

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**ASSET MANAGEMENT, CULTURE AND HOUSING
CABINET MEMBER**

PURCHASE OF LAND TRAIN – NORMANBY HALL COUNTRY PARK

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To approve the purchase of the Normanby Hall Country Park Land Train.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The council approved capital funding of £43,000 in February to purchase a land train carriage for use at Normanby Hall Country Park. Our original plan was to pull the carriage with the tractor that is shared between Normanby Park and Normanby Golf Course.
- 2.2 We carried out a procurement exercise using the Yortender system to purchase a land train carriage. We did not receive any bids from potential suppliers.
- 2.3 We wanted to ensure that we could provide the land train service at Normanby over the school summer holidays. To achieve this, we agreed to hire a land train for the six weeks of the school holidays. The land train proved very popular with 3,427 tickets sold over the six weeks. Once the under 5's (who travel for free on the land train) are taken into account, almost 5,000 people used the land train during this period.
- 2.4 The owners of the land train advised that they were putting the land train up for sale. The sale price was £65,000. Our research showed that this figure offered very good value for money against the price of a new land train. We found similar new vehicles for sale costing from £125,000 to £250,000.
- 2.5 Fleet Maintenance carried out a full check of the vehicle. They found no mechanical defects.
- 2.6 Our procurement team met with the owners to discuss the price of the land train. They negotiated an agreed purchase price of £60,000.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Option 1: to approve the purchase of the land train in the sum of £60,000.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 Option 1 is the preferred option. It secures the provision of a land train at a competitive price. The land train has so far proven a popular attraction. It should help to ensure the future popularity of Normanby Hall Country Park as a visitor destination.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

5.1 The original capital budget for the purchase of the land train carriage was £43,000. An additional £17,000 is required to meet the purchase price of the land train. This can be met from other capital funds held by the Places directorate.

5.2 The Cabinet Member approved the establishment of a casual post of Land Train Driver in June 2013.

5.3 There are no other implications.

6. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

6.1 Not applicable.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

7.1 There are no declared conflicts of interest.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 To formally approve the purchase of the Normanby Hall Country Park land train in the sum of £60,000.

DIRECTOR OF PLACES

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

- Capital Programme for 2013 in approved by council in February 2013
- Minute 51(51) of the Asset Management, Culture & Housing Cabinet Member of 19 June 2013