

Meeting:	Full Council
Date:	23 rd September 2025
Report Title:	Vehicle Replacement
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Officers Recommendations

1. To note the fault history of BJ62 NLC and options to replace in the likelihood it fails its MOT on the 22nd September 2025.
2. To proceed with Option 4, to hire a vehicle for 3 years at a cost of £795.00 per month with effect from 24th September 2025.
3. To note there is £7,500.00 allocated in 4610/307. £4,770.00 for the remaining 6 months of the financial year and an increased budget of £9,520.00 for Years 2 & 3.
4. To note the vehicle status across the whole fleet.

Background

The vehicle was purchased in 2018 and has been an integral part of the Council's fleet.

For most of its life span it was used as a vehicle to empty the bins and when the Goupils arrived it was allocated to the ground's maintenance work. The current value of the vehicle is £1,000.00 - £1,500.00. Scrap value approx. £500.00 based on a similar vehicle scrapped in January 2025.

Without replacing this vehicle, there will be an operational impact on the Council's service delivery, especially when the mowing ceases at the end of the season, because there are extra personnel requiring vehicles for the winter work schedules and the two Goupils that do the bin rounds require more charging mid-day because of windscreen wipers, heating, etc.

Over the last 12 months, it has cost the Council £2,306.00 in repairs. Most of this cost was for the Battery & Starter Motor. There was then a service with replacement requirements and a diesel leak. It is anticipated that the MOT will either suggest scrapping the vehicle or carrying out all repairs at a cost of £850.00.



Overview of BJ62 NLC



Information	
Reg	BJ62NLC
Purchased	Jan 2018
Age	13 years
Milage	82,000
Value	£1000~£1500

Fault History	Cost
Battery & Starter motor	£1203
DPF Regen	£560
Dip stick replacement	
Minor service	
Mirror replacement	
Diesel leak	£543
Total	£2306
Advised repairs expected at next MOT	£850
All brake discs and pads	
Drive shaft bearing	
Total	£3156



	Options	Operation risk
1	Carry out all recommended MOT failure repairs £850.	History shows a high probability that repairs will continue through out the year.
2	Scrap the vehicle once MOT failure has been confirmed	X2 teams on the road instead of 3 No Goupil cover
3	Scrap the vehicle and hire for 6mths at a cost of £40 day / £1240 month and plan for next financial year	None
4	Scrap the vehicle and hire for 3 years at a cost of £795 per month	None



Purchase vs Lease

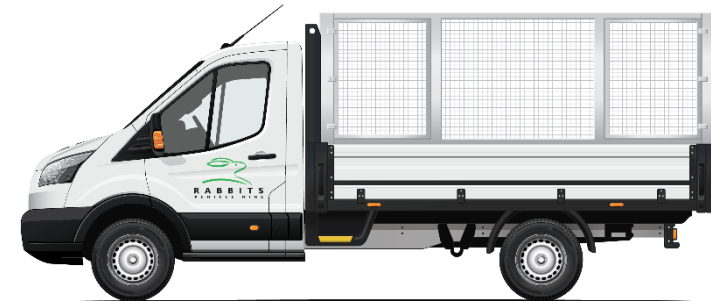
Has been investigated and it is preferred that a lease arrangement continues as these can be renewed every 3 – 5 years and the Council can adapt its fleet rather than having assets to sell, repair, etc. The servicing and warranty arrangements as well as the newer vehicle status make easier maintenance methods.

Suppliers

Costs have been sought from four suppliers to achieve best value. It is our preferred option, and the most budget friendly option, to take out another hire vehicle with our current supplier, of another diesel tipper, as the Council received earlier this year over a period of 3 years at £795.00 per month. The reason for using a diesel over electric models is due to the heavy loads, tipping capacity, towing capability, range of travel mileage.

Current Vehicle Status

						Tax			MOT				Service	
	Status	Registration	Discription	Log book	Contract end date	Next			Next				Next	
1	Own	BJ62NLC	Transit	YES	NA	Jan-24	Jan-25	Jan-26	Sep-25			Sep-24	Sep-25	
3	Own	BP68MVY	Transit	YES	NA	Dec-24	Dec-25		Nov-25			No History		
4	Lease	WV23UCF	Electric	Novuna	May-26	Jun-24	Jun-25	Mar-26	May-25	May-26		NA	01/05/2025	
5	Lease	KV23UJY	Hako Sweeper	YES	May-28	Apr-24	Apr-25	Apr-26	New	Apr-26		Dec-24	1500 miles	
6	Lease	AE22DZT	Goupil	YES	Aug-27	Oct-24	Oct-25		Aug-25	Aug-26		Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25
7	Lease	AE22DZU	Goupil	YES	Aug-27	Oct-24	Oct-25		Aug-25	Aug-26		Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25
8	Hire	OV23HYB	Tractor	Turfleet	NA	Mar-24	Mar-25	Mar-26	May-25	Mar-26		NA		
9	Lease	WP72XHD	Mower	YES	Feb-26	Mar-24	Mar-25	Mar-26	Feb-25	Feb-26		800hr	1000hr	
10	Own	WP72XHE	Mower	YES	Feb-26	Mar-24	Mar-25	Mar-26	Feb-25	Feb-26		800hr	1000hr	1200hr
11	Own	WD65UKO	Mini bus	YES	NA	Dec-24	Dec-25		Nov-25			11/02/2025	TBC	
12	Hire	YO24FGU	Transit	Rabbit	Mar-28	Jul-24	Jul-25	Jul-26			Jul-27	TBC		
13	Hire	YO24FHB	Transit	Rabbit	Mar-28	Jul-24	Jul-25	Jul-26			Jul-27	TBC		



Conclusion

The replacement of vehicle BJ62 NLC has reached a critical decision point. Whilst the Council has successfully extended this vehicle's operational life by 18-24 months beyond initial projections through strategic repairs, continuing with temporary fixes is no longer a viable long-term strategy.

The Council now faces a clear choice: invest in a replacement vehicle that ensures uninterrupted service delivery, or risk operational disruptions that could impact the Parks & Open Spaces Team's ability to maintain community standards. Without reliable transport, the team's capacity to deliver essential services will be significantly compromised.

Future Budget Aspirations: 26/27, 27/28, 28/29 and beyond

As part of this year's budget setting exercise Officers will be providing a longer-term overview of the vehicle fleet and how they will be replaced over the next 3-5 years. There will also be costs for professional livery (branding) on the entire fleet. Such investment is essential to maintaining a professional and efficient Parks & Open Spaces operation that reflects positively on the Council.