



Meeting	Cabinet Member for the Climate and Nature Emergency Decision Day
Date and Time	Monday, 9th March, 2026 at 10.00 am.
Venue	Walton Suite, Winchester Guildhall and streamed live on YouTube at www.youtube.com/winchestercc

Note: This decision day is being held in person at the location specified above. Members of the public should note that the meeting will be streamed live to the council's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/winchestercc)

A limited number of seats will be made available at the above named location however attendance must be notified to the council at least 3 working days before the decision day. Please note that priority will be given to those wishing to attend and address the decision day over those wishing to attend and observe.

AGENDA

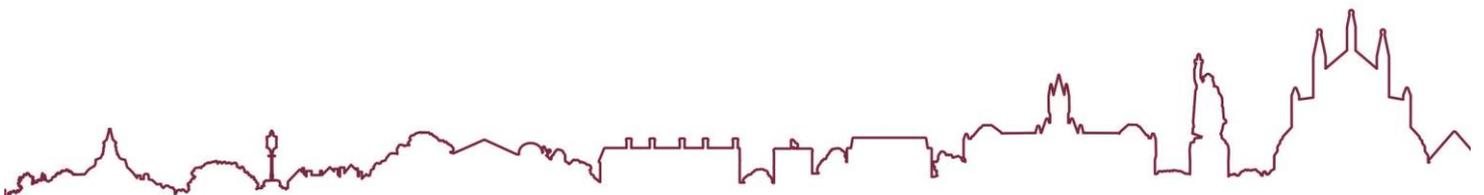
PROCEDURAL ITEMS

- 1. Disclosure of Interests**
To receive any disclosure of interests from Councillors or Officers in matters to be discussed.

Note: Councillors are reminded of their obligations to declare disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs), other registerable interests (ORIs) and non-registerable interests (NRIs) in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct.

BUSINESS ITEMS

- 2. Public Participation**
– to note the names of members of the public wishing to speak on items for decision
Note: members of the public wishing to speak about a particular agenda item are required to register three working days in advance if they wish to speak at a Cabinet Member Decision Day.



Members of the public and visiting councillors may speak at decision days on a specific item due for decision, provided they have registered to speak three clear working days in advance. Please contact Democratic Services by **5pm on Tuesday, 3 March 2026** via democracy@winchester.gov.uk or (01962) 848 264 to register to speak and for further details.

3. **Visiting Councillors Representation**

To note any request from visiting councillors to make representations on an item for decision.

Note: Councillors wishing to speak about a particular agenda item are required to register three working days in advance if they wish to speak at a Cabinet Member Decision Day. Councillors will normally be invited by the Chairman to speak during the appropriate item (after the Cabinet Member's introduction (and any comments from the leading officer) and any public participation).

4. **Procurement of Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing Contract - update (DD90) (Pages 5 - 12)**

**Laura Taylor
Chief Executive**

All of the Council's publicly available agendas, reports and minutes are available to view and download from the Council's [Website](#) and are also open to inspection at the offices of the council. As part of our drive to minimise our use of paper we do not provide paper copies of the full agenda pack at meetings. We do however, provide a number of copies of the agenda front sheet at the meeting which contains the QR Code opposite. Scanning this code enables members of the public to easily access all of the meeting papers on their own electronic device. Please hold your device's camera or QR code App over the QR Code so that it's clearly visible within your screen and you will be redirected to the agenda pack.



26 February 2026

Agenda Contact: Claire Buchanan, Senior Democratic Services Officer
Tel: 01962 848 438 Email: cbuchanan@winchester.gov.uk

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Cabinet Member for the Climate and Nature Emergency Decision Day – Included within the Council's Constitution (Part 3, Section 2)

Public Participation

Representations will be limited to a maximum of 3 minutes, subject to a maximum 15 minutes set aside for all questions and answers.:

To reserve your place to speak, you are asked to **register with Democratic Services three clear working days prior to the decision day** – please see public participation agenda item above for further details. People will be invited to speak in the order that they have registered, subject to the maximum time period allowed for speaking not being exceeded. Public Participation is at the Chairperson's discretion.

Filming and Broadcast Notification

This decision day will be recorded and broadcast live from the Council's You Tube channel. The decision day may also be recorded and broadcast by the press and members of the public – please see the Access to Information Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution for further information, which is available to view on the [Council's website](#). Please note that the video recording is subtitled, but you may have to enable your device to see them (advice on how to do this is on the meeting page).

Disabled Access

Disabled access is normally available, but please phone Democratic Services on 01962 848 264 or email democracy@winchester.gov.uk to ensure that the necessary arrangements are in place.

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DD90

DECISION TAKER: Cabinet Member for the Climate and Nature Emergency (Grounds Maintenance Services), Councillor Kelsie Learney (Cabinet Member for Recycling and Public Protection (Street Cleansing Services), Councillor Steve Cramoysan)

REPORT TITLE: PROCUREMENT OF GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AND STREET CLEANSING CONTRACTS - AMENDMENT TO CABINET DECISION CAB3528

9 MARCH 2026

CONTACT OFFICER: Campbell Williams Tel No: 01962 848476

Email cawilliams@winchester.gov.uk

WARD(S): ALL

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to update and refine the approach previously approved by Cabinet in relation to the procurement of services to deliver Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing.
2. Cabinet has already agreed that the Council should go to market for these services. Since that decision, officers have undertaken pre-market engagement and progressed detailed commercial and service design work, including engagement with a specialist procurement consultant. As a result of this work, officers now propose to proceed to market for two separate contracts:
 - (i) one for Grounds Maintenance, and
 - (ii) one for Street Cleansing.
3. This report therefore seeks approval for a refined procurement structure, rather than a change in strategic direction.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Agrees that the procurement should proceed through two separate contracts for:
 - (i) Grounds Maintenance; and
 - (ii) Street Cleansing.

2. That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director with responsibility for grounds maintenance and street cleansing, in consultation with the appropriate Cabinet Member and the Section 151 Officer, to conduct a competitive and compliant procurement and award two contracts within the existing overall budget, with flexibility to adjust the contract terms within a range of 3 to 16 years total duration as informed by pre-market engagement and value for money assessment.

1 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 1.1 The original Cabinet report set out the rationale for re-procuring the Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing services to ensure service continuity, value for money and alignment with the Council Plan.
- 1.2 Following Cabinet approval to go to market, officers have:
- undertaken structured pre-market engagement with potential suppliers;
 - tested delivery models and risk appetite within the market; and
 - taken advice from a specialist procurement consultant to support the development of a robust, competitive procurement strategy.
- 1.3 This work has enabled the Council to advance its thinking on the most effective contract structure to achieve strong market interest, high-quality delivery and best value over the life of the contracts.

2 IMPLICATIONS:

COUNCIL PLAN OUTCOME

2.1 Greener Faster

The contract will support biodiversity-friendly grounds maintenance regimes, minimisation of pesticide/herbicide use, and promote the decarbonisation of fleet operations.

2.2 Thriving Places

The contracted service will contribute to cleaner streets and well-maintained green spaces, enhancing the vibrancy of communities and supporting the visitor economy.

2.3 Healthy Communities

The contracted service will ensure safe and accessible parks and play areas, improving the public realm and supporting community wellbeing.

2.4 Good Homes for All

The maintenance of communal green spaces on housing land will be included within the service specification, supporting the quality of life for tenants.

2.5 Efficient and Effective

The procurement will adopt a detailed service specification with robust KPIs and digital performance monitoring to ensure value for money.

2.6 Listening and Learning

Resident feedback will be integrated into service design and contract performance indicators to ensure responsiveness and continuous improvement

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

2.7 Value for Money and Risk Considerations

2.8 Market feedback indicates that a single integrated contract can result in:

- bidders pricing defensively to cover delivery outside their core expertise; or
- contractors bidding with the expectation of subcontracting elements of the service, with associated cost uplift and reduced transparency.

2.9 By procuring two contracts aligned to service specialisms, the Council can:

- secure more competitive pricing;
- maintain clearer accountability for service performance; and
- tailor specifications, KPI's and environmental outcomes to the distinct nature of each service.

2.10 While managing two contracts will require proportionate contract management arrangements, this is considered manageable and outweighed by the benefits in market engagement, cost control and service focus.

3 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 As a result of further work, officers recommend that the Council proceeds to market for two distinct contracts rather than a single combined contract.

3.2 This refinement reflects the natural structure of the market, where:

- many suppliers specialise in either grounds maintenance *or* street cleansing, but not both; and
- a combined contract can unintentionally limit competition or lead to delivery models reliant on subcontracting.

3.3 Separating the contracts is expected to:

- increase the number and diversity of bidders, including specialist providers and SME's;

- improve value for money by avoiding risk premiums associated with large, multi-service contracts; and
 - reduce the likelihood of bidders pricing in the cost and risk of subcontracting elements of the service post-award.
- 3.4 This approach is consistent with Cabinet’s original intent to secure competitive, high-quality and resilient services, and represents a pragmatic evolution based on market evidence.

4 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 4.1 Consultation has been undertaken with the Cabinet Member. Ward members, parish councils and other stakeholders (e.g. Hampshire County Council and other neighbouring authorities, Winchester Business Improvement District, Parish Councils, Winchester Town Forum) will be engaged during specification development.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 The tender will incorporate environmental objectives, such as minimisation of herbicide use, biodiversity enhancements, and options for fleet decarbonisation. These measures align with the Council’s commitments to carbon neutrality and nature recovery.

6 PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY

- 6.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment will be completed as part of the procurement process to ensure that the service is inclusive, accessible, and promotes equality of opportunity. Contractors will be required to operate in accordance with all relevant equalities legislation and demonstrate how they will support inclusive employment practices and service delivery.

7 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 The procurement process includes mitigation measures for financial exposure, legal compliance, innovation, reputation, and achievement of outcomes. Risks will be managed through robust contract management and performance monitoring with full details included in the procurement and contract documents.

8 Local Government Reorganisation

- 8.1 The council is mindful of current proposals for Local Government Reorganisation, which may result in Winchester City Council becoming part of a larger unitary authority, and the Community Governance Review of the Winchester Town area. This context has informed the proposed contract strategy, which seeks to balance the need for continuity and value for money with the flexibility to respond to future structural changes in local government.

9 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- a. The current Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing services are delivered under a contract originally procured by East Hampshire District Council. On 11 July 2012, East Hampshire entered into an Environmental Services Contract with ID Verde Limited, acting on behalf of both itself and Winchester City Council. The contract was initially due to expire on 30 September 2019.
- b. Prior to that expiry, East Hampshire District Council novated the contract to Winchester City Council, which then became the sole contracting authority. Winchester subsequently exercised its available extension options, extending the contract to its final permissible contractual expiry date of 3 October 2027.
- c. As a result, the council must now undertake a full re-procurement to ensure continuity of service beyond the current contract term. This provides an opportunity to modernise the specification, improve environmental performance, and embed social value in line with the Council Plan 2025–2030 and relevant legislation.
- d. Following Cabinet approval (Cab 3528) to go to market, officers have:
 - undertaken structured pre-market engagement with potential suppliers;
 - tested delivery models and risk appetite within the market; and
 - taken advice from a specialist procurement consultant to support the development of a robust, competitive procurement strategy.
- e. This work has enabled the Council to advance its thinking on the most effective contract structure to achieve strong market interest, high-quality delivery and best value over the life of the contracts.
- f. As a result of this work, officers now propose to proceed to market for two separate contracts:
 - (i) one for Grounds Maintenance, and
 - (ii) one for Street Cleansing.
- g. This report therefore seeks approval for a refined procurement structure, rather than a change in strategic direction.
- h. This approach is considered the most effective way to deliver operational efficiency, clear lines of accountability, and consistent service standards across Winchester's communities. It also enables the council to tailor the specification to local needs and priorities, while embedding environmental and social value outcomes through the procurement process. There is no change to the procurement timeline set out in the original cabinet paper.

- i. A competitive procurement procedure will be undertaken including meaningful engagement with the market, including dialogue and refinement of solutions, while maintaining fairness and transparency. The evaluation models will be based on Most Advantageous Tender, with a balanced weighting between price and quality. In accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, a minimum of 10% of the quality scores will be allocated to environmental and social value.
- 10 The new contracts will aim to ensure flexibility to respond to future structural changes in local government, and the proposed contract terms of an initial term of 8 years with an extension option of up to a further 8 years, will be subject to adjustment within a range of 3 to 16 years total duration informed by pre-market engagement and value for money assessment.
- 11 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED
- a. The original Cabinet report set out the rationale for re-procuring the Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing services to ensure service continuity, value for money and alignment with the Council Plan.
 - b. Following Cabinet approval to go to market, officers have:
 - undertaken structured pre-market engagement with potential suppliers;
 - tested delivery models and risk appetite within the market; and
 - taken advice from a specialist procurement consultant to support the development of a robust, competitive procurement strategy.
 - c. This work has enabled the Council to advance its thinking on the most effective contract structure to achieve strong market interest, high-quality delivery and best value over the life of the contracts.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-

Previous Cabinet/Committee Reports or Cabinet Member Decisions:-

Cabinet report 3528. The exempt appendix is not included in this report as it does not relate to the move from procuring 1 to 2 contracts.

Other Background Documents:-

None

Appendices: None

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