



Cambridge City Council
West Central Area Committee

Date: Thursday, 24 November 2022

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Contact: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk, tel:01223 457000

Agenda

- 1 Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Notes of last meeting (Pages 3 - 10)
- 4 Matters and Actions Arising (Pages 11 - 12)
- 5 Policing and Safer Neighbourhoods (Pages 13 - 18)
Representatives from the local police team and Council's community safety team will present the latest report and answer questions.
- 6 Greater Cambridge Partnership Item - Making Connections Consultation
Representatives from the GCP will inform councillors of the current consultation which runs until 23 December 2022.
www.greatercambridge.org.uk/mc-2022
- 7 Open Forum
- 8 Environmental Improvement Programme - 2022/23 Project Applications (Pages 19 - 34)
Councillors will review the projects received noting that the decisions will be taken by the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces in January 2023.

City Councillors: Gilderdale (Chair), S. Smith (Vice-Chair), S. Baigent, Bick, Holloway, Nethsingha, Payne, Porrer and Sweeney

County Councillors: Gay, Nethsingha and Rae

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- Guidance for how to join virtual committees run via Microsoft Teams: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/have-your-say-at-committee-meetings>
- Website: <http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk>
- Email: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk
- Phone: 01223 457000

WEST CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE

28 September 2022

7.00 - 8.15 pm

Present

Area Committee Members: Councillors Gilderdale (Chair), S. Smith (Vice-Chair), Bick, Holloway, Nethsingha, Payne, Porrer, Sweeney, Nethsingha and Rae

Officers:

Head of Environmental Services: Joel Carré

Committee Manager and Meeting Producer: Sarah Steed

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

22/15/WAC Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from City Councillor S.Baigent and County Councillor Gay.

22/16/WAC Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

22/17/WAC Notes of last meeting

The notes of the meeting held on 16 June 2022 were noted.

22/18/WAC Matters and Actions Arising

Councillor Holloway provided the following update on the South Newnham Neighbourhood Plan which was as follows:

- i. The Neighbourhood Forum was redesignated on 21 July 2022 following a public consultation on the application to reapply as a Forum.
- ii. A total of eleven comments were received on the redesignation, five in support and six in objection.
- iii. The role of the Forum was to prepare a neighbourhood plan, anyone in the local area can contribute to preparing the plan and engage in public consultation on the draft plan.

- iv. Once the plan has been through the examination process, the local community would be able to vote in a local referendum to decide whether the plan should be used to determine planning applications in the area.

Councillor Holloway then thanked all those who had been involved in the process so far and encouraged all residents in Newnham to engage in the process.

22/19/WAC Open Forum

Members of the public asked a number of questions, as set out below.

Question 1.

The situation of scooters and electric vehicles has not improved on common areas referenced below and residents remain very concerned, as the situation is much worse now than it was in September 2021. At a recent Residents' Association meeting attended by Cllr Porrer on 19 July 2022, this was raised as a local worry again. Residents remain surprised by the fact that no action appears to have been taken yet, and greatly concerned by the increased number of electric bikes and scooters that are using all the common pathways (Midsummer Common, Stourbridge Common and Jesus Green) on a regular basis every day. We would ask that this matter is raised again on our behalf and will be interested to know specifically what action has been taken since we last forwarded this question and indeed what progress is perceived to have been made.

[Question for Open Forum item West Central Area Committee Meeting September 2021]

Scooters and Electric Bicycles on Common Areas

I am the secretary of Cambridge Riverside (Midsummer Common) Residents' Association which represents 10 townhouses and approximately 200 apartments in a relatively new development overlooking Midsummer Common. We live adjacent to the Common and residents use it on a regular basis.

At a residents' meeting on 2 September 2021, significant concerns were expressed about the impact of both the Voi scheme and the increased use of electrical cycles and powered scooters on Common Areas around the city generally and specifically on Midsummer Common where it is becoming seriously dangerous to walk! There are issues citywide, but on Midsummer Common, which is a key cycle route into the city, there are particular pressures

due to narrow paths, specific pinch points and high usage for leisure. This will be heightened by the opening of the Chisholm Trail. The Common is a much-loved recreational venue used by large numbers of people of different ages for many different purposes. The relatively narrow pathways are well used by pedestrians, joggers, cyclists and mobility scooters as well as large family groups including toddlers on micro scooters and strider bikes. This is all welcomed and to be encouraged.

It is very noticeable that there has been a marked rise in powered vehicles on Common Areas over the past 18 months; fast food orders now seem to be routinely delivered by mopeds or electric bicycles and this, combined with the Voi Scheme on our roads, puts pedestrians increasingly in a vulnerable position. Whilst we applaud and encourage the use of alternative more environmentally friendly forms of transport across the City, we do fear that there currently appears to be a lack of regulation and that before long there could be a serious accident.

We would therefore like to ask you to clarify the Council's current policy and future intentions in managing and regulating this matter and how it will balance the needs of pedestrians with making provision for these new initiatives?]

In response the Head of Environment Services stated that the matter was a complex issue and powers sat with different authorities and the police.

Currently there was the national trial in the city of electric bike and scooters (the Voi scheme) authorised by the Department of Transport, managed by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA). Legislation allowed extension to the trial which the CPCA Board would consider in October. The City Council met regularly with external partners concerning the Voi scheme which gave the council an element of control to the 50 e-bikes and 300 e-scooters. Information was shared on the number of accidents and issues reported. Accidents tended to take place on the street and not on open land with no hot spots reported.

There was currently no legislation allowing privately owned electric scooters on public highways, this was a police enforcement issue and was difficult to manage to the number of scooters.

Some City Council owned land had management plans which provided opportunities to look at issues that residents were experiencing. Would encourage residents to report these pinch points direct to the Council who could investigate what measures could be taken to improve the situation.

Councillor Nethsingha read out an update on the Voi trial provided by Officers at the Combined Authority:

- i. Top priority was safety of users and non-users of the e-scooter trial.
- ii. Voi scooters were operated within a geofenced area, which meant that no-ride zones could be implemented. There was a no ride zone on Midsummer Common with the exception of cycle paths.
- iii. Noted that there may be legislation coming forward regarding a new vehicle class to encompass privately owned e-scooters in addition to existing providers like Voi.
- iv. The Department for Transport (DFT) periodically ran Forums to discuss feedback from authorities who had e-bike / e-scooter trials taking place. The DFT noted it was more difficult for sanctions to be imposed on people using privately owned e-scooters compared with those using e-scooters as part of a formal trial.
- v. Anyone who witnessed someone using a Voi scooter in an anti-social manner was encouraged to report this to Voi. If an identification plate was provided to Voi then they could track down the responsible rider. Any rider found to have been involved in a serious incident or subject to three strikes would be banned from the service.

The Committee made the following comments:

- i. Hoped local MPs would feed into any legislation coming forward regarding e-scooters etc and also stated that they also had concerns regarding the mini e-mopeds.
- ii. Noted that it may be useful for local authorities to have a meeting with local businesses who used the e-mopeds for deliveries to see if usage could be managed.
- iii. Noted that a trial of driverless robots was currently being used for deliveries in Cambourne and that this may be useful for deliveries in the city.
- iv. Noted that Market ward had a lot of open spaces and that a lot of vulnerable people did not go out as they were worried about e-bikes / e-scooters.
- v. Expressed concern about legislation which may be brought forward regarding privately owned e-scooters and the impact this may have on the way in which operators currently providing e-scooters operate.
- vi. Also expressed concerns about e-mopeds and the risks these posed to residents. Commented that it would be helpful for the Police to comment on how they were responding to them at the next Committee. Questioned what legal category these vehicles fall into.

Councillor Gilderdale noted that she had discussed the issue of e-mopeds with the Police and that it was difficult to tackle these as they were easily available to purchase online. The Police had to have a reason to stop people. If the e-mopeds were confiscated, then the owner could just collect the vehicle from the Police station.

Action Point: Head of Environmental Services to convene a multi-agency meeting to consider the issues being raised around use of e-scooters / e-bikes / e-mopeds on open spaces, with the aim of agreeing some deliverable management actions.

Question 2.

I live in New Square.

It often happens that people wait in their car on the other side of the road in front of my house on the double yellow lines to pick people up. They keep their engines running for minutes. On many occasions my friend or I have asked drivers to turn off their engines while waiting. Some do - some don't.

Last month a man sat in his car for about 20 minutes waiting for his partner. I asked him twice to turn off his engine. He refused. He said he didn't know it was illegal to leave his engine running for more than three minutes.

Engine idling is illegal under Section 42 of the Road Traffic Act 1988

Living in New Square is a privilege. Having to put up with idling cars, which are noisy, illegal, polluting and intrusive mars this experience. It should be possible to prevent this behaviour, and in so doing make a real difference to the lives of residents, the lives of others in the vicinity and the environment in general.

What can the City Council, the County Council and the police do to stop this anti-social behaviour?

Councillor Gilderdale advised that City Council Officers had advised that the City Council did not have powers to deal with engine idling and that if drivers were breaking the highway code this was a matter for the Police.

Councillor Porrer commented that she felt signage may assist.

Councillor Bick commented that the City Council could acquire powers to deal with engine idling but thought the City Council had declined to do so. Noted it

was illegal for vehicles out of traffic but still on the public highway to leave their engines running.

The Head of Environmental Services noted that Planning colleagues had expressed concern regarding signage in the past due to New Squares' Conservation Area status. This could be revisited. Believed New Square had double yellow lines all the way round and the Police and the County Council could take enforcement action against those on double yellow lines.

Action: Head of Environmental Services to investigate the ability for the Council to acquire powers to enforce against engine idling. Would also look into what could be done regarding education about engine idling in conjunction with other Partners.

Question 3.

Asked if the Head of Environmental Services could address the issue of e-scooter parking that tends to drift over pavements.

Councillor Gilderdale responded that she was aware that this issue had been raised before and that Ward Councillors had been in touch with Voi about this issue. Thought going forward if Voi had a more permanent contract, they may look to have more signed spaces for their vehicles to be parked in and noted this is what had happened in other places for e.g. in Liverpool. Also noted that issues with stray Voi vehicles could be reported directly to Voi.

22/20/WAC Environmental Report

The Head of Environmental Services introduced the report covering the six-month period of February to July 2022.

Members welcomed and supported the work of the team over the period covered in the report and endorsed the continued efforts directed at fly-tipping which continued to be an ongoing issue. Concern was expressed at the closure of the Adam and Eve recycling centre and asked if it could be reported back to members why this facility had been shut.

Action: Head of Environmental Services to follow up with the Shared Waste Service why the recycling facility at Adam and Eve Street had been closed and Ward Councillors not engaged prior.

Next, the cleanliness of Hobson Passage was highlighted which was a magnet for anti-social behaviour and smoking shelter for those in the nightclub.

Requested if this issue could be looked at for additional cleaning and speak with local businesses.

Action: Head of Environmental Services to pursue additional cleaning programme and business engagement to address cleanliness and anti-social behaviour issue.

Finally a member asked whether there was a scheduled highway drainage and gutter cleansing programme to remove leaves and other vegetation on a regular basis. The Head of Environmental Services confirmed there was a routine city wide mechanical sweeper programme, but sometimes parked cars prevented access.

22/21/WAC Update on city centre recovery and on Jesus Green skatepark by Head of Environmental Services

The Head of Environmental Services reported that the lighting and CCTV on Jesus Green Skate Park was making good progress, both would be delivered in the autumn. A bench and bin would also be installed which would assist with the general management of the skate park.

Next, Members were advised on the city centre recovery that the footfall was close to pre pandemic levels and also a domestic market but some return of the international market.

Cambridge was recently voted the best medium size city for mini breaks by Which magazine which was now being used in marketing campaigns to attract further visitors and footfall.

The Combined Authority funded a capital programme to improve the visitor experience and improvements in the city centre which was close to completion. The programme included the purchase of two electric assisted tourism vehicles, a new website and the development of a new tourism app due to go live in October 2022.

Seating and tree planting was being installed into Peashill, additional lighting was being installed in various areas of the city.

The market square improvement programme was on-going.

Members raised concerns about the junction of Burleigh Street and East Road following the revival of the night-time economy and also asked if there were any further plans for additional secure cycle parking.

The Head of Environmental Services confirmed that the Greater Cambridge Partnership was looking at strategic cycle parking provision in conjunction with City Council Officers.

Action: Head of Environmental Services to explore the potential for CCTV camera provision at the junction of Burleigh Street and East Road.

The meeting ended at 8.15 pm

CHAIR

Committee Action Sheet - West/Central Area Committee (WCAC)

Date: 28/09/22

Updated on:

1. Minute reference: 22/19/WAC Open Forum Q1

- Action: Head of Environmental Services to convene a multi-agency meeting to consider the issues being raised around use of e-scooters / e-bikes / e-mopeds on open spaces, with the aim of agreeing some deliverable management actions.
- Progress: Head of Environmental Services has circulated an email and briefing note requesting initial meeting with representatives from City Council's Community Safety and Streets and Open Spaces services and Police, County Council and GCP. Meeting date being organised to take place between now and Christmas.

2. Minute reference: 22/19/WAC Open Forum Q2

- Action: Head of Environmental Services to investigate the ability for the Council to acquire powers to enforce against engine idling. Would also look into what could be done regarding education about engine idling.
- Progress: Still under investigation, nothing to report as yet

3. Minute reference: 22/20/WAC Environmental Report

- Action: Head of Environmental Services to follow up with the Shared Waste Service why the recycling facility at Adam and Eve Street had been closed and Ward Councillors not engaged prior.
- Progress: Action completed. Shared Waste Service has provided Cllr Porrer with full email response on 11th October 2022

4. Minute reference: 22/20/WAC Environmental Report

- Action: Head of Environmental Services to pursue additional cleaning programme and business engagement to address cleanliness and anti-social behaviour issue.

- Progress: Head of Environmental Services sent email on 10th October 2022 requesting increased cleansing regime for Hobson's Passage and targeted engagement with businesses to tackle issue of cigarette butts and commercial bin storage; and, through the city's Purple Flag partnership, consideration of opportunities to improve the Hobson's Passage street environment, such as through additional lighting and street art.

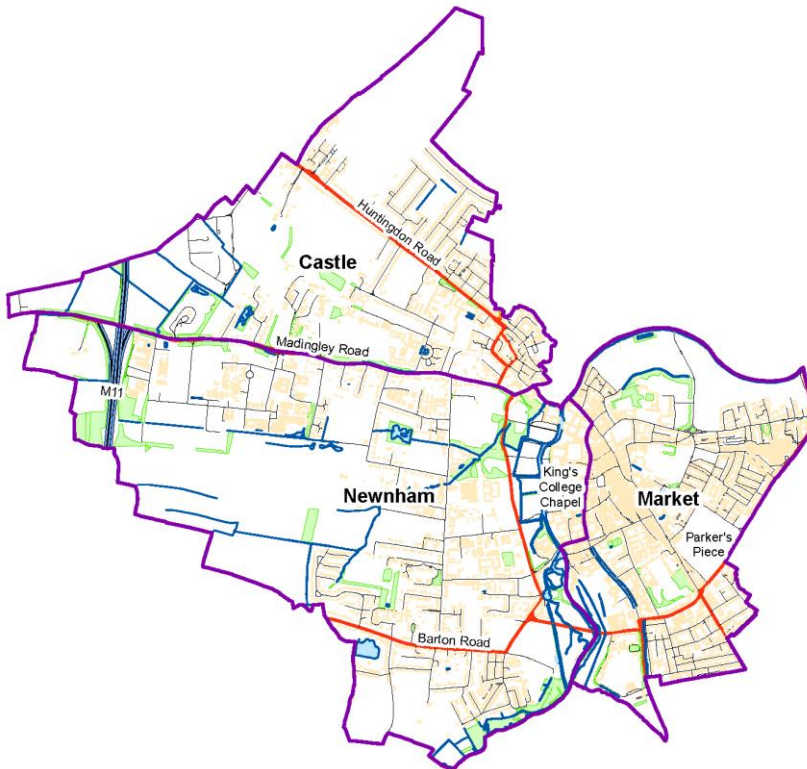
5. Minute reference: 22/21/WAC Update on City Centre Recovery

- Action: Head of Environmental Services to explore the potential for CCTV camera provision at the junction of Burleigh Street and East Road.
- Progress: Head of Environmental Services has asked the Council's CCTV and Community Safety service managers to consider the request. Both managers support the value of a CCTV camera at the location and have confirmed a pan/ tilt/ zoom camera supply and installation cost of c£12,000. They are now exploring potential funding sources; and/ or the opportunity to redeploy an existing public space CCTV camera from elsewhere in the city, where it may no longer be providing any real community safety management value, ie. it is a low crime/ ASB area.

Neighbourhood Profile

Cambridge City West/Central – November 2022

Wards: Castle, Market and Newnham



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Produced by:

Cambridgeshire Constabulary:

- Inspector Edward McNeill
- Sergeant Kevin Misik

Community Safety Team, Cambridge City Council:

- Keryn Jalli, Community Safety Manager
- Sarah Steggles, Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer



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1. Introduction

Aim

The aim of the Neighbourhood profile update is to provide an overview of action taken since the last reporting period, identify on-going and emerging crime and disorder issues, and provide recommendations for future areas of concern and activity in order to facilitate effective policing and partnership working in the area.

The document should be used to inform multi-agency neighbourhood panel meetings and neighbourhood policing teams, so that issues can be identified, effectively prioritised and partnership problem solving activity undertaken.

Methodology

This document was produced using data received from the following sources:

- The Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team for the area;
- The City Council's Community Safety Team;
- The general public, via online and telephone crime and intelligence reporting; and
- Consultation with elected Ward and County members.

2. Current Areas of Concern

At the West/Central Area Committee meeting of 16 June 2022, the committee recommended addressing the following local areas of concern:

- Anti-social behaviour on green spaces, e.g. Jesus Green;
- Road safety focussing on delivery mopeds and scooters, particularly in the City Centre and central open spaces;
- Street begging; and
- Supporting the new (police campaign) expected on drugs with focus on frequent users and the night time economy.

Lead officers and actions to be taken were agreed following the committee meeting. The work undertaken and current situation is detailed below.

Anti-social behaviour on green spaces, e.g. Jesus Green

Objective: To address the issues of anti-social behaviour (ASB) on the City Centre green spaces.

Action Taken: Over the summer period, there has been continued patrol work carried out around the green spaces within the City Centre, notably Jesus Green and Parker's Piece where there have been a number of reports of disorder. This has resulted in a number of people being searched for a range of different reasons. As well as the overt patrol work

that was carried out by the City Centre team and supported by the wider Cambridge Policing team, reviews of crime trends and patterns were also carried out and this information was used to target the patrols to the right places at the right times. Over the summer period, the green spaces were well used and whilst there was an increase in reports over and above those recorded the previous period, this was not in excess of what would be expected in this period.

Current Situation: As the weather gets colder and the nights draw in, the use of the green spaces reduces. The areas are still patrolled by the team to provide a visible presence as well as to deal with any issues that are either encountered or reported. The seasonal nature of these locations means that we do not believe that the matter needs to have a significant amount of focus until the summer months next year.

Lead Officer: PS 686 MISIK

Road safety focussing on delivery mopeds and scooters, particularly in the City Centre and central open spaces

Objective: To deal with issues related to related to delivery mopeds and scooters.

Action Taken: We have worked with a number of the delivery companies to provide advice and guidance to new drivers around safe riding and ASB caused by drivers, and explaining the impact their behaviour has on the people around them.

Officers have taken advantage on occasions of the ability to report inappropriate use of scooter to VOI, which leads to people who are breaching the standards having their accounts cancelled.

The team are aware of the key locations for issues of note.

Current Situation: There continues to be reports most notably around the Market Square, and the team are carrying out patrols as and when required.

We would also like to remind you of one of our Watch schemes, [Community Speed Watch](#), where communities themselves can become involved in making the roads safer in Cambridge.

Lead Officer: PS 686 MISIK

Street begging

Objective: To address issues of street-based begging within the City Centre.

Action Taken: We continue to work closely in partnership with the City Council's Community Safety Team to identify and deal with the people involved in this kind of behaviour. As well as targeted patrol work and (where appropriate) enforcement action, both agencies work hard to ensure that people are directed away from this behaviour and (where possible) remove the reasons that people are begging in the first place.

As well as this work, we have started work on a project to deal with the use of signs when people are begging. This work will continue with a staged approach to the enforcement of this issue.

We also work with the various retails and shopping centres around the City to support them in dealing with this kind of issue and identifying people in need of support.

Current Situation: This continues to be core work for the team and will continue going forward.

Lead Officer: PS 686 MISIK

Supporting the new (police campaign) expected on drugs with focus on frequent users and the night time economy

Objective: Dealing with issues of drug use and sale within the night time economy (NTE)

Action Taken: This is part of the wider work within the NTE. As well as targeted, high visibility and plain clothed patrol work being carried out to disrupt and deal with offences, we continue to support and work with the venues who are key partners. The venues not only provide information and intelligence to help officers identify and deal with the right people, but their searching policy also makes it much more difficult for people to enter the venues with drugs.

Current Situation: This work continues to form part of the central work carried out by officers committed in policing the NTE and will continue, notably in the run up to Christmas and the New Year.

Cambs Against County Lines weblink - Visit [Cambs Against County Lines](#) for more information, including links to resources.

Lead Officer: PS 686 MISIK

3. *Proactive Work and Emerging Issues*

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Nothing further to report

Cambridge City Council

The Community Safety Team (CST) continues to take proactive action where there are reports of anti-social behaviour (ASB) or nuisance behaviour, and works in close partnership with other agencies, such as housing providers, police neighbourhood teams and other partner agencies when tackling complex cases. We will consider preventative, supporting and enforcement action as appropriate, depending on the nature and risk level of the case.

Working with our Police partners recently, the CST has been successful in excluding a particularly problematic individual from the Sidney Street area, giving respite to the businesses affected by their anti-social behaviour. The exclusion is in place until

November 2023. We are pleased that the action has had a positive impact on the individual who has not breached the exclusion and is now accommodated and engaging with support.

Due to ongoing concerns about nuisance and anti-social behaviour issues around the Grafton Centre (including Burleigh Street and Cobbles Yard), the CST has begun speaking to local partners and agencies, including the Police and management of local shops, to discuss what interventions can be implemented to increase feelings of safety and reduce anti-social behaviour and the number of individuals rough sleeping within these areas.

The CST is currently working with partners in the housing and support services to ensure those who are rough sleeping or begging, and often causing concern to the public, are supported to engage with the housing and support options available to them. [Cambridge Street Aid](#) continues to raise awareness of safe ways in which the public can help those on the streets, rather than giving spare change which may only lengthen the time spent on the streets. The 4th Annual Cambridge Street Aid Week in October raised almost £5,000 in donations; 100% of which will be used to provide grants to individuals with a current or recent history on the streets to help them move away from a life on the streets.

Save Our Cycles – Linked to the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership, the multi-agency Cambridge Cycle Crime Prevention Task Group is chaired by Cambridge City Council. The Task Group, which includes Camcycle, businesses, the two universities and the police, launched a [Save Our Cycles](#) campaign for the public to encourage locking and registering cycles.

4. Additional Information

At the neighbourhood level, the [POLICE.UK](#) website allows for swift access to local crime and anti-social behaviour data at street level. The website can display crimes on a map as well as in chart format, along with trend lines. The three most important sections within this website are: 'overview'; 'crime map'; and 'statistics'. This gives a good overview of issues within the local area. To access the local area's relevant data, type "Cambridge" into the search engine on the homepage and then select the relevant area (Cambridge City Centre policing team, Cambridge – North policing team, or Cambridge – South policing team).

5. Recommendations

None are advised. We seek views from this committee on those local areas of concern that the police and partner agencies can work together to action and report on at the next reporting committee meeting.

Item

Environmental Improvement Programme Project Submission Summary Report (2023) for Discussion

To: West Central Area Committee: 24 November 2022

Report by:

John Richards, Public Realm Engineering & Project Delivery Team Leader
Tel:01223 458525; Email: john.richards@cambridge.gov.uk or James Ogle,
Project Officer, Tel: 01223 457354; Email james.ogle@cambridge.gov.uk

Wards affected:

Castle, Market and Newnham

Key Decision: No

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report details the Environmental Improvement (EIP) applications and ideas received for 2023 funding for projects in the West / Central Area. The Area Committee can comment on the applications and make recommendations. The area-based recommendations made by all the area committees and those put forward for city-wide strategic funding will be included in an overall recommendations report to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development, for an out of cycle decision on behalf of the Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.2 The report provides information on eligibility, funding criteria and funding budgets for the Environmental Improvement Programme.

2. Recommendations

The West/ Central Area Committee is recommended to:

- i. To note the EIP budget allocation for West / Central Area for 2022/23 and for Strategic EIP see 3.4,
- ii. To consider the new EIP ideas and project submitted for West / Central Area, against the EIP Funding availability and the eligibility criteria (Appendix A),
- iii. Consider the recommendations made in Appendix B, discuss, and clearly outline the committees' priorities in line with the available area EIP funding and additionally allocate projects to a prioritised reserve list, should other area funds be under allocated, for consideration by the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Council's Environmental Improvement Programme (EIP) has been operating as a rolling programme since 2004. The programme budget, which has been £170,000 per annum for the most recent period up to 2020/21. In 2020/21, Committee approved restructuring the programme budget, allocating £100,000 pa to a Strategic programme (which all Area Committees can bid towards) with the decision on Area and Strategic bids devolved to Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development; and £70,000 pa devolved between the four Area Committees (on a per capita basis) for Local project bids. The current EIP eligibility criteria are set out along with the programme application form in **Appendix A**.
- 3.2 The programme has been subject to periodic review to improve flexibility, ensure good value and help speed up project delivery. That said, there have been delivery difficulties with much of the programme was put on hold for 2020/21 and 2021/22, due to the impact of the Covid pandemic and the need to redirect resources towards Covid response and recovery.

- 3.3 As referred to in 3.1 above, there are now two forms of EIP funding:
- **Local Area:** With a budget of £100,000 pa, which is devolved and divided between the four Area Committees (South, East, West/Central and North), in proportion to the size of each Area's population. Committees consider which projects in their area they recommend for funding, up to a project value of £5,000 (or £10,000 if strongly supported).
 - **Strategic:** With a budget of £70,000 pa, this element of the programme is dedicated to priorities the Council has identified as being important across all areas of the city and which are aligned to the Corporate Plan and supporting strategies including Tree / Biodiversity / herbicide reduction plan, long grass policy etc. This includes making better use of roadside verges, enhancing tree canopy, improving biodiversity, benches (that promote community/ social interaction) and providing free public drinking water points.
- 3.4 Based on the devolved Area Committee Local budget, there is a total of £20,197 available for West/ Central Area as a proportion to the size of its population and £70,000 for citywide Strategic EIP.
- 3.5 An open application process for project bids within the city was started on the 21st September 2022 and closed on the 28th October 2022. The opportunity to submit project bids was advertised on the Council's website through the current consultations page with links through to Citizenlab (the Council's new community consultation and engagement platform).
- 3.6 West/ Central Area Committee members are asked to consider the projects included in Appendix B and after considering the funding parameters, eligibility and known public support (indicated from the Citizenlab platform) to make clear recommendations on priority projects for the area EIP funding and to make a reserve list, to be considered by the Executive Councillor.
- 3.7 Priority recommendations will be included in the final recommendation report and include both EIP Local area funded projects and Strategic projects.

- 3.8 Following consideration by the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development of the final recommendation report the approved bids will be published in early 2023.
- 3.9 Following publication of approved projects, project delivery will commence through the Environmental Services - Project Delivery Team throughout 2023, in liaison with project proposers and local ward councillors.
- 3.10 Those unsuccessful Local project bids, along with any Strategic project bids, supported by Area Committees but unable to be afforded this year, might be considered in any further available funding round in 2023 (subject to annual budget setting/ any available budget underspends), alongside any new applications received.
- 3.11 Note, current status of EIP projects, already approved in the West / Central Area and other area programmes can be viewed at [link](#).

4. Implications

(a) Financial Implications

The current EIP has an approved capital budget allocation of £170,000 per annum from 2021/22 (funding re-phasing from 2021/22 and 2022/23 to 2023/24 subject to annual budget setting).

(b) Staffing Implications

Historically a small number of projects have proven difficult to develop and deliver and have had a disproportionate impact on staffing resource in comparison with other programme work. The programme needs to be managed and delivered within the existing funded EIP programme management staffing resource (2 FTE).

(c) Equality and Poverty Implications

EIP project bids have historically been prioritised across all areas proportionate to population and in accordance with locally identified need. The impact of all EIP projects on Equality Act 'protected groups' is assessed at the design/ planning stage of each approved project. All hard infrastructure schemes are

designed to national standards to accommodate the needs of those with physical impairments, including mobility, sight and hearing. The overall impact of the programme is considered positive.

(d) Environmental Implications

The programme aims to preserve and improve the quality of the natural and built public realm environment across Cambridge, in a manner that does not contribute towards climate change and leaves a positive legacy for future generations. The Council has declared both a Climate and Biodiversity Emergency and there is increased focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation and biodiversity protection and net gain. The overall impact of the programme on the environment within Cambridge is therefore rated as +M (positive; Medium).

(e) Procurement Implications

The programme projects are either delivered in-house, utilising existing internal resource within Environmental Services, or externally, via existing framework contract arrangements. To ensure value for money, the larger Strategic programme schemes may be delivered through competitive tender processes.

(f) Community Safety Implications

The programme is designed to deliver local public realm environmental improvements and foster increased pride of place and community cohesion. Several local area projects have been delivered in association with local community and voluntary groups. As a result, the programme is considered to have a positive impact on community safety.

5. Consultation and communication considerations

The Citizenlab engagement tool has been used to canvass local people directly and further involve and engage all sections of the public in the Councils decision making processes. All the programme's projects are consulted on at the planning/ design stage, with the level/ type of consultation determined by and proportionate to the nature, scale, and scope of the proposed project. With much of the programme being small-scale projects, it is imperative that the proportionate principle continues to be followed.

6. Background papers

- Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee Agenda and Minutes 21st March 2019.
<https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=476&MId=3566&Ver=4>
- Current Status of EIP funded projects:
<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/11531/environmental-improvement-project-summary-2022-23.pdf>

7. Appendices

Appendix A – EIP application form and eligibility criteria,

Appendix B – EIP project submissions and recommendation for 2023 West/Central Area.

8. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on this update report please contact:

John Richards, Public Realm Engineering and Project Delivery Team Leader,

Tel: 01223 – 458525

Email: john.richards@cambridge.gov.uk or

James Ogle, Project Officer,

Tel: 01223 457354

Email james.ogle@cambridge.gov.uk

Appendix A

Environmental Improvement Programme (EIP) 2023 Year Project Ideas

Proposal/ideas are open from the 21st of September 2022, the earlier you submit them the sooner we can post them on Citizenlab and once on their the greater the chance others may support. Submission ideas are unlikely to be accepted following the 28 October 2022.

First Name

Surname

Email Address
(not to be shared
with public) so
we can contact
you for more
project details if
your idea is
supported

Location of suggested
Environmental Improvement -
Street/Greenspace name or
nearest postcode

Title - What: Issue/Problem/Improvement – please give a title to idea and what your idea is likely to achieve:

Description - How: Suggested Solution – please outline how you feel your objectives might be best met e.g., improve biodiversity on Joe Street – Plant wildflower grasses on greenspace on corner outside number 1 Joe Street and change grass cutting regime:

Outcomes - Why: Joe Street is part of an important Local Nature network corridor, it will help with health and wellbeing of local people, improve the environment, contribute towards secure nature species for the future.

Who: Please outline who or which Group is proposing the project or whether local Councillors support?

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Proposed Budget - Not compulsory - But may outline items required, and possibly an approximate cost of these giving an approx. budget requirement - note Officers with experience may add in estimate costs or change any costs inputted based on experience of delivering projects.

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Eligibility Criteria for Environmental Improvements

Please indicate which of these criteria would be met by your application:

Essential Criteria	tick	Desirable Criteria	tick
Projects have a direct, lasting and noticeable improvement to the appearance of a street or area		The project will benefit a large number of local people	
Projects should publicly visible and accessible		Ease and simplicity of implementation	
Should the scheme be on private land, the owners' permission must be granted – unless there are exceptional circumstances by which the Area Committee may wish to act unilaterally, with full knowledge and responsibility for the implication of such action.		It features the active involvement of local people	
Projects must ensure low future maintenance costs.		It meets one/more key policy objectives (e.g. improves biodiversity, community safety or contributes to equal opportunities)	
		There is potential for inclusion of employment training opportunities	
		Additional 'partnership' funding is available.	

Ineligible for funding:

- Projects costing more than £10,000; without Area Committee authority
- Where an available alternative source of funding is available
- Revenue projects (i.e. management and maintenance of existing facilities)

- Schemes that have already received Council funding (unless it can be clearly demonstrated that this would not be 'top up' funding)
- Works that the City or County Council are under an immediate obligation to carry out (e.g. repair of dangerous footways)
- Play areas (S106 funding should pay for these facilities).

Other Information:

The following categories of work were agreed as being eligible for funding by the Area Committees:

- Works in areas of predominately council owned housing

Appendix B – EIP project submissions and recommendation for 2023 West/Central Area,

Please consider that the funding available is **£20,197** and the 15 project submissions just for the Area EIP are estimated to cost **£50,000**, as set out in the table 1 below. With 2 submissions for the area fitting into the EIP Strategic programme with an estimated value of £20,000.

Prior to the committee the project list and details were sent out to ward councillors for the West / Central Area with the advice that Councillors consider the projects put forward giving an opportunity to indicatively prioritise which ones they would wish to proceed. Within the Table below there is an Officer Funding suggestion based on Officer comments and analysis. However, this is to be discussed with the final recommendation for project funding approval coming from Area Committee Board Members. Where applicants have estimated costs of works, or not included, Officers have added or adjusted to appropriate estimated amounts.

Table 1 - Summarised project submissions for West / Central Area:

No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Shortened)	Proposed by	Ward	Est. Cost £	Cost Deliverability Eligible Rating	Persons in Support	Officer Funding suggestion
WC1 - 2023	Tree Protection at the end of Skaters Meadow Roadway	Idea is installation of laid down telegraph poles pegged in place to reduce damage cars are doing to the Trees and vegetation on the edge of the roadway, however a more biodiverse solution could be use of large deadwood tree trunks/branches.	Local Residents	Newnham	2k	Amber	Thumbs up 5	Unclear – Use of Statutory powers to deliver on unregistered land
WC2 - 2023	Biodiversity Improvements - Woodlark Rd, Hoadley Rd, Sherlock Rd & Eachard Rd	Wildflower planting along the verges around the area (square of 1930s housing). This will improve biodiversity and the environment at a local level in the established housing area and makes increased use of their green assets to address the climate emergency. Local consultation of the 135 properties, 49 support the wildflowers, 34 wish to retain the grass verges and 52 have not responded.	Cllr C Payne	Castle	5k	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 29 Thumbs Down 8	Yes - but needs sensitive local consultation
WC3 - 2023	Plant hedgerow on road border of Midsummer Common	Plant a hedgerow on the border of Midsummer Common with Victoria Road and Maids Causeway. Hedgerow would provide protection for children and dogs on the common, shelter from traffic noise and pollution, and food and habitat for birds and insects.	Local Resident	Market	5k	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 15 Thumbs Down 2	Yes - Sections greening up boundary, likely to require more funding.

No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Shortened)	Proposed by	Ward	Est. Cost £	Cost Deliverability Eligible Rating	Persons in Support	Officer Funding suggestion
WC5 - 2023	Benches on Christ's pieces, New Square, and Parker's piece.	Request is for provision of more benches on Christ's pieces, New Square, and Parker's piece. Many of the local residents are aged over 60 and would value benches from which to contemplate the splendid green spaces in our area.	Local Resident	Market	5k	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 7	Yes - assessment of need for locations
WC6 - 2023	Display boards for the Ascension Burial Ground	The Ascension Burial Ground at the end of All Souls Lane is one of Cambridge's hidden treasures. It provides a peaceful place of beauty for public benefit. It is not an easy site to understand on the ground. Display boards can record new discoveries, wildlife activity and seasonal changes enhancing appreciation of the site for many visitors.	Friends of Ascension Burial Ground	Castle	2.5k	Green	Thumbs up 23	Yes – Dependent upon area funding availability
WC7 - 2023	Planting on existing pavement islands, Norwich Street	Planting on Norwich Street would greatly enhance the atmosphere, environment, and aesthetics of the street. There are two adjacent small pavement islands midway down the street which would easily take suitable planting of small bushes or shrubs.	Local Resident	Market	3k	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 11	Yes - dependent upon area priorities.
WC9 - 2023	Community Noticeboards in Newnham, Castle and Market to promote community Cohesion.	3 or 4 Community noticeboards boards to be installed in appropriate locations for their purpose across Newnham, Castle and Market to help promote community cohesion and engagement. The noticeboards can become a vital community 'traditional' hub for information and a place where everyone can post important information (not political or business advertisement), requests for help, and offers of support.	Cllr Holloway	Newnham, Castle and Market	4.5k	Green	Thumbs up 6	Yes - Consider budget reduction if funding pot low?
WC 10 - 2023	Increase Biodiversity – Eachard Road	Plant wildflower grasses on the greenspaces to increase the biodiversity spaces for insects and birds and improve the well-being for those who walk and exercise in the area.	Local Resident	Castle	2k	Amber	Thumbs up 3	No - Covered by duplicate project WC2

No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Shortened)	Proposed by	Ward	Est. Cost £	Cost Deliverability Eligible Rating	Persons in Support	Officer Funding suggestion
WC 11 - 2023	Plant bulbs and wildflowers at Fen Causeway/Newnham Road roundabout	This current rather plain and bleak roundabout could be a beautiful, welcoming entrance to the area. Succession-planting of bulbs and wildflowers create an attractive low cost alternative to past treatments and promote biodiversity.	Local Resident	Newnham	2k	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 11	Yes - if maintenance regime viable
WC 12 - 2023	Wildflower planting on the Barton Road verges for well-being and biodiversity.	Roadside verges can be important 'wildlife corridors' for plants, flowers, butterflies and other insects as well as helping to reduce air pollution. More wildflowers could be planted to improve biodiversity for this key route into and out of the city.	Newnham Croft RA	Newnham	5k	Amber / Red	Thumbs up 13	Unclear - need to audit verge composition before can consider assigning funding
WC 13 - 2023	Bins around Gough Way	Two waste bins, largely to manage the issue of dog waste. One bin on the lane running along Bin Brook between Barton Rd and the sluice gate. One bin would be at the west end of Cranmer Road, by the entrance to the footpath.	Residents Gough Way estate	Newnham	1k	Green	Thumbs up 2 down 1	Yes - Dependent upon area funding availability
WC 14 - 2023	Planting to screen Lammas Land from traffic and reduce air pollution in the park	To have planting that protects Lammas Land from the sight, sound and pollution from passing traffic on the busy Newnham Road. Planting a 'vegetation barrier' could reduce air pollution in Lammas Land by as much as 50%. The new Lammas Land Management Plan proposes replanting the Newnham Road boundary.	Local Resident	Newnham	5k	Green	Thumbs up 6	Yes - Dependent upon area funding availability
WC 15 - 2023	Improve a bench in Newnham	The current much is much used by walkers and shoppers unfortunately it needs refurbishment. It was built some years ago around the trunk of a beautiful mature tree, it needs a new design with an extension or a new bench, as the tree roots create a slip hazard.	Local Resident	Newnham	2k	Green	Thumbs up 2	Yes -

No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Shortened)	Proposed by	Ward	Est. Cost £	Cost Deliverability Eligible Rating	Persons in Support	Officer Funding suggestion
WC 16 - 2023	Christ's Pieces - Provision of places for unsightly bins improving environment	Provision of a series of 3 'inlet bays' in the iron railings with hard standing, alongside the public path to the rear of King Street, for the commercial Eurobins that currently clutter these areas. Relocating the bins will help transform the pathway into a more welcoming and accessible area, improving safety and the environment.	Cllr T Bick	Market	3k	Green	Thumbs up 1	Yes – if any required permissions can be gained from adjoining private landowners
WC 17 - 2023	Improvements to shared use paths on Midsummer Common	Improvement of shared use for all users of pathways on Midsummer Common. Presently there is conflict between different users of the footpaths. Proposal is to pilot a series of awareness and design interventions, that may include physical awareness and design measures, particularly focusing on entry points and key pinch-points.	Cllr T Bick	Market	3k	Green	N/A	Yes - Dependent upon area funding availability

Submissions for Projects Strategic Area Funding; note sWC - 2023 project(s) that fall in West / Central Area.

No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Shortened)	Proposed by	Ward	Est. Cost	Cost, Delv, elig,	Persons in Support	Officer Funding suggestion
					£	R/AG		
sWC4 - 2023	Street Trees in Market Ward	Several locations may be conducive to planting of Street trees in this densely populated ward with many streets with no or very few street trees.	Officer	Market	10k	Amber	Thumbs up 4	Unclear - Other funding sources maybe available
sWC8 - 2023	Green roofs for bus stops	The planting of grass and wildflowers on top of bus stops in the West Central Area. To help enhance biodiversity on our streets, vital for the survival of small animals, such as bees, and of plants. Bus stops are accessible locations for people to enjoy. Green roofs would also provide shade, absorb heat, and improve air quality.	Cllr Holloway	Newnh am, Castle & Market	10k	Amber / Red	Thumbs up 23	No – Deliverability (ownership) and very high level of time resource required.
City 1	Citywide Community Engagement led Biodiversity and Habitat Improvement Projects	Established volunteer work groups led by Environmental Services Community Engagement Team to work with residents to develop local community gardens and food growing spaces on works such as benches (to increase social interaction), local food production, wildflower meadows, trees, and invertebrate (bees) and wildflower bank(s)/features as well as projects that focus on Food Poverty by creating growing spaces – cultivating areas of green space several small scale projects – assisting groups cultivate farm and harvest land for social benefit, during the current national financial crisis.	Environment Services Community Engagement Team	All	circa 15k	Green	Thumbs up 2	Yes – Amount dependent on budget pressures
City 2	Genuine Biodiversity gain	Work with homeowners street by street, ward by ward, and offer to put green roofs on flat roof extensions, bring back front gardens with as much or as little planting the home owner will allow.	Local Resident	All		Amber/ Red	Thumbs up 6	Unclear - Deliverability other Council Teams could help delivery, very high time resource.

City 3	Environment al map of Cambridge	Wildlife need corridors to enable travel around the city. An environmental map would look at the City's open and closed spaces to highlight the spaces that are great for wild birds, reptiles, fish, insects, amphibians and mammals but also the spaces that are used for domesticated animals, pets and farm. It could identify the spaces of travel, for these creatures plus showing areas which may need mor corridors created. Should be relatively easy to do from Google maps but the drill down to public and private, and reward private spaces that are havens.	Local Resident	All		Red	Thumbs up	No - ineligible
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Submissions of Project Ideas for Strategic EIP that more appropriately funded through Other Funding Such as LHI, S106, and or others.

Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Shortened)	Proposed by	Ward
Introduce electric auto rickshaws in Cambridge City	An Auto electric Rikshaw solution: People could use auto rickshaws to reach the boarding points for buses/railway stations.	Local Resident	Citywide

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