

Agenda Item No. Provision of Service Vehicles for identified roles.

Purpose of report

1. To approve provision of vehicles for specific roles.
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Recommendations

It is recommended that SMB members:

- i) Approve service vehicle provision for the specific roles highlighted in this paper.***

Background

2. A number of ancillary service vehicles (currently 59) are managed by the service to provide support functions for Operational Activity. These comprise of a mixture of vehicles including small vans, large vans, 4x4 Hi-Lux and cars. The location and type of vehicle provision is being reviewed by Service Delivery and Asset Management. During routine replacement over the last year or so, Officer responding vehicles have gained four wheel drive capability which has increased our Officers' ability to respond in adverse conditions.
3. Some roles within the service have dedicated vehicles, such as ICT and Property. Other roles have historically been provided with a vehicle, such as the Fleet Manager position. When this position became vacant, the car was deleted and the current Fleet Manager has used a mixture of spare station vehicles and mileage claims for business use, which is neither cost effective nor convenient for the individual. The Fleet Manager undertakes approximately 10,000 business miles per annum, which on the current mileage allowance is less cost effective than providing a car.
4. SMB have discussed the potential to provide Area Commander equivalent posts with vehicles to increase Service 4x4 capability and resilience: the three Area Commander equivalent roles (Head of Asset Management, Head of Organisational Development, Head of Human Resources), currently claim a mileage allowance and a business case attached as Appendix 2 has indicated that it is cost effective to provide a vehicle once a certain mileage level is met. SMB also felt that it is more appropriate that these roles are provided with dedicated transport in providing equivalent transport arrangements to the Uniformed Area Commanders.
5. More importantly, the provision of vehicles for the Area Commander Equivalents and the Fleet manager will provide increased resilience for Operational Staff as the vehicles will include a blue light responding fitment and will be classed as brigade assets. This will enable the organization to redeploy 4 number four wheel drive vehicles across the organization at short notice.
6. The provision of these vehicles will secure and enhance the 4x4 capability of the organization and will provide resilience for Responding Officers as required, to reduce the need to hire in vehicles to cover servicing, repairs and MOT testing etc. These vehicles will also assist the review of ancillary vehicles across the organization.

Conclusion / Summary

7. It is recommended that the Fleet Manager is provided with an additional vehicle, in line with the Officer Response vehicle. It is recommended that the Area Command Equivalents have the option to be provided with additional vehicles, in line with the Area Command response vehicles. These will be classed as service assets and managed by the Fleet Manager under the direction of the Director, Assets and Finance. The vehicles will provide the facility to be withdrawn from the Fleet Manager, Area Commander equivalent posts and used by the service to provide resilience for operational activity and routine vehicle placements.
8. Provision of a responding vehicle for all four roles would cost £5,201 at current mileage use. To provide Area Command Equivalent officers with the same vehicle as the Area Commanders would cost an additional £3,468.

Corporate Considerations

9. An Impact Summary sheet is attached at Appendix 1 to identify and address the potential impact of the proposals contained in this report. A business case and cost comparison is included as Appendix 2.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 - Impact Summary Sheet

Appendix 2 - Mileage Comparison

Appendix 3 - Summary of Costs

Background papers – None

Contact Officer

Martin Rehorn, Director of Finance and Assets



**Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service
Senior Management Board
Impact Summary Sheet
17 May 2011**

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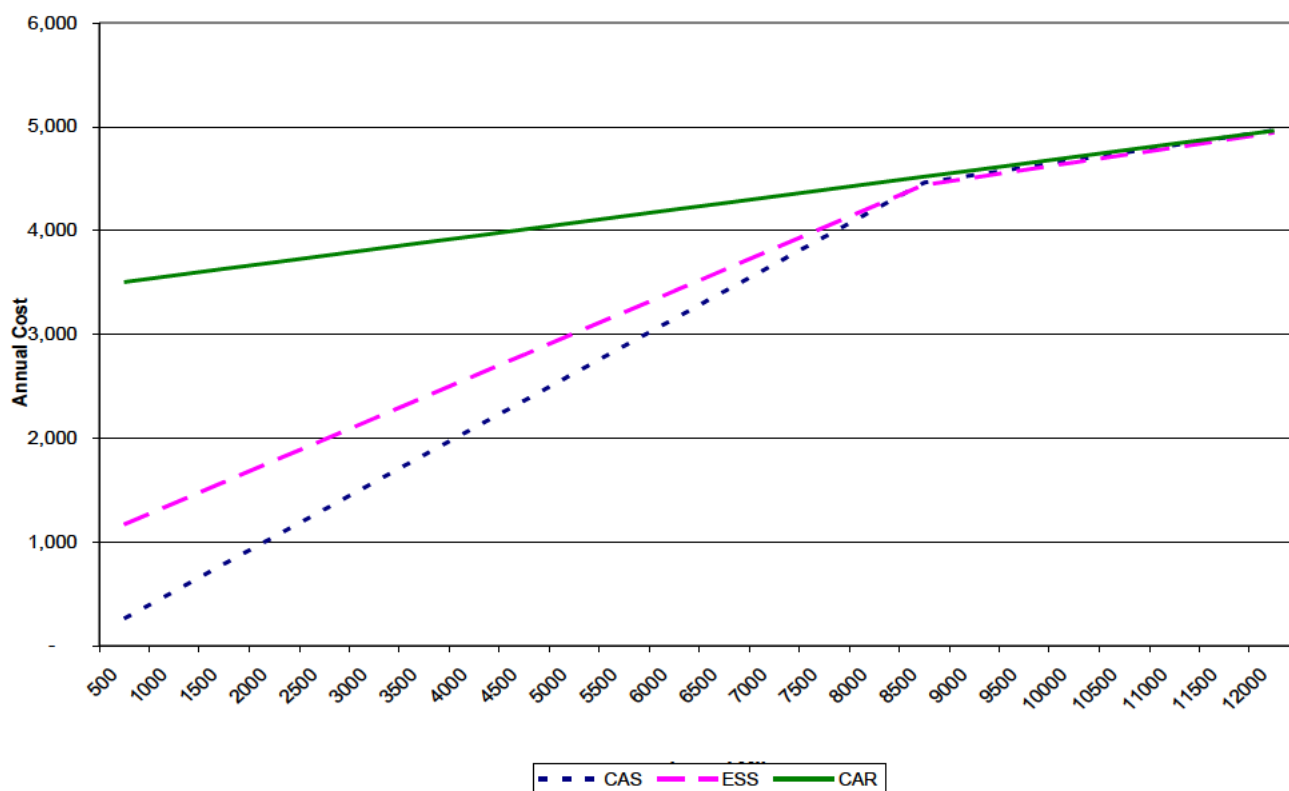
SMB Lead Officer: Martin Rehorn

Executive Summary

Provision of a vehicle for the Fleet Manager and Area Command Equivalents.

Implications / Actions	Y/N	Brief Description
Finance	Y	Both elements should be within current funding provision, but there may be additional unforeseen costs in the provision of extra vehicles.
HR	Y	Possible change in terms and conditions for Fleet Manager, Head of Organisational Development, Head of Asset Management and Head of Human Resources.
Training & Development	N	
FRA	N	
ICT	N	
Community Safety	N	
Service Delivery	N	
Consultation with Rep Bodies	N	
Corporate Communications	N	
Legal	N	
Equality and diversity	N	
Resource	Y	Increased asset numbers.
Risk Management	Y	Increased vehicle provision in extreme weather conditions.
Sustainability	N	
Is a full BIA Form Required?		No

Appendix 2 – Mileage Comparison



Appendix 3 – Summary of Costs.

Based on provision of a vehicle equivalent to the response Freelander at mileages above 8,500 the cost to the FRA of the casual user and provided car arrangement is equal.

Based on average annual mileages the estimated cost of providing vehicles is as below :

	Current Basis		Essential User		Provided Car
Head of Personnel	£ 788	£ 789	£ 1,577	£ 2,054	£ 3,631
Head of Organisational Development	£ 1,050	£ 731	£ 1,781	£ 1,913	£ 3,694
Head of Asset Management	£ 4,200	£ 35	£ 4,235	£ 220	£ 4,455
Fleet Manager	£ 5,250	-£ 197	£ 5,053	-£ 344	£ 4,709
	£ 11,288	£ 1,358	£ 12,646	£ 3,843	£ 16,489

The overall cost of offering a vehicle to Area Commander (Equivalent) is **£ 5,201**

To reflect rank and responsibility, the uniformed Area Managers are issued with a higher specced vehicle than is deemed necessary for purely functional reasons. The cost of creating equity between Area Commanders and Area Commander equivalents is **£ 3,468**