

NORTH AREA CORRIDOR FUNDING

Note to Members of Cambridge City Council - North Area Committee

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Date: 16th May 2013

1.0 Introduction

1.2 The purpose of this paper is to inform Members of the process for allocating Corridor Area Transport Plan (CATP) S106 funding. It is also to update on progress on funding and schemes and to seek views on a proposal for funding. Views of the Committee are also welcome on additional schemes for future consideration and assessment for funding.

2.0 Background

2.1 Transport s106 contributions are collected in Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire largely through the Corridor Area Transport Plan (CATP) process. Contributions are collected from a number of developments, towards a range of schemes and principles that are included in the plans

2.2 The plans have been formally adopted by the City, South Cambridgeshire and the County and the allocation of funds must adhere to the principles in the plans. This is principally about mitigating the impacts of growth and improving accessibility and travel by sustainable modes.

2.3 A process is in place between Cambridge, South Cambridgeshire and Cambridgeshire, for making recommendations for allocating the pot of S106 funding which currently includes some £3m for the North Area. The Plans themselves form the starting point for considering schemes for funding, officers from the authorities are asked for views on appropriate schemes that mitigate the effect of additional transport related movements from new development.

2.4 Views are also sought from the Area Committees on proposed schemes as well as suggestions for schemes which fit with the objectives of the CATP. Suggestions are then assessed using a Project Assessment Form, to establish a value for money score. The schemes and their assessment results are then taken back to the Area Committees to seek views on priorities/ additional schemes for consideration

2.5 Further consideration is then undertaken on the proposals to ensure fit with Area Transport Corridor Plan approach ahead of making recommendations to Lead Portfolio holder and Cabinet for proposed funding allocations.

3.0 Progress update

3.1 A number of schemes were discussed at the Area Committee on the 27th September 2012, and priorities were confirmed. Subsequent to this, funding recommendations were made to County Cabinet in December 2012. This included eight schemes for the North Area Committee at a value of £1,090,000. Cabinet approved the proposed spending for the priority schemes which have now been allocated funding. Schemes approved in July and December 2012 are being programmed for progression and implementation. An outline of activity is provided in the table below.

| Scheme | Funding allocated | Current status | Next steps | |
|--|-------------------|---|--|---------------------------|
| | | | Activity | Date |
| Cycle route from Orchard park to City Centre | £250,000 | Met with local members on the 18 th of Feb to discuss issues and ideas. Working up initial ideas for schemes in more detail. | Further meeting will be held post election with members to discuss ideas in more detail. Community engagement will begin on options. | May 2013 June 2013 |
| Kings Hedges Road/Arbury Rd Crossing | £50,000 | Met with local members on the 18 th of Feb to discuss issues and ideas. Working up initial ideas for schemes in more detail. | Further meeting will be held post election with members to discuss ideas in more detail. Community engagement will begin on options. | May 2013 June 2013 |
| Chesterton Cycle Bridge (Feasibility Study) | £10,000 | A brief has been prepared for the feasibility study | Feasibility study underway | Sept 2013 |
| Radial Route Signing | £50,000 | Project scope under assessment | Carry out an audit on existing signs on the radial route. | Aug 2013 |
| Lighting along the busway | £100,000 | Ascertaining design standards, looking at procurement and discussing planning requirements. | Commence design and pre planning consultation | Sept 2013 |
| Station Rd/High Street Histon junction improvement | £70,000 | Work currently taking place on initial designs. | Meeting with Parish Council and local members, to be announced in May/June 2013 | May/June 2013 |
| Traffic Calming on Arbury Road | £150,000 | Met with local members on the 18 th of Feb to discuss | Further meeting will be held post election with | May 2013 |

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|--|----------|---|--|----------------------------|
| (near St Lawrence's School) | | issues and ideas. Working up ideas in more detail. | members to discuss ideas in more detail. Community engagement will begin on options. | June 2013 |
| Review bus delays on and parking on Cambridge Rd and New Rd Histon | £50,000 | Working being carried out alongside the station rd improvement scheme. Work beginning on initial designs. | Meeting with Parish Council and local members, to be announced in May/June 2013 | May/June 2013 |
| Milton to Landbeach cycle route | £250,000 | Construction on phase 1 of the scheme has begun. | A trial of the proposal for phase 2 will be carried out. – feedback from council and local community of the trial scheme | May 2013 |
| Improvements to Gilbert Rd/Milton Rd Junction | £20,000 | Preliminary designs have been completed. Additional funding has been gained from the DFT cycle safety bid | The scheme will be discussed with members and then consultation with the community shortly after. | May/June 2013 July 2013 |
| Ring Fort Path | £350,000 | Atkins has started the feasibility study. | Once the study is complete the County Council will consult on options with local members and the local community. | July 2013 |
| Fen Road Traffic Calming | £100,000 | A leaflet is being produced and distributed locally reporting on traffic survey work carried out giving an overview of options. This is not a full consultation exercise but feedback from the leaflet will inform discussions of the steering group. Funding package with partners also being scoped | Further work with Network Rail to explore level crossing safety issues. Develop traffic calming design for full consultation. Explore additional funding | Aug 2013 |

3.2 At the Area Committee in Sept 2012, a number of additional proposals were mentioned for follow up and investigation. This included;

- **The Chisholm Trail** - a proposal for a new cycle route joining the north of the city with the south. Feasibility work has begun on the Chisholm Trail and discussions are taking place with Network Rail. Once costs are known for sections within the north area corridor, Cambridgeshire County Council will return to the North Area committee to update on options for progressing.
- **Milton Road/Arbury Road** – moving the southbound bus stop on Milton Road near the Arbury Road junction to just north of it from its

current location just south of the junction. This proposal has been discussed with the signals and Systems team at the County Council. In their view the road is wide enough for a car to just pass a parked bus if the drivers in the ahead lane are considerate. At times when this is not the case then they agree that the southbound lane could block for a short period of time whilst passengers board or alight from the bus. Further analysis is needed to assess options and to engage initially with Stagecoach on suitable locations for a new stop.

- **Carlisle Road/Chesterton Rd crossing** – The area has been identified by the County Council as an accident cluster site. Work is included in this year's programme to analyse accident details and to develop proposals. It is important that proposals are designed to address the issues identified. The cost of proposals will emerge from this work and details of costs and the proposed scheme will be brought back to the North Area Committee for consideration.
- **Fen Road improved Bus Services** – Initial discussions have been held with Passenger Transport, further detail of what is required is needed before engagement with Stagecoach is carried out. Are more frequent services needed, at different times or to different locations? Once the detail has been confirmed Passenger Transport will work up proposals to be discussed with Stagecoach.
- **Hailing Way towpath alongside the river** – Increase width of narrow sections and riverbank stabilisation where required on section toward Clayhithe Bridge. The opportunity to widen the path was reviewed as part of the work previously undertaken to improve the route. Widening was not feasible owing to the very high cost of extensive sheet piling required to stabilise the river bank and the narrow river corridor, resulting in limited widening at very high relative costs.

4.0 Next Steps in the Approval/Implementation Process

- 4.1 Views from the Area Committee will be fed back and considered when making recommendations on proposals for funding allocations to a future County Cabinet meeting. Following Cabinet approval to allocate s106 funding to any scheme, the usual separate approval scheme process will follow, with design and consultation on proposed options prior to implementation.
- 4.2 The Area Committees views are welcome on the proposed recommendations, and also other suggestions /schemes are invited for consideration and assessment of fit with Area Corridor funding.