NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL DECISION

DECISION OF: THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT, ASSETS AND TRANSPORT SERVICES



IN CONSULTATION WITH: S151 OFFICER AND HEAD OF PROCUREMENT

DECISION NO: 25/26 EAT 167

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF THE CURRENT PARKS AND STREET SCENE CONTRACT

FOR A PERIOD OF 12 MONTHS

KEY DECISION: YES

REASON: This decision relates to expenditure above £500,000

BACKGROUND:

The current Parks and Street Scene contract was approved by Full Council in 2013 for an initial period of 7-years, with an option to extend for any period up to a maximum of 7-years. The current extension is due to end on 31 March 2026, with an option to extend for a final 1-year period, concluding the 14-year contractual term.

DECISION:

• To authorise the extension to the current contract with Glendale Grounds Management Limited for a period of 12-months, from 01 April 2026 to 31 March 2027.

REASONS:

The Local Devolution Programme requires additional time to allow appropriate updated contract specification to be drafted. This 1-year extension will enable further engagement with town and parish councils to ensure all parties are able to prepare individual specifications that fit each circumstance and met the requirements of the updated Procurement Act regulations.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

- Recommended: to extend the current contract for its final 1-year period to allow the Local Devolution Programme talks to continue, and for a new specification to be drawn up for the Parks & Street Scene contract
- Not to extend, and to procure a new contract. Not recommended because it is currently impossible to write a meaningful new contract specification

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Local Devolution may reduce the contract volume during 2026/27, but this is currently not possible to quantify. The current grounds maintenance contract benefits from the use of shared resources (vehicles and machinery) and overheads (management, HR, payroll, Health and safety, customer service etc). Therefore, transferring individual pieces of land will not result in a contract saving.

Any changes to the contract as a result of services or assets being devolved, will be formally varied out of the contract and any financial impacts considered.

By disaggregating the contract, each party, including North Somerset Council will lose the benefit of the economies of scale which will inevitably lead to an overall increase in new contract costs. This needs to be balanced against the benefits of Local Devolution.

Costs

The 1-year contract extension will cost £2,640,381 plus inflation as per the contract.

Impacts of local devolution are not yet known and any reductions in costs will only be known once more information is known about actual land transfers. There needs to be a significant reduction in activity to remove a team or operation that could be translated into savings. It is therefore unlikely that for the period 2026/27 there will be any opportunity for any reductions in contract costs.

Funding

This contract is funded through the existing revenue budget DSC033.

LEGAL POWERS AND IMPLICATIONS

This extension can be agreed under the original terms of the contract, within clause 3, which relates to extending the term.

The contract states if the Council wishes to extend the term, then three months' notice needs to be given the incumbent provider.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional climate change or environmental impacts of awarding this contract extension.

CONSULTATION

Internal

- Corporate Leadership Team
- Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment
- Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Open Spaces
- Leader/ full Cabinet Committee
- Open space, natural environment and leisure teams
- Environmental Services teams
- EATs Finance Business Partner
- Procurement Management
- Legal
- Highway Services
- Transport Planning

External

Glendale (incumbent contractor)

Town and parish councils

RISK MANAGEMENT

There are no high rated risks linked to extending this contract, due to the Council continuing the same contract terms as currently exercised.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment? Yes

No significant equalities implications have been identified through this extension of the current contract terms.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

There are no significant corporate implications to extending the contract for 1-year.

However, support from Procurement, Finance and Legal will be required to tender for the new contract in the future.

APPENDICES

N/a

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 13 November 2012 Report to full Council: Parks and street scene contract award
- <u>11 February 2021 Report to Executive 2016: Parks and street scene contract</u> extension
- 10 September 2025 Report to Cabinet: Approval of the Local Devolution Framework

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DECISION MAKER(S):

Signed: . Director of Environment, Assets and Transport Services.

Date: 15 September 2025

In consultation with:

Signed: S151 Officer

Date: 15 September 2025

Signed: Head of Strategic Procurement

Date: 15 September 2025