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14. Future Parks Maintenance Service Provision Options

Committee Resolved FPCO/2023/00060

Officer Recommendations accepted without change

Part C

That the Council

1. agrees to implement general parks maintenance services through internally resourced teams, effective from the 1st of July 2024, noting the rates increase avoidance detailed within this report.
2. agrees that each community board area shall have a dedicated team exclusively responsible for the maintenance of parks within their respective areas. Resource allocation for these teams shall be based on the asset volumes present in each area, to enable adequate and tailored service provision.
3. acknowledges the importance of monitoring and reporting performance against established standards of service delivery. To ensure transparency and accuracy, the Council shall engage independent auditing services for the purpose of monitoring and reporting on performance.
4. recognises the specialised nature of tree maintenance and Sexton services. Accordingly, the Council confirms that such services will continue to be delivered through commercially contracted providers, ensuring the availability of expertise and specialised resources.
5. acknowledges the capital investment required to transition to a full internal service provision. To facilitate timely mobilisation and effective internal service provision commencing in July 2024, \$ 7.4M of additional capital funds will be allocated into the Parks capital programme for FY 24 for the acquisition of plant and equipment.
6. notes that staff will look across the Parks unit budget to cover an estimated \$180 K (0.005%) cost of onboarding 50% of the new personnel for June 2024 to enable a smooth transition into the new service delivery model.
7. agrees that this report can be released post decision. Report release is scheduled to be by the end of September 2023.

Councillor MacDonald/Councillor Scandrett

Carried