

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Kevin Guy, Council Leader	
DECISION DATE:	Not Before 4th January 2024	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E3508
TITLE:	CIL for Bath Advisory Board Recommendations Round Fifteen	
WARD:	All Bath Wards	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Minutes of the Advisory Board Meeting- Appendix 1 Public Consultation Response – Appendix 2		

1 THE ISSUE

This report sets out the recommendations from the CIL for Bath Advisory Board relating to the fifteenth allocation of funding for projects from Neighbourhood CIL for Bath Community Infrastructure Levy.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Council Leader is asked to agree the following: -

2.1 The Council Leader is asked to agree the following:-

2.2 An allocation of £75,000 to Bath City Football Club towards the cost of a FIFA Quality PRO all-weather pitch at Twerton Park stadium in the ward of Twerton.

2.3 An allocation of £40,000 to Curo Housing Group for the installation of swings, toddler equipment, flooring, and the enhancement of an existing Whiteway Green Park.

2.4 An allocation of £60,000 over three years to Bath Preservation Trust to continue in delivering projects through The Bath World Heritage Enhancement Fund, provided that further approval is granted for each element of expenditure through the process outlined in this report.

2.5 An allocation of £27,100 to Weston Community Library in order to carry out necessary refurbishments and cover rental costs for the next decade.

- 2.6 An allocation of £47,000 to support the work of The Student Community Partnership Community Warden and Administrator for an additional year.
- 2.7 An allocation of £14,000 to BaNES Allotment Association to support funding of communal projects that would include the creation of smaller plots and micro sites.
- 2.8 Amend the Approved Capital Programme as follows:-
- (1) Increase Bath Area CIL Funded Schemes - £263.100

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 The funding allocation of £263,100 for the recommended project grants is to be drawn down from the existing Bath CIL contributions set aside for neighbourhood projects.
- 3.2 The project payment schedules for each application will be set out in individual grant agreements. Payments to these projects will only be made once the finances have been allocated in this decision. There are no other financial implications for the Council.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 Regulation 59F of the 2010 CIL Regulations provides that charging authorities who spend the neighbourhood portion of CIL can spend these funds:

“To support the development of the relevant 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.

“Relevant area” means that part of the charging authority’s area that is not within the area of a Parish council.

- 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 seek their views on how best to allocate the funding.
- 4.3 The Bath Neighbourhood CIL Advisory Board has been established to provide a process and criteria to formulate recommendations for allocation of the neighbourhood portion for Bath.

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. It must be used to support the development of the relevant area, namely Bath, by funding the provision, improvement,

replacement, operation, or maintenance of infrastructure; or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.

5.2 A clear and transparent process exists for preparing recommendations to the Leader of the Council on the Neighbourhood 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.
- Extensive public consultation which seeks opinions on applications prior to them being reviewed by The Bath Neighbourhood CIL Advisory Board.
- The establishment of an Advisory Board for Neighbourhood CIL for Bath, drawn from Bath Ward Councillors and supported by the Council Community Engagement Team, to consider applications arising from this process.
- All projects are required to complete a Grant Funding Agreement which will set conditions of the grant, monitor achievements as set out and agreed with the applicant. A designated monitoring officer has been identified to oversee this process.

The project applications in this report were initially considered by the Advisory Board at the meeting which took place on **13th November 2023**.

5.3 The recommended projects arising from this process are summarised below:

5.3.1

Allocation Amount:	£75,000
Recipient:	Bath City Football Club
What the CIL funding will be used for:	
<p>The Neighbourhood CIL Funding will provide funding to install a FIFA Quality PRO all-weather pitch at Twerton Park stadium in the ward of Twerton.</p>	
How the proposal funds (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:	
<p>The proposed improvements will enhance the existing sports facilities, allowing the community to be better served. This helps both current and future residents in the area. The upgraded infrastructure will cater for the growing needs of this community.</p>	
How the proposal supports development:	
<p>The proposal aims to improve and maintain sporting and recreational facilities in order to meet the increased demand brought about by new development in the area. This will help address the need for local accessible leisure facilities and support the overall development of the relevant local area.</p> <p>Planning Policy has recognised the importance of infrastructure improvements in meeting the recreational demands arising from development in Bath. By implementing this proposal, we can ensure that the increased demand for these services is effectively addressed.</p>	

5.3.2

Allocation Amount:	£40,000
Recipient:	Curo Housing Group
What the CIL funding will be used for:	
<p>The Neighbourhood CIL Funding will be used for the installation of swings, toddler equipment, flooring, and the enhancement of an existing Whiteway Green Park.</p>	

How the proposal funds (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:

This proposal will provide improvements and maintenance of green infrastructure.

How the proposal supports development:

This proposal maintains and enhances the park, while also increasing its utilisation. These improvements will alleviate the need for creating additional green spaces in the future.

Planning Policy acknowledges that green infrastructure improvements are necessary to accommodate the development in Bath. Consequently, this proposal plays a crucial role in supporting the development of the local area.

5.3.3

Allocation Amount:	£60,000
Recipient:	Bath Preservation Trust
What the CIL funding will be used for:	
<p>The Neighbourhood CIL Funding will be used to continue in delivering projects through The Bath World Heritage Enhancement Fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bath World Heritage Enhancement Fund will list projects on a provided form and submit to Advisory Board for Neighbourhood CIL for Bath for their recommendation.• This list of projects will be prioritised and include a full range of options for consideration.• The Advisory Board for Neighbourhood CIL for Bath recommendations will be included in a single member decision (SMD) and funding will only be released to Bath Preservation Trust after the SMD is finalised.• A funding programme must be committed to within each individual year and cannot be carried forward.	
How the proposal funds (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:	
<p>This proposal will provide improvements and maintenance to infrastructure of a World Heritage City.</p>	

How the proposal supports development:

This proposal maintains and enhances Bath through individual projects. Each of these will be required to meet the Bath Neighbourhood CIL test (set out in Regulation 59F of the 2010 CIL Regulations), including the requirement to support development of the relevant area.

5.3.4

Allocation Amount:	£27,100
Recipient:	Weston Community Library
What the CIL funding will be used for:	
The Neighbourhood CIL Funding will be used in order to carry out necessary refurbishments and cover rental costs for the next decade.	
How the proposal funds (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:	
The proposed improvements will enhance the existing facilities, allowing the community facility to better serve both current and future residents in the area. The upgraded infrastructure will support the growing needs of the community.	
How the proposal supports development:	
This proposal aims to improve and maintain community facilities in order to meet the increased demand brought about by new development in the area. By addressing this demand, it reduces the need to provide similar facilities elsewhere.	
Planning Policy has recognised that infrastructure improvements are crucial in meeting the increased demands resulting from development in Bath. This proposal will help address the increased demand for services in the area and ensure that local accessible facilities remain in place. Ultimately, this proposal supports the development of the relevant local area.	

5.3.5

Allocation Amount:	£47,000
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Recipient:	The Student Community Partnership
What the CIL funding will be used for:	
<p>The Neighbourhood CIL Funding will be used to support the work of The Student Community Partnership Community Warden and Administrator for an additional year.</p>	
How the proposal funds (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:	
<p>The Student Community Partnership operates within the context of 'our shared city'. There are numerous developments that have taken place to deal with the higher levels of accommodation that is needed to accommodate the students that are studying in the City's Universities.</p> <p>The demands and impacts that are brought to Bath by having higher numbers of students living in the city need to be managed through early engagement with the different types of residents that are living side by side and having to share facilities in some cases for the first time.</p>	
How the proposal supports development:	
<p>The project will cover all areas that have been affected by the growth in student numbers; the communities which have the densest population of students will see greater levels of engagement. The developments that have taken place on the Lower Bristol Road have all increased the numbers of students in particular Wards. The SCP focuses on these areas.</p> <p>Planning Policy has recognised that level of additional student accommodation will have generated increased demands resulting from development in Bath. This proposal works to address those demands.</p>	

5.3.6

Allocation Amount:	£14,000
Recipient:	BaNES Allotment Association
What the CIL funding will be used for:	
<p>The Neighbourhood CIL Funding will be used to increase site capacity by creating smaller plots, trialling a starter micro plot project, and focusing on communal projects rather than individual plots.</p>	

How the proposal funds (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:

Improvements to the infrastructure at the allotments constitute a form of green infrastructure, as well as being a recreational facility (which is a form of social infrastructure).

How the proposal supports development:

This proposal maintains and enhances the allotments, while also increasing their utilisation. These improvements will alleviate the need for creating additional space in the future.

Planning Policy acknowledges that green allotment infrastructure improvements are necessary to accommodate the development in Bath. Consequently, this proposal plays a crucial role in supporting the development of the local area.

RATIONALE

- 5.4 In the absence of a Parish Council for Bath, the Bath and North East Somerset Council has a statutory responsibility to allocate the local portion of CIL.

6 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 6.1 No Recommendations to 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.

- 7.2 The Bath Neighbourhood CIL Advisory Board has considered a total of eight funding applications that requested support from the Neighbourhood CIL for Bath.

8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Each recommended application which is contained within this recommendation submitted for agreement has completed a project expression of interest and application for funding form. Each of the project application forms identify what local consultation and engagement that has taken place, and this was further tested through the process set out in this report.

- 8.2 All applications that were considered for round fifteen of Bath Neighbourhood CIL by The Bath Neighbourhood CIL Advisory Board were included in an online consultation that took place on the Council Website between These submissions were made between October 24th and November 1st, 2023. 203 responses were received for this consultation.

- 8.3 The projects recommended in this report were considered by The Bath Neighbourhood CIL Advisory Board and is seeking Council approval.
- 8.4 The Bath & North East Somerset Council Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer were both consulted in the preparation of this report.
- 8.5 This report has undergone a public sector equalities impact assessment. No negative impacts were identified.

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	08.11.17 Cabinet Decision 142 - B&NES Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) spending arrangements 2018/19
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	