

PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT MINI-EXCAVATOR TRAILER
AGENDA ITEM No. 11

MEETING: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: 3RD JUNE 2026

REPORTED BY: GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES CO-ORDINATOR

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to request Members' consideration for the purchase of a new mini-excavator trailer, and the bringing forward of a sum currently set aside for the 2028/29 financial year in the Medium-Term Financial Plan to the current financial year (2026/27).

2.0 Background Information

2.1 The existing Brenderup trailer used to transport the mini-excavator, and other equipment, was purchased approximately 20 years ago, and until recently has had very few maintenance issues.

2.2 Despite being well maintained by the Works Section Maintenance Team, an inspection by mechanics from a local trailer centre has highlighted significant repairs are now required, estimated to be over £2,500.

3.0 Current Situation

3.1 In addition to regular maintenance, the current trailer has had several repairs over the years, including a replacement bed, repairs to brakes, tow hitch and jockey wheel.

3.2 A local trailer retailer and service centre was invited to look at the trailer following concerns raised by some members of staff.

3.3 In managing the Council's finances and assets in a responsible manner it is not considered cost effective to invest significant further resources in repairing a piece of equipment that is close to the end of its estimated useful life.

3.4 A capital budget provision of £13,000 has been allocated in the Medium-Term Financial Plan in the 2028/29 financial year to replace two trailers at £6,500 each.

3.5 Dealers have therefore been contacted to offer quotations from their respective trailer suppliers. The table below shows the various options: -

Supplier	Manufacturer
Thomas Sherriff, Cramlington	Ifor Williams
Lloyd Ltd., Bishop Auckland	Nugent
Rickerby's, Bowburn	Batson
West House Trailers, Bishopton	Nugent

3.6 Each of the suppliers were asked for 2 quotes, for 2,600kg and 3,500kg gross weight options.

3.7 The table below shows estimated delivery times: -

Rickerby's	Batson model 26MD 3,000mm x 1,260mm wide (9'10" x 4'1") 2,600kg gross	4 - 6 weeks
	Batson model 35MD 3,000mm x 1,670mm (9'10" x 5'5") 3,500kg gross	4 - 6 weeks
Lloyd Ltd.	Nugent P2813S 2,800mm x 1,320mm (9'2 "x 4'4") 2,700kg gross weight	6 weeks
	Nugent P3116H 3,120mm x 1,600mm (10'3" x 5'3") 3,500kg gross weight	6 weeks
Thomas Sheriff	Ifor Williams GH94BT 2,770mm x 1,300mm (9'1" x 4'3") 2,700kg gross weight	4-6 weeks
	Ifor Williams GH1054BT 3,020mm x 1,625mm (9'11" x 5'4") 3,500kg gross weight	In stock
West House Trailers	Nugent P2813S 2,800mm x 1,320mm (9'2 "x 4'4") 2,700kg gross weight	
	Nugent P3116H 3,125mm x 1,600mm (10'3" x 5'3") 3,500kg gross weight	

3.8 The current excavator has a maximum operating weight of 1,842kg. A typical 2,600–2,700kg capacity trailer has an unladen weight of approximately 600kg, resulting in a combined gross weight of around 2,442kg. This remains comfortably within the various trailers' maximum permitted weight capacity.

4.0 Policy Implications

4.1 This complies with the Council's Strategic Aim 2: -

"To manage the Council's finances and assets in a responsible manner".

5.0 Staffing Implications

5.1 Operators need to hold B+E entitlement on their driving licence for both weights of trailer.

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 A capital budget provision of £13,000 has been allocated in the Medium-Term Financial Plan in the 2028/29 financial year, to replace two trailers at £6,500 each.

6.2 Below is a table of the quotations supplied by the dealers for each machine, including delivery: -

Rickerby's	Batson Model 26MD 3,000mm x 1,260mm wide (9'10" x 4'1") 2,600kg gross	£3,675.00
	Batson Model 35MD 3,000mm x 1,670mm (9'10" x 5'5") 3,500kg gross	£4,150.00
Lloyd Ltd.	Nugent P2813S 2,800mm x 1,320mm (9'2 "x 4'4") 2,700kg gross weight	£3,750.00
	Nugent P3116H 3,120mm x 1,600mm (10'3" x 5'3") 3,500kg gross weight	£4,500.00
Thomas Sheriff	Ifor Williams GH94BT 2,770mm x 1300mm (9'1" x 4'3") 2,700kg gross weight	£3,000.00
	Ifor Williams GH1054BT 3,020mm x 1,625mm (9'11" x 5'4") 3,500kg gross weight	£3,740.75
West House Trailers	Nugent P2813S 2,800mm x 1,320mm (9'2 "x 4'4") 2,700kg gross weight	£3,800.00
	Nugent P3116H 3,125mm x 1,600mm (10'3" x 5'3") 3,500kg gross weight	£4,490.00

6.3 When the trailer was inspected the estimated repair cost was £2,521 and covered everything from replacing the floor of the trailer, repairing lights, front coupling unit and linked braking system. Due to the age of the trailer, it was not felt that this was financially viable.

6.4 A trade in price of £250 was also offered against a new trailer. However, it is the officer's opinion that a fairer price would be achieved by selling the trailer via sealed bids in a forthcoming sale of other works machinery and equipment.

6.5 It is recommended that Members consider the purchase of the Ifor Williams GH94BT, at a cost of £3,000. This represents the lowest quote.

7.0 Crime and Disorder Implications

7.1 None.

8.0 Equal Opportunity Implications

8.1 None

9.0 Environment, Biodiversity and Climate Change Implications

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk Assessment

10.1 It is not considered that the matter contained in this report poses a risk to health and safety of staff or to the financial or public standing of the Council to a degree that a risk assessment should be appended to this report.

11.0 General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

11.1 Is any personal or sensitive data required for this proposal which may have any implications for GDPR? **NO**

12.0 Recommendations

12.1 It is recommended that: -

- i. Members receive the report.
- ii. Members consider the purchase of the Ifor Williams GH94BT, at a cost of £3,000.
- iii. Members agree to bring forward £3,000 from the £6,500 capital budget provision for the 2028/29 financial year, set aside in the Medium-Term Financial Plan, to the current 2026/27 financial year.
- iv. Members agree to the sale of the existing trailer via sealed bids.

Grounds Maintenance Services Co-ordinator