



COUNCIL REPORT

Agenda Item Number:	14.02.09
Report Title:	Replacement Cage on Ranger Vehicle
Author:	Diana Leeder, Executive Manager Community Inclusion
Recommending Officer:	Daniel Fletcher, Chief Executive Officer
Meeting Date:	18/01/2022
Attachments:	

Executive Summary

Following the direction from elected members that no change be made to the 2021/22 budget at the first budget review this report provides information on an unbudgeted capital item, a replacement cage on one of the regulatory services vehicles that was to have been discussed through the budget review. The replacement is as a result of work health and safety concerns.

Recommendation

THAT Council:

1. receive and note the report entitled Replacement Cage on Ranger vehicle;
2. approve an additional \$40,000 for the purchase of a replacement dog cage as reflected in the Fleet Asset Management Plan adopted in November 2021; and
3. note that the 2021/22 budget will be varied at the budget review 2 to reflect this decision.

Background

In July 2021 a work health and safety assessment of the 8 year old animal cage on the back of ranger vehicle was undertaken. The cage was identified as being potentially no longer safe for rangers to operate, predominantly for the following reasons:

- The weight of the cage is causing the springs in the vehicle to sag and create other structural damage
- The lifter does not lift correctly and manual pushing of the cage is required to get it back into place.
- The cage only has two containment sections that are the entire length of the tray/cage, which poses a work health and safety issue when rangers have to climb into the back of the cage to reach a dog that has planted itself in the far back corner. This is also a safety issue when rangers are trying to put catch poles on aggressive dogs.

Quotes were sought for a more efficient and safer replacement and this was included in capital expenditure for 2021/22 in the projected 10-Year capital renewal/replacement program attached to the fleet asset management plan adopted in November 2021. The amount was not included in

the initial capital budget adopted by Council in the 2021/22 budget and approval was to be sought through the budget review process, prior to purchase of the asset.

The cage has been ordered as the matter has now become a staff work health and safety issue. The arm/strut breaks while in mid lift, which has potential to cause serious injury to staff, anyone standing in the vicinity and the dogs in the cage. This cage is the only lifter Council has and is the main vehicle for dog collection. The second ranger vehicle has an older style cage with no lifter and requires dogs to be manually lifted into it so cannot be used for larger dogs. This vehicle and its cage will be replaced in 2023/24 in accordance with the fleet management asset management plan adopted by Council in November 2021

This reports seeks Council’s approval of this addition to the 2021/22 capital budget and any approved budget adjustments will be undertaken at the second budget review in April 2022.

Links with Strategic Plan

A Well-Run Council - Good Governance

Legislative and Policy Implications

Policy INFO1 Asset Management
Fleet, Plant and Equipment Asset Management Plan
Local Government (General) Regulations S.9 Assets

Risks

Risk Matrix 0 1 1 0 1 0



Health and safety

The health and safety risks are not associated with the approval for funds.

Service delivery

Failure to allocate the additional capital budget will create a risk of reduced service level through delaying other capital expenditure to accommodate the expenditure on a work health and safety requirement.

Financial

The financial risk is low as sufficient funds are available within Council's reserves to meet this requirement.

Governance

Failure to allocate the additional capital budget at the time at which the need has been identified will create a risk to the good governance required to manage changing demands within the adopted budget and identify how these can be met.

Community Engagement

Not applicable.