

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee							
MEETING DATE AND TIME	4 th December 2025 7.00 pm			LOCATION	Town Hall			
REPORT FROM	Chief Officer							
AGENDA ITEM	9							
REPORT TITLE	Streetscape Services							
Update	<u>Streetscape Contract</u>							
	The current Streetscape Contract runs through to April 2027. We are looking to enter into negotiations for an extension to that contract. With devolution being a subject Cheshire East is exploring, the reality is that more services will be passed down to Town and Parish Councils. For efficiency and environmental benefits, investment into new vehicles and equipment is key. When investing, there will be either finance agreements, leases or capital investment required. To enable this to happen, we need to seek a significantly longer contract than we currently have. This is to advise committee members that we are entering into dialogue with Cheshire East Council on this matter.							
	<u>Fly Tipping</u>							
	As well as noting the quantity of fly tips per month and annually, we are now calculating the cost for each specific fly tip over the course of a year.							
	Below you will note the number of fly tips we have dealt with over the last year (2024), in comparison to previous years:							
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Jan	4	4	4	16	30	20	17
	Feb	10	2	10	11	25	7	5
	Mar	4	0	32	24	14	8	7
	Apr	10	12	19	10	19	24	14
May	5	40	22	11	11	24	20	
June	4	22	2	8	26	20	21	
July	8	21	0	13	9	19	23	
Aug	5	18	10	26	19	18	22	
Sept	6	6	14	23	13	9	14	
Oct	5	3	10	8	21	17- 166	13- 156	
Nov	4	4	17	25	4	6		
Dec	5	4	10	30	15	22		
Total	70	136	150	205	206	194	156	
Total Cost	£2324.16	£5380.52	£2481.45	£12,300.87	£ 15,360.76	£ 13,077.18	£11,834.74	

	<p><u>Highway weed spraying</u></p> <p>Following the demonstration of a full EV quad bike and spray system, further research is taking place with other authorities that use the same equipment to establish its effectiveness and running. The total cost of the quad bike and spray system is circa £7,000. The cost of the weed spray for the whole of Congleton three times a year is being investigated, but it is hoped that this proposal will be brought to the council for the meeting on the 11th December 2025.</p> <p>If approved, please note that the weed spraying will commence in spring 2026.</p> <p><u>Grit Boxes.</u></p> <p>The ambition for the council is to maintain the levels of grit held in boxes over the winter period. An agreement needs to be in place with Cheshire East Highways for one of our vans to be allowed to collect adequate grit from Lyme Green Highways Depot and enable the Streetscape team to fill bins where necessary</p> <p><u>Vehicle Graphics</u> should start to appear on the Streetscape Vans to help promote the work of the Council. The graphics will show the Town Crest, the name of the Town Council and Historic Market Town.</p> <p><u>Congleton Park Bowling Green's</u> full renovations have been completed, so it should be in good condition for the start of the bowling season next spring.</p> <p><u>Members of the Streetscape team in work</u></p> <p>All staff are currently working – no long-term sick, one awaiting knee operation.</p> <p><u>External works</u> – Please see agenda item 14</p>
Financial Considerations	Concerns over the financial impact of fly-tipping, as well as a probable increase in highway weed control on the streetscape budget lines. Ensuring that external contracts are cost-beneficial to the council.
Environmental Considerations	Consideration to be given to areas to be weed-sprayed and the specific type of chemicals used.
Equality Considerations	Where we undertake new, existing projects or activities, we will need to engage all sectors of the community, and we will look to ensure full inclusivity.
Decision Requested	To receive the report.