

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Bob Goodman, Cabinet Member for Development and Neighbourhoods	
DECISION DATE:	On or after 9 June 2018	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 3067
TITLE:	Neighbourhood CIL for Bath - Approval of the second round of project recommendations	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
<p>List of attachments to this report:</p> <p>Appx 1 Appx 1 CIL for Bath Round Two - Five Project Recommendations</p> <p>Appx 2 Appx 2 Bath CIL Working Group Minutes 12 March 2018</p> <p>Appx 3 Appx 3 Bath CIL Working Group Minutes 23 March 2018</p> <p>Appx 4 Appx 4 Bath City Forum Minutes 27 March 2018</p>		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 This report sets out the recommendations from the Bath City Forum relating to the second allocation of funding to five projects from Bath's "neighbourhood portion" of the Community Infrastructure Levy.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member for Development and Neighbourhoods is asked:

2.1 To agree a £5,000 allocation from the Bath CIL neighbourhood portion for application BA-001, a contribution to the road safety speed sign situated at junction of Claverton Down Road and Oakley.

2.2 To agree a £4,200 allocation from the Bath CIL neighbourhood portion for application BA-028, a contribution to vehicle access improvements to the entrance of Brickfields, Shophouse Road.

2.3 To agree a £43,200 allocation from the Bath CIL neighbourhood allocation for application BA-029, for the provision of connecting access paths in Alice Park.

- 2.4 To agree a £19,600 allocation from the Bath CIL neighbourhood portion for application BA-031, a contribution to the refurbishment of the 21st Larkhall Scout HQ.
- 2.5 To agree a £28,500 allocation from the Bath CIL neighbourhood portion for application BA-033, a contribution to the purchase of a Community Workboat for the Bath area.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 The funding allocations for the recommended projects are to be drawn down from existing CIL contributions set aside for neighbourhood projects.
- 3.2 Bath CIL neighbourhood receipts up to 2017/2018 were in excess of £506k with a further £750K in receipts anticipated for 2018/2019
- 3.3 All five projects are one-off payments allocations.
- 3.4 There are no further revenue costs from the neighbourhood CIL funds to all five projects.
- 3.5 There are no other financial implications for the Council.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 Regulation 59C of the 2010 Regulations as amended provides that local councils (those who spend the neighbourhood portion of the CIL) can spend these funds “supporting the development of the local council’s area, or any part of that area, by funding (a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure or (b) anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area”.
- 4.2 Guidance requires that in the absence of any parish or town Council for Bath, Bath and North East Somerset Council hold the Neighbourhood portion of CIL funding for Bath pending allocation. In allocating funding, the Council should engage with communities where development has taken place and agree with them how best to allocate the funding.
- 4.3 In establishing the Bath City Forum, Council included in its terms of reference (July 2015); “The Bath City Forum shall be an advisory and consultative body and shall not have delegated funding or decision-making powers. It may assist and advise the Council on issues specific to the City such as how best to spend that portion of Community Infrastructure Levy receipts which are used to address local priorities”. Cabinet agreed the revised B&NES CIL Spend Protocol at its meeting on 8th November 2017.
- 4.4 The Forum, having established a working group, process and criteria to formulate recommendations for allocation of the neighbourhood portion for Bath, is now recommending to Cabinet a second set of proposals to be supported from this fund.

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 The “neighbourhood portion” of the Community Infrastructure Levy comprises 15% of the total CIL amount generated from development within the city. In the absence of a town or parish council, it is for Bath & North East Somerset to hold such funding but it must be allocated through engagement with the communities where development has taken place. In the year 2017-2018 £506K must be for “supporting the development of the local council’s area, or any part of that area, by funding (a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure or (b) anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area”. It should be noted that (b) above provides a lower threshold than for the main strategic section of the CIL, which must be spent on the infrastructure set out in the Council’s Regulation 123 list.
- 5.2 The Bath City Forum was established by Council at its meeting of 16th July 2015. It comprises 12 elected Bath & North East Somerset councillors, representing Bath City wards and not serving in the Council’s Cabinet, One member of the Cabinet to ensure effective linkages between the Forum and 13 co-opted members who are not Bath & North East Somerset elected councillors but drawn from residents, business, heritage and other groups within the City. A total of twenty-six individuals. Included in the Forum’s terms of reference agreed by Council are; The Bath City Forum shall be an advisory and consultative body and shall not have delegated funding or decision-making powers. It may assist and advise the Council on issues specific to the City such as how best to spend that portion of Community Infrastructure Levy receipts which are used to address local priorities. Cabinet agreed the revised B&NES CIL Spend Protocol at its meeting on 8th November 2017.
- 5.3 Following work undertaken by a special CIL “task and finish group”, and a dedicated workshop on this issue, to which all Bath ward members were invited, the Forum has established a clear and transparent process for preparing recommendations to Cabinet on the neighbourhood portion of CIL for Bath. This comprises:
- Dedicated web pages which provide an update on the CIL neighbourhood portion in Bath and a rolling open application process to submit projects which meet the criteria.
 - An application form requesting details of local engagement on the proposed project and information as to how it meets the demands of development.
 - Dissemination through a wide range of methods including through social media, ward members and the Council’s Funding Bulletin.
 - The establishment of a working group, drawn from the Forum’s membership and involving relevant ward members as appropriate, to consider applications arising from this process.
 - All projects are required to complete a funding agreement which will monitor achievements as set out in the original application form. A designated monitoring officer has been identified to oversee this process.

5.4 The projects recommended in this report were considered at working group meetings which took place on 12th of March 2018 and 23rd of March 2018. Recommendations subsequently agreed at the full meeting of the Forum on the 27th of March 2018. The minutes of the sub-groups are included as appx 2 and 3. The recommended projects arising from this process are summarised below:

- (1) **Claverton Down Road and Oakley Safety Speed Sign.** This scheme will see benefits for both local residents and those across the city who use this route which serves The University of Bath. The working group agreed to allocate £5,000 to this project which has wide community support and clearly improves local road safety in the area
- (2) **Vehicle Access to Brickfields, Shophouse Road.** Local growth has generated demand for greater access to recreational facilities and increased the demand on existing green space. This allocation of £4,200 is for the improvement of vehicle access into the park which will allow greater use of this green space. Events and activities that require the presence of an ambulance on the site will now be able to do so in all weather conditions.
- (3) **Alice Park Connecting Paths.** Development in the local and adjoining areas means the park has seen demand increase for recreation facilities. The working group agreed £43,200 for infrastructure upgrades to the park's pathways which offer improvements that will not only benefit local residents but those that travel from further afield to use the facilities.
- (4) **Scout HQ Refurbishment.** Improvements to the infrastructure in this valued community facility will not only help deliver improved availability of activities provided by the scouts but will also offer the wider community the opportunity to use the enhanced facilities for their activities. The working group agreed a contribution of £19,600 as this development will allow for an increasing demand for youth development activities not only in the immediate locality but to those within close proximity.
- (5) **Community Workboat.** The investment in providing the community with a workboat will support the delivery of a number of further waterside projects which have strong local support. The workboat will unlock Bath based volunteering opportunities which will facilitate more responsive repairs to river safety equipment and support night time river safety patrols. The working group agreed a contribution of £28,500 as the river corridor has and continues to support high levels of development in Bath, these communities will benefit from the maintenance to the river and canal foot-path infrastructure.

6 RATIONALE

6.1 The process set out in this report ensured full consideration of the criteria contained in Regulation 59C of the 2010 Regulations as amended and it is therefore considered appropriate that these recommendations be made.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 Consideration was given to this report being presented to full Cabinet but it is considered appropriate that this be a single member decision.

8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Each of the five applications which are contained within this recommendation submitted for agreement has completed a project expression of interest and application for funding form. All projects identify the local consultation and engagement that has taken place and this was further tested through the process set out in this report.
- 8.2 Following consideration of the findings from the Working Group for the Neighbourhood portion of CIL for Bath, Bath City Forum consisting of 12 elected Bath & North East Somerset councillors, and 13 co-opted members agreed the recommendations.
- 8.3 The Bath & North East Somerset Council Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer were both consulted in the preparation of this report.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

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Background papers	<i>08.11.17 Cabinet Decision 142 - B&NES Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) spending arrangements 2018/19</i>
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