

Bath & North East Somerset Council

DECISION MAKER:	Councillor Kevin Guy, Council Leader	
DECISION DATE:	On or after 1st March 2025	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 3605
TITLE:	CIL for Bath Advisory Board Recommendations Round Seventeen	
WARD:	All wards in the city of Bath	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: <ol style="list-style-type: none">Appendix 1 – Recommendations from Advisory BoardAppendix 2 - Public Consultation ResponseAppendix 3 - Outline of project recommendations		
Links <ol style="list-style-type: none">CIL for Bath Advisory Board Recommendations Round Sixteen (WL) EFP Reference: E3566 https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=39567&PlanId=967&RPID=154851361		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 As there is no parish council for Bath, the neighbourhood portion of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in the city is managed by Bath & North East Somerset Council.
- 1.2 This report relates to applications received for the seventeenth funding round which have been recommended by the Bath Neighbourhood CIL Advisory Board.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 This report sets out the recommendations of the Advisory Board for the seventeenth funding round of Bath Neighbourhood CIL. The Leader is asked to agree the funding allocation of £49,905 for one project set out below in section 3.4 and detailed in Appendix 3.
- 2.2 Amend the Capital Programme as follows:

- (1) Increase approved Bath Area CIL Grant Programme - £49,905

(2) Amend Provisional programme to become £166,020.82

3 THE REPORT

3.1 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 Council to hold and allocate the funding appropriately.

3.2 The purpose of the funding is to: fund 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.

3.3 There are two rounds of funding in each financial year. Applications are invited by organisations via a dedicated page on the Council's website. Applications are assessed against the eligibility criteria. Members of the public are invited to provide comments on each eligible application as part of a three-week public consultation exercise. An Advisory Board, made up of eight Bath Ward Councillors, meet to put forward recommendations to the Leader of the Council. Details of the process is set out on the Council's webpage:- <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/community-infrastructure-levy-neighbourhood-fund-bath>.

3.4 This report relates to the seventeenth round of funding:

- (1) Three applications for funding were received by the deadline of 07 October 2024. All applications met the funding criteria.
- (2) From 14 October 2024 until 04 November 2024, members of the public were invited to comment on the three eligible applications. More details are provided in Appendix 2.
- (3) The Advisory Board met on the 11 November 2024 and considered all the public comments alongside the application forms. They agreed to recommend one of the three applications. The recommendations of the Advisory Board meeting are detailed in Appendix 1.
- (4) The recommendations for funding in the seventeenth round are as follows. Full details about each application are detailed in Appendix 3:-
 - **Ride to work by Bike, Transition Bath** The initiative aims to motivate Bath residents to transition from car commuting to using electric bikes for their daily work journeys. This shift is intended to assist both commuters and local businesses in alleviating traffic congestion, reducing carbon emissions, and improving air quality. The funding request of £49,905 was recommended by the panel.

3.5 The following applications were not recommended for funding:

- Percy Centre Lighting Upgrade £6,661
- West of England Rural Network - Village Agents for Bath £94,651 over a two-year period

3.6 All applications received adhered to the funding criteria, as none of the projects fell outside the specified boundary for Bath.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

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 In the absence of any parish or town council for Bath, Bath & North East Somerset Council hold the Neighbourhood portion of CIL funding for Bath.

4.3 In allocating funding, the Council is required to engage with the community in the area where development has taken place and seek their views on how best to allocate the funding. During each funding round, the Council invites members of public via an online consultation to comment on the projects.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

5.1 The total funding allocation for the seventeen round of Bath Neighbourhood CIL is £49,905. This will be drawn down from the central funding allocation set aside for the Bath Neighbourhood CIL. The Capital budget for approved Capital Grant Payments should be increased by £49,905.

5.2 All successful applicants are required to complete a grant funding agreement, that sets out the conditions of the funding, monitors activity and measures outcomes. The council may clawback funding if the applicant does not fulfil the conditions of the grant funding agreement.

5.3 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. The balance of CIL funding currently received and not yet allocated is updated to £166,020.82, reflecting new CIL payments received in 2024/25 to date and the adjustments due to the allocations above.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 There are no risks identified from the report recommendations and the CIL allocations have followed the allocation process.

7 EQUALITIES

7.1 The application process has undergone a public sector Equality Impact Assessment (EIA). No negative impacts were identified.

7.2 All applicants are asked to provide evidence of community engagement and feedback to ensure it meets the needs of the community.

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

8.1 The Bath Neighbourhood CiL process enables infrastructure investment to positively contribute to sustainable communities within the city of Bath and all projects within round seventeen support this approach.

8.2 The project specifically address climate change by:

This initiative encourages Bath residents to switch from car commuting to electric bikes for their daily work journeys. By doing so, it aims to:

- **Reduce traffic congestion:** Fewer cars on the road will lead to smoother traffic flow.
- **Lower carbon emissions:** Electric bikes produce significantly less CO2 compared to cars, helping to combat climate change.
- **Improve air quality:** With fewer emissions, the air quality in Bath will improve, benefiting public health.

Overall, this project supports a more sustainable and environmentally friendly mode of transportation.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 There are no other options available for processing funding requests for Bath Neighbourhood CiL.

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 An online public consultation was held from 14 October 2024 until 04 November 2024 on the Council's website inviting members of the public to comment on the Three eligible applications. A total of 102 submissions were received. The public offered feedback on the projects and provide detailed comments regarding the applications. More details are provided in Appendix 2.

10.2 All applications are required to provide evidence of local consultation and engagement that has taken place in support of their application. In addition, applicants are asked to engage their Ward Councillor.

10.3 The Bath & North East Somerset Council Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer were both consulted in the preparation of this report.

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Background papers	Cabinet Decision E3007 - Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) spending arrangements 08.11.17 https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=1044 Cabinet Decision E3327 - Advisory Board for Bath CIL 16.02.22 https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=1659
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