

CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

FOR DECISION

Title: ASSET DISPOSALS – POOL CARS

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Purpose

To seek the Committee's approval to declaring two pool vehicles as surplus to requirements.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- a) agree that two Subaru pool vehicles are now declared surplus to requirements;
- b) consider and approve the means of disposing of these assets, as set out at point 7 below.

Executive Summary

1. The Authority's Financial Regulations does not currently include guidance on procedures to use in determining whether an asset held by the Authority is surplus to requirements or the methods by which assets may be disposed of. This omission, now identified, will be addressed by the Head of Corporate Services and the Finance Manager and brought to the Committee for approval.
2. In the absence of any procedure set out in the Financial Regulations, the Finance Committee's approval is now sought to both declaring two pool cars as surplus to requirements and to disposal of these surplus assets.
3. As the Committee is aware, the Authority has been undertaking a programme of pool car replacement to:
 - a) ensure the fleet is as economical as possible;
 - b) improve the Authority's environmental impact through reducing emissions; and
 - c) ensure vehicles remain reliable.

4. The Authority owns 2 Subaru Foresters, both purchased in March 2005. These vehicles are now the highest rated (at 204g/km) in terms of emissions of the Authority's fleet of pool vehicles (the others of which range from 120-135g/km), and have now gone out of their warranty period. Staff believe that both vehicles may soon begin to incur increasing maintenance costs.
5. The total balance sheet value of the vehicles, as at 31 March 2008, was £11,462. Assuming disposal around end November, this total book value will have reduced to around £7,475.
6. In order to continue to address the Authority's approach to reducing its environmental impact, and also to avoid the risk of future maintenance costs arising on older vehicles, the Committee is asked to agree that these two Subarus are now declared surplus to requirements.
7. In order to dispose of the vehicles, I propose to advertise their availability through email to staff, community groups and board members. We will also seek quotes for sale back to dealerships. Disposal will be on the basis of sealed bids to be returned by a set date.
8. The Committee are requested to consider and approve the means of disposing of these assets.
9. The vehicles will be replaced by new, leased vehicles with lower emission ratings, in line with pool car investment and management policies.

David Cameron
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