

## **Subject: Fleet, Equipment and Tools Procurement Statement**

### **Introduction**

Climate change is having a major impact on our planet. On 24 June 2019, Torbay Council declared a 'Climate Emergency'. Torbay Council is a partner of the Devon Climate Emergency Response Group and supports the work aiming to produce a collaborative Devon-wide response to the climate emergency to help Torbay reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050 at the latest and prepare Devon for the necessary adaptation to infrastructure and services required to respond to climate change.

Torbay Council's current Energy and Climate Change Strategy for Torbay describes aims to minimise the economic, social, and environmental costs of climate change in the Bay by demonstrating leadership and providing encouragement in working toward emission reductions and resilience to our changing climate.

### **Background**

The Strategy is the second Climate Change Strategy and was unanimously adopted by Full Council in July 2014 reflecting our commitment at local level to addressing the causes of global climate change. Since the first strategy was formally adopted in 2008, significant reductions in our energy consumption and waste have contributed towards significant financial savings and a reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. However we recognise that we need to continue to do much more as an organisation to reduce our impact and vulnerability. We also must play our part in helping to activate other organisations, groups, businesses and individuals in Torbay to meet the challenge.

We recognise that there are also multiple additional co-benefits from taking action on climate change. For instance, actions such as increasing walking and cycling, reducing energy consumption, promoting local food and businesses, reducing, reusing and recycling waste, etc all help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but are also good for our health, our environment, our economy and our society.

### **Future Aims**

The Climate Change Act, 2008 aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by the year 2050 compared to the 1990 base level. The Act introduced a system of 'carbon budgets' which set legally binding limits on the amount of emissions that may be produced in the UK during successive five-year periods. The first three carbon budgets covering the period 2008 to 2022 were set in law in May 2009. The fourth carbon budget, covering the period 2023–27, was set in law in June 2011.

As part of this commitment SWISCo Ltd as a private limited company, wholly owned by and delivering services on behalf of, Torbay Council, which was launched on 1st July 2020, is currently reviewing its fleet condition and management.

Torbay Council is the local authority for The English Riviera, known as one of the UK's most desirable tourist destinations.

SWISCo Ltd is seeking to be innovative in its thinking, looking to challenge itself with a whole service redesign. The innovative use of modern industry leading equipment, machinery and vehicles is essential in this re-design process.

The relevant services include Street Cleansing (public waste service, sweeping and cleaning for highways, parks and beach services), Grounds Maintenance (grass cutting all standards, hedge management) and fleet support management, Parks and Sports management (grass cutting, fine turf management, sports maintenance/management and horticultural management).

Included as part of this request, is the current fleet and equipment asset list. SWISCo are seeking to be more efficient with the service with the fundamental development and accountability of reducing the carbon impact of our fleet.

**SWISCo wishes to now engage with leading expert advice, support and partnership development via the demonstration of all fleet, equipment and machinery in order to consider the available and affordable options for the best way forward. We will undertake a fully compliant procurement process in order to purchase or hire fleet, equipment and machinery by calling off a public procurement framework in 2021/22.**

**Please contact us for demonstration opportunities and innovation ideas and examples including case studies directly at [yourspace@swisco.co.uk](mailto:yourspace@swisco.co.uk)**