

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Anthony Clarke, Cabinet Member for Transport	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	On or after 20th May 2017	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 2969
TITLE:	Department for Transport National Productivity Investment Fund 2017/18 Full Budget Approval	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
None		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 This report sets out the intentions for the 2017/18 allocation of £788k from the Department for Transport (DfT) National Productivity Investment Fund (identified as provisional in the 14th February 2017 Budget report to Full Cabinet) for Single Cabinet Member approval. The set schemes meet the conditions of funding set by the DfT.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member agrees:

- 2.1 The Funding Allocation and breakdown set out in the following schedule.

Description	Allocation
Design & Land Purchase contribution for A39/A368 Marksbury junction improvement scheme.	£20k
Construction contribution towards A39 Two Headed Man junction upgrade works.	£50k
Construction contribution for A37 Pensford - Road Maintenance, Traffic Flow and Safety Improvements.	£347k
Construction contribution for A36 Lower Bristol Road - Road Maintenance & Traffic Flow junction improvements.	£371k

2.2 The Divisional Director Environmental Services and the Group Manager Highways & Traffic are delegated authority to alter the programme of schemes, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, as may prove necessary during 2017/18. Any alterations will be within the overall budget allocation and take into account any additional funding streams that become available.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

3.1 The capital allocation is funded through Department for Transport Capital Grant.

3.2 The funding will be added to the existing Structural Maintenance and Transport Improvement Programmes of work. Regular monthly monitoring is carried out and exceptions reported to the Cabinet Member, with reporting to Capital Monitoring Group on a bi-monthly basis. Spending will be managed throughout the year to ensure that the overall budget is spent in a timely manner and programme changes approved through delegated decision making.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

4.1 An efficient business - The proposed works will help ensure the transport network of roads and footways are maintained to suitable levels. In line with good asset management practices, for example the proposed programme will ensure that the highway network across the whole of Bath & North East Somerset is managed to a serviceable level in accordance with statutory requirements.

4.2 A focus on prevention - By improving the overall condition and safety of the highway network it serves to minimise disruption with associated traffic delays and addresses poor and visually unattractive surfaces and end of life assets.

4.3 A strong economy and growth - The highway forms an important part of the infrastructure and local environment to ensure sustainable growth across the Authority's area and is crucial in maintaining the local economy.

5 THE REPORT

5.1 The funding is provided as part of the DfT announcement in January 2017 setting out details of the £1.2 billion local roads spending across all highway authorities. This capital funding for local councils in 2017/18 is intended to improve the productivity of our local roads.

5.2 The National Productivity Investment Fund is part of £185m to improve local road networks and public transport. The 2017/18 indicative allocation for Bath & North East Somerset was set as £788k.

5.3 The funding condition required a Section 151 Officer declaration that the Authority will spend funding from the National Productivity Investment Fund in 2017-18 to improve local road networks such as highways and public transport works, and will provide information on our website on how we will spend the funding, by the end of March 2017. Both the declaration and web site link are completed and the link can be viewed at: <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/streets-and-highway-maintenance/roadworks/major-transport-schemes/highways-national>

6 RATIONALE

6.1 The proposed schedule of spend has been developed in accordance with DfT guidelines and will be incorporated into the already approved 2017/18 Structural Maintenance and Transport Improvement Programmes.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 None

8 CONSULTATION

8.1 The Cabinet Member and Section 151 Finance Officer have reviewed and input into this report.

8.2 Individual project consultations will be undertaken with Ward members, Town & parish Councils, Local Businesses and Residents as part of the delivery programme.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

9.1 The report author and Lead Cabinet member have fully reviewed the risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

9.2 In the event of scheme cost variations, the programme will be re-prioritised to ensure that allocations are fully spent but not exceeded. In some cases there may be a requirement to divert money between on-going schemes to supplement the projects as they go ahead within the overall Highways Capital Maintenance Programme.

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Background papers	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-allocates-12-billion-roads-funding-to-councils
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