

Report by: Head of Policy and Projects

To: South Area Committee 12 February 2009

Wards: Trumpington, Queen Edith's, Cherry Hinton

Environmental Improvements Schemes

1 DECISIONS TO BE MADE

Existing Schemes

Cherry Hinton Road Hanging Baskets

Decisions to be made:

To approve a maximum budget of £6,500.

- ***Pinch Point reconfiguration at Orchard Estate***

Decisions to be made:

To approve an increased budget of £5,500.

Potential new schemes requiring adoption

- ***Decisions to be made:***

To approve adoption of new schemes.

Change of procedure :

To approve the default allocation of £1,000 (per project) to be spent on investigatory work such as trial pits with prior approval of the Area Chair, Project Lead Councillor and Spokes Person.

2.0 BUDGET

SOUTH AREA COMMITTEE - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS 2008/2009		
	£	£
Budget for 2008/2009 financial year	£87,600	
Add roll-over from 2007/2008 budget	£153,630	
TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2008/2009 FINANCIAL YEAR		£241,230
Minus Actual 08/09 Budget Spend to end Dec 2008		-£49,288
Committed Projects	Estimated Reserved Cost £	
Foster Road allotments (remaining planting)	£767	
Orchard Estate Pinch Point Removal	£1,500	
Cherry Hinton hanging baskets (load testing)	£1,120	
Sedley Taylor/Luard Road traffic calming	£75,000	
Minus Committed project budgets		-£78,387
BALANCE OF 08/09 BUDGET as at end Dec 2008		£113,555
Projects agreed by Cttee to be investigated, but no budget committed. Costs shown are estimated and will depend on detailed design and site investigation	Estimated Cost £	
Gladstone Way barriers	£3,000	
Church End parking verge	£30,000	
Walkway from Bishops Court to Hauxton Rd Lighting	£25,000	
Estimated costs for projects under investigation	£58,000	
N.B. The estimated costs shown above are merely given as a rough guide until the projects can be designed and costed.		

3 APPROVED SCHEMES – PROGRESS

3.1 Sedley Taylor Road / Luard Road Traffic Calming (Cllr. Baker)

Background

At its meeting of 18/12/08 the South Area Committee abandoned access and egress restriction proposals at the junction of Sedley Taylor Road and Long Road, and authorised further development of priority give-way features and speed humps within Sedley Taylor Road and Luard Road.

On 26th January 2009 the Cambridge Environment and Traffic Management Area Joint Committee resolved to support the draft proposals for priority give-way features and speed humps; to support the addition to the proposals of a 20mph speed limit; and to support the advertisement of a draft Traffic Regulation Order and public notice; (see Plan 1 appended to this report).

Advertisement of the draft Traffic Regulation Order and public notice

Preparations for the advertisement of the draft TRO and public notice are now in hand.

Budgeting

It is anticipated that the provisional estimate of £75,000, first reported to the Area Committee at its meeting of 03/07/08, will be adequate for this scheme.

Programme

A report will be brought to the meeting of the South Area Committee on 02/04/09 detailing the final proposals and costings and seeking final consent to implement the scheme, subject to the consent of the Cambridge Environment and Traffic Management Area Joint Committee.

That consent will be sought at the meeting of the Cambridge Environment and Traffic Management Area Joint Committee of 27/04/09.

It should therefore be possible to commence work on site during the early summer of 2009.

3.2 Cherry High Street verges (opposite Chelwood Road)

Discussions have resumed with Housing about the possibility of delivering some alternative locations for residents to park in order to re-cultivate and re-seed the grass verge on the High Street.

3.3 Church End Parking area

The design is being discussed with County Highways and with Active Communities and Housing as the parking area and path will eat into the adjacent green space. Consultation will also be carried out with the Project Lead Councillor prior to public consultation.

3.4 Gladstone Way barrier

Finding a solution to the problem of small motor bikes using the footpath between Gladstone Way and The Orchards that is acceptable to residents, County Highways and DDA compliant is proving challenging.

An alternative new access point between The Orchards to Cherry Hinton Recreation Ground, which might alleviate the problem at Gladstone Way, has been proposed. However the owner of the land over which the link passes cannot be traced.

Officers will continue to discuss with Ward Councillors and residents to pursue a solution to the problem.

3.5 Foster Road Allotments

All works have been completed apart from a small amount of herbaceous and bulb planting which will be carried out in the spring.

3.6 Lighting to Walkway from Bishop`s Court to Hauxton Road

This is a request for street lighting along a privately owned, unadopted footpath used to access Trumpington P&R and Waitrose from Bishop`s Court.

It has now been established that a revenue fund for the electrical supply and maintenance of the lighting will not be available.

It has also been established that S106 monies are not available for this scheme. We are therefore progressing this project as an EIP funded scheme.

Officers have been investigating solar powered lighting and have been sent product information giving details of 5m high lighting columns with solar panels giving 8 hours of light in 24 hours. The cost per unit is £2,275 and the manufacturer estimates that 6 would be required. The installation costs are not included in this sum. Officers are continuing to consult with the manufacturer and have asked County Lighting Engineers to give guidance.

Liaison with the owner of the land, Countryside Properties, will be necessary when a scheme is designed.

4 SCHEMES REQUIRING DECISIONS

4.1 Hanging baskets - Cherry Hinton High Street

The structural load testing of the existing lighting columns along Cherry Hinton High Street has been ordered to ascertain whether the columns can each accommodate two number hanging baskets.

Officers are anticipating that the load testing will allow hanging baskets to be used and would ask Committee if they would consider committing a maximum budget of £6,500 for the baskets. This will allow officers to place an order with Streetscene as soon as we get confirmation that the load test is acceptable. The estimated budget above is based on the figure paid last year from Mill Road hanging baskets.

***Recommendations:** Officers recommend that South Area Committee approve a maximum budget of £6,500 if the load test is acceptable.*

Decisions to be made:

To approve a maximum budget of £6,500.

4.2 Pinch Point reconfiguration at Orchard Estate

The Highway Authority has requested a reconfiguration of the drop kerbs associated with the pinch point and this is being included within the design. The inclusion of new drop kerbs and tactile paving requires an increase in budget. The existing approved budget is £1,500.

***Recommendations:** Officers recommend that South Area Committee approve an increase in budget to £5,500.*

Decisions to be made:

To approve an increased budget of £5,500.

5.0 PROCEDURAL CHANGE TO BE APPROVED

5.1 Project Investigatory Works

There is a need to formalise the procedure for requests for investigatory works, (i.e. the digging of trial holes to ascertain the exact location of utilities routes and other project investigation work (not including officer time)) and each Area Committee is being required to consider a revised process.

South Area Committee is therefore are asked to consider the following procedure:

As at present, all newly proposed projects would be considered by the Area Committee for adoption. If the Area Committee give approval to the project concept, there may be a requirement to carrying out site investigation works (e.g. trial holes) prior to producing draft proposals.

It is proposed that approved projects would be allocated a default £1,000 for investigative work.

If it is felt necessary to carry out investigative work, Officers would only spend the allocation with direct, prior agreement from the appropriate Area Chair, Project Lead Councillor and Spokes. This could be done via e-mail, but should be in writing.

If any projects are likely to have the cost of investigatory works above £1,000, the Officers would advise the Committee when the decision to progress with the project and a maximum figure would be suggested by Officers for the Area Committee to discuss and agree.

For information, a flowchart is attached in Appendix 3 to this report setting out the authorisation process of Environmental Improvement projects of varying values.

Recommendations: Officers recommend that South Area Committee approve the default allocation of £1,000 for investigatory works for each approved project. The allocation will only be spent with prior written approval of the Area Chair, Project Lead Councillor and Spokes Person.

Decisions to be made:

To approve the default allocation of £1,000 per project to be spend with prior approval of the Area Chair, Project Lead Councillor and Spokes Person.

6 POTENTIAL NEW SCHEMES REQUIRING ADOPTION

For information, Appendix 2 shows the agreed project priority list for South Area agreed on 28 August 2008 as well as schemes under investigation and new schemes suggested by Councillors for adoption.

6.1 Fishers Lane parking area

A proposal to introduce a parking area to avoid car parking on grass verges.

6.2 Installation of bollards at Boundary Court, Rathmore Road to protect wall

A proposal to introduce bollards to protect a brick wall which is being continuously damaged by reversing vehicles.

6.3 Hills Road verges (Purbeck Road to Fendon Road)

A new scheme has been put forward for the cultivation and re-seeding of the grass verges along Hills Road. The verges have been tracked over and muddied by vehicles and are in poor condition. A survey of the verges should take place as there may be one or two locations where bollards may be required to prevent future overrunning.

Streetscene have been asked to give an estimate for carrying out the work.

It is anticipated that most of the work involved with this scheme would be done by Streetscene and would therefore put little extra pressure on the EI Programme.

7 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 It is the role of this Area Committee to ensure that an appropriate level of consultation is carried out and where necessary to make decisions about what changes to make to a scheme following consultation.

8 IMPLICATIONS

(a) Financial Implications

The Environmental Improvements Programme is a rolling budget and is divided between the four Area Committees by percentage population.

A degree of flexibility can be implemented within the programme. It will be possible for Area Committees to 'save' some, or all, of their annual budget in order to accrue funds for larger projects.

(b) Equal Opportunities Implications

Covered as one of the assessment criteria

(c) Environmental Implications

The whole purpose of this programme is to bring about improvements in the environment

(d) Community Safety Implications

Covered as one of the assessment criteria

9 BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following are the background papers that were used in the preparation of this report:

10 INSPECTION OF PAPERS

To inspect or query the background paperwork or report, please contact,

Dinah Foley Norman, Principal Landscape Architect

Telephone: 01223 - 457134

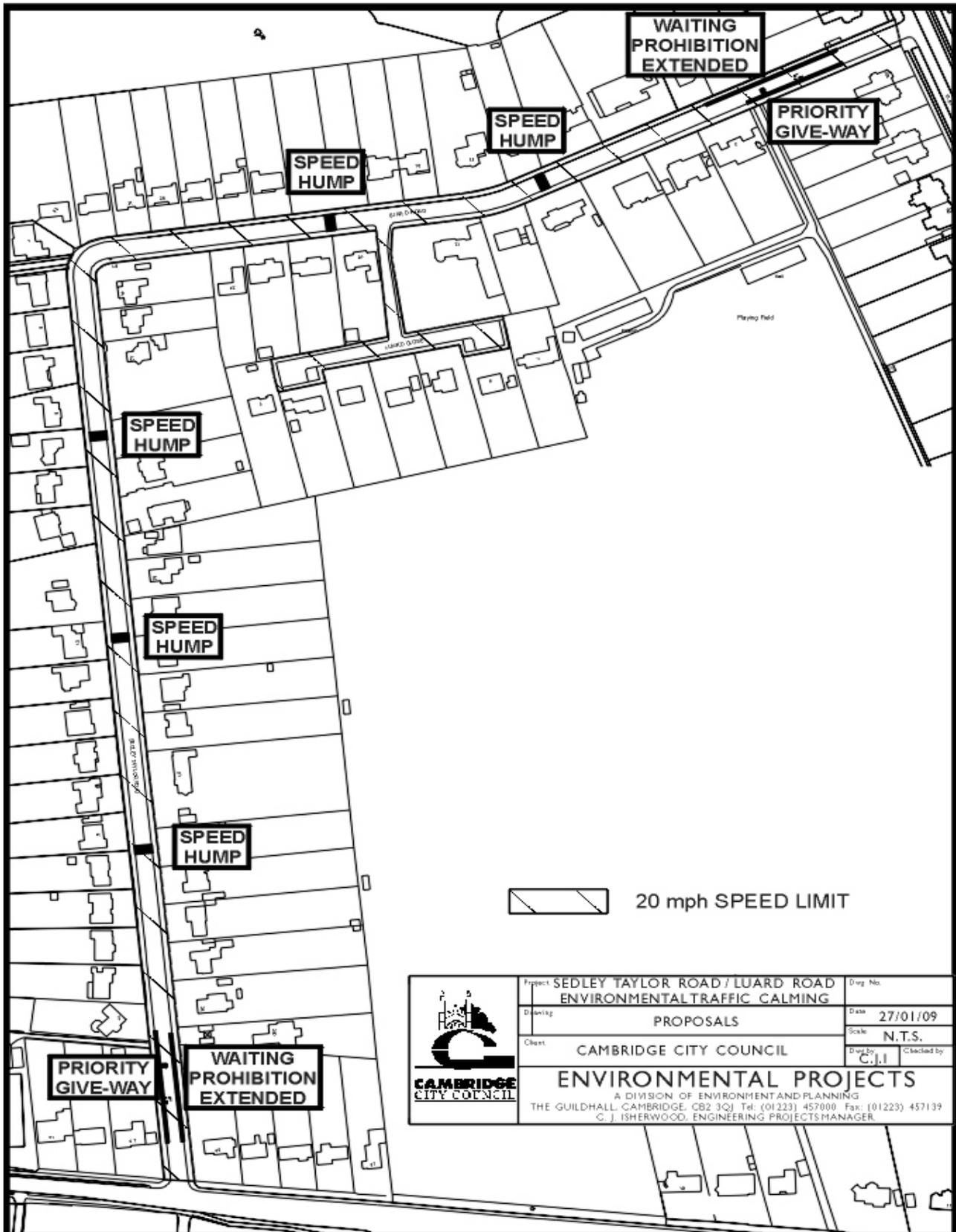
Email: Dinah.Foley-Norman@cambridge.gov.uk

OR for Sedley Taylor/Luard Road

John Isherwood, Engineering Projects Manager

Telephone: 01223 - 457392

Email: John.Isherwood@cambridge.gov.uk



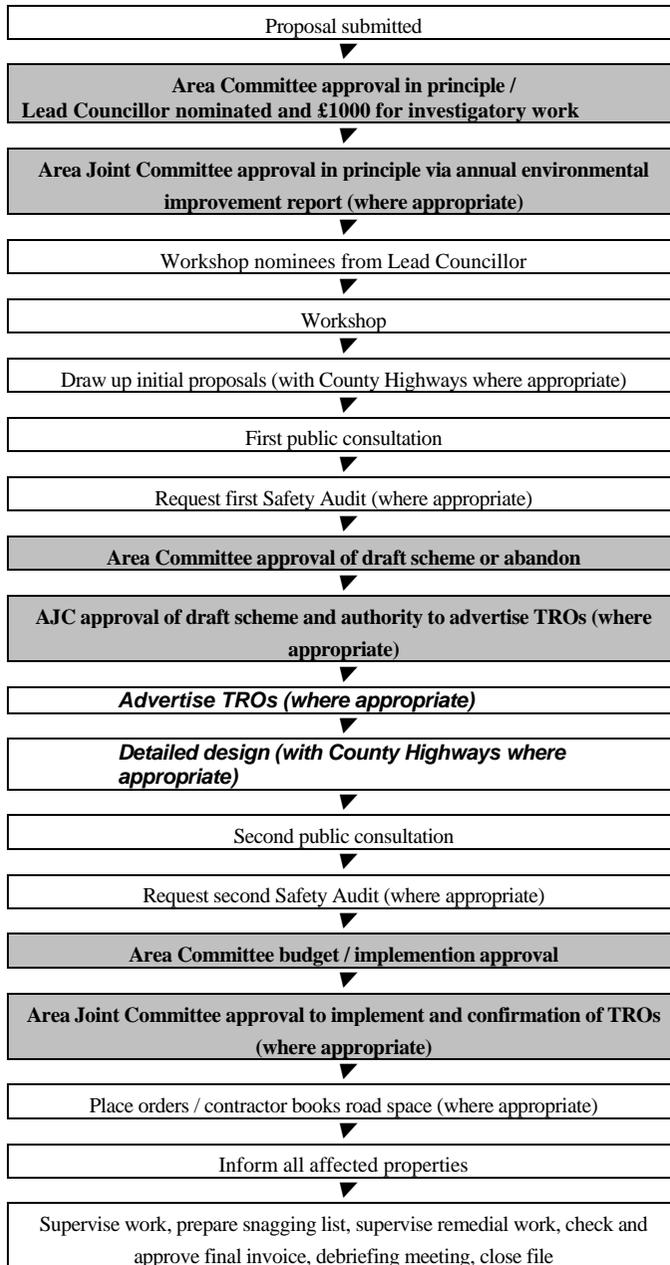
APPENDIX 2 : SOUTH AREA PROJECT PRIORITY agreed 23 October 2008

Priority	APPROVED ACTIVE PROJECTS	STAGE
	In design and/or implementation	
--	Foster Road allotments	Almost complete
--	Orchard Estate pinch point reconfiguration	Being finalised
	In design	
1	Chalfont Close additional parking.	COMPLETE
2	Sedley Taylor/Luard Road traffic calming.	Design being finalised
3	Church End parking verge.	Design being finalised
4	Walkway from Bishops Court to Hauxton Rd Lighting.	In design
5	Gladstone Way barrier	Under investigation
	APPROVED PROJECTS UNDER INVESTIGATION	
	Cherry Hinton High Street shop forecourts	To be progressed further
	Wulfstan Way shop forecourts	To be progressed further
	Cherry Hinton High Street grass verges	To be progressed further
	NON-ADOPTED/POTENTIAL PROJECTS	
	New access path between The Orchards to Cherry Hinton Recreation Ground	
	Fishers Lane parking area	
	Installation of bollards at Boundary Court, Rathmore Road to protect wall.	
	Re-seeding Hills Road verges – Purbeck to Fendon Road	

APPENDIX 3

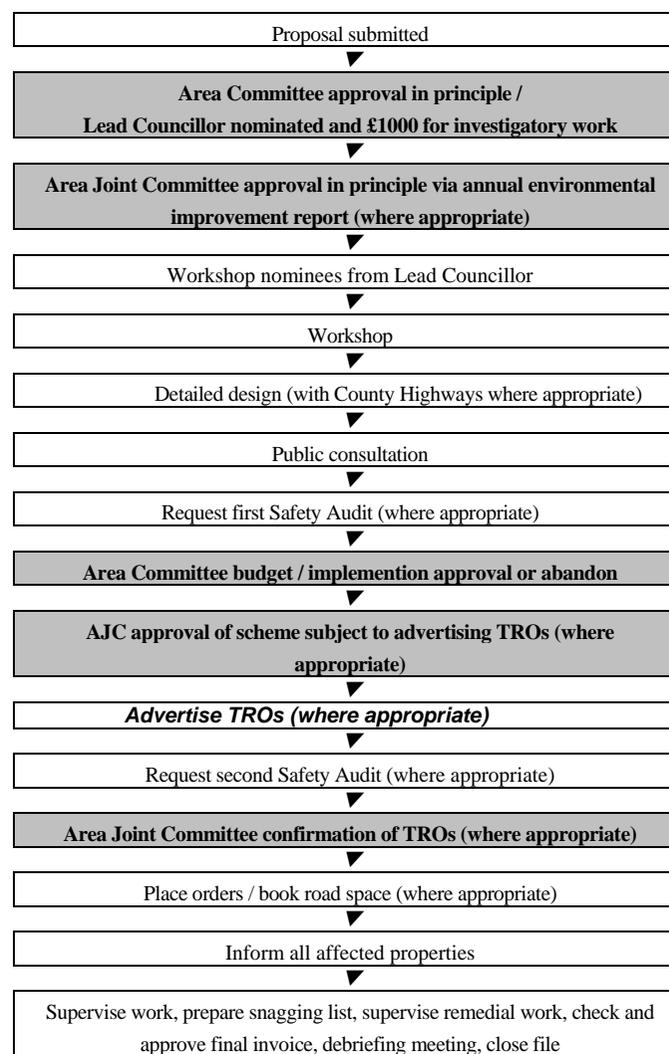
Category 1

(Projects between £10,000 and £50,000)



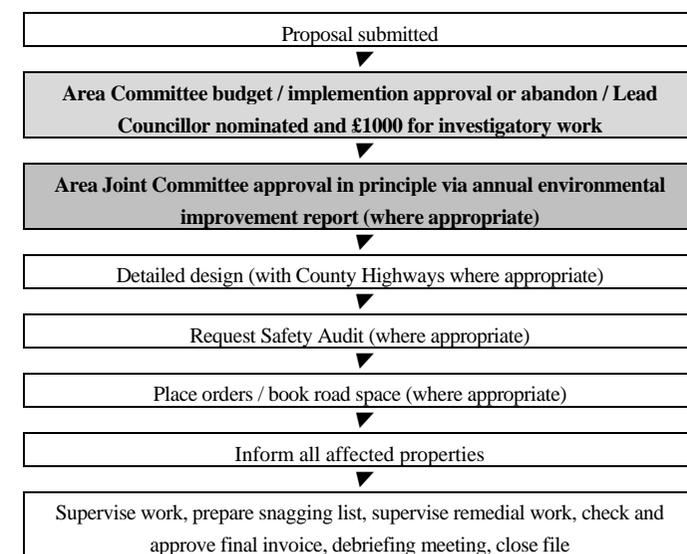
Category 2

(Projects between £3,000 and £10,000)



Category 3

(Minor Projects up to £3,000)



NOTE :

Procedures marked “where appropriate” do not apply to schemes which do not affect the public highway.

[N:/POLICY AND PROJECTS/Environmental Projects Management/EPM 010 Programme and Project Management/Procedures/Scheme management procedures flow chart](#)

