

Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee
March 1, 2012

TO: Chair and Members of Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee



SUBMITTED BY: _____
Greg Keefe, Acting Director of Finance and Information Technology

DATE: February 20, 2012

SUBJECT: Disposal of Surplus HRM Equipment

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

A request by the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee on February 6, 2012 for a staff report on the disposal of surplus HRM equipment to ascertain environmental impacts of our disposal practices.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

In keeping with Procurement's commitment to sustainability, surplus equipment is either reused or disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner. End of life provisions are routinely incorporated into standing offers and tenders. As an example, for electronics, photocopiers have an end of life term requiring the vendor to take them back at the end of their useful life. At the end of life, computers, fax machines, printers and monitors have memory storage removed and destroyed and are sent to Atlantic Electronics Stewardship (ACES) depots. Computers that have some serviceability, but are unsuitable for HRM use, have the hard drives removed and are sent to Computers for Schools where they are refurbished for use at Nova Scotia schools. Surplus cell phones and batteries are returned to the distributor for appropriate disposal.

Furniture is redistributed internally whenever possible. Serviceable furniture that cannot be redistributed is sent to public auction for sale. Furniture that is no longer serviceable is treated as solid waste and is disposed of accordingly.

Surplus vehicles and other motorized equipment go to public auction and are mostly purchased by local individuals for reuse. Most 40 foot transit buses, once retired are no longer road worthy and not saleable as a vehicle. These are sent to Dartmouth Metals to be crushed as scrap metal. Occasionally surplus Access-A-Buses are donated to non-profit organizations for use within the community. Surplus fire apparatus is also sold or donated to other volunteer municipal fire departments. Smaller equipment including such items as appliances, generators, recreational sports and gym equipment are redistributed as viable or repaired and sold as appropriate.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Project and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Project and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement occurred in relation to this report.

ATTACHMENTS

None

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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