided.

The proposed 7.5 tonne RCV is small enough to enable it to be turned around in the majority of these locations therefore the majority of reverse manoeuvres will not be needed.

### **Options**

There are five options considered in this report:

1. Continue with current practice, accepting the risks identified
2. Resource the proposed new vehicle and full time crew.
3. Resource second-hand vehicle and full time crew.
4. Resource second-hand vehicle and part time crew.
5. Purchase the proposed new vehicle and part time crew.

### **Financial implications**

Initial modelling of the proposed collection round has shown that it can be achieved within three working days. Given the current state of the driver market, it is recommended that a full-time driver's position be advertised to attract the right quality of operative required to service these difficult narrow roads.

In order to achieve best economic practice of this appointment it is suggested that the crews remaining two days of the week be utilised on a combination of clinical waste collection, bulky waste collection and bin deliveries. This could be performed using the spare 7.5 tonne bulky waste vehicle currently being purchased and would therefore not result in any further vehicle expenditure. This would not only go a long way to help solve the current waiting period experienced with these services but would also have the potential to create additional income for the Council through increased bulky waste bookings.

The food waste collection service is to be achieved using 4 x 7.5 tonne refuse collection vehicles (RCV's). The vehicle proposed would be identical in type and manufacture and would therefore be available for the two days a week. When not needed in Tewkesbury, the vehicle could be available for use in other Ubico contracts which would achieve an income from hiring to other operations.

Chosen suppliers have confirmed the vehicle could be supplied at the same time as the four food waste vehicles.

Alternatively Ubico's Fleet Manager suggests that there is an active second-hand market for 7.5 tonne vehicles, the financial model allows for either.

### **Risks**

Ubico has been actively managing risk through all appropriate control measures needed to eliminate or reduce the risks so far as is reasonably practicable with the existing fleet of vehicles. These measures include the review of all risk assessments, review of training methods, improvements to staff monitoring and supervision and the retraining of all staff. Nevertheless, given that a new fleet of vehicles is being procured, if an incident or accident were to occur, this could bring severe criticism and potential legal action if the issue of vehicle suitability had not been adequately addressed as recommended by this report.

Increased development growth will add more pressure to bulky waste collection service and bin delivery. Continued delayed delivery times could cause reputational damage.

## Costs

<b>Options</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Description</b>	Continue with current practice	Purchase new vehicle with full time driver and loader	Purchase second-hand vehicle with full time driver and loader	Purchase second-hand vehicle with part time driver and loader	Purchase new vehicle with part time driver and loader
<b>Vehicle procurement (Capital cost)</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£68,000</b>	<b>£35,000</b>	<b>£35,000</b>	<b>£68,000</b>
<b>Staff costs</b>	£0.00	£41,990	£41,990	£25,194	£25,194
<b>Transport costs</b>	£0.00	£19,402	£19,402	£16,102	£16,102
<b>Business support costs</b>	Incl.	Incl.	Incl.	Incl.	Incl.
<b>TOTAL (Revenue cost)</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£61,392</b>	<b>£61,392</b>	<b>£41,296</b>	<b>£41,296</b>

Note:

Cross hiring of the vehicle to other Ubico contracts on the two days a week when not in use has the potential to deliver an annual income of approximately £15,000.