Cambridge City Council

To: West/Central Area Committee

Report by: Simon Payne, Director of Environment

Wards affected: Castle, Newnham and Market

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

1.0 Executive summary

- This report requests that West/Central Area Committee determine which of the proposed schemes listed in Appendix A and E of this report are allocated funding, from its available £53,634 Environmental Improvement Programme budget for 2013/14.

2.0 Recommendations

The Committee is recommended:

2.1 To reassign the £20,000 currently allocated to the replacement of the Lammas Land Pavilion to new suggestions for this year’s EIP programme.

2.2 To allocate funding of £600 to the highway schemes in appendix A that have secured Local Highway Improvement (LHI) funding from the County Council.

2.3 To approve the delivery of the new minor traffic regulation orders listed in Appendix E, at an estimated cost of £3,000, funded from the EIP budget.

2.4 To allocate funding of up to £50,034 [or £70,034 subject to decision 2.1 above] to the remaining proposed projects in Appendix A of this report.

2.5 To approve those projects for implementation, subject to positive consultation and final approval by local Ward Councillors.

2.6 To note the progress of existing schemes listed in Appendix C of this report.
3.0 **REALLOCATION OF APPROVED BUDGET**

3.1 The proposal to replace the Lammas Land Pavilion has had a £20,000 allocation reserved from the West/Central Area Committee EIP budget for many years.

3.2 A budget of at least £100,000 would be required to make this project feasible and further funding would most likely be secured from developer contributions.

3.2 Under the new process for devolved decision making for the allocation of developer contributions, the replacement of Lammas Land Pavilion has not been identified as a potential project and will therefore not be prioritised for developer contribution funding in the near future.

3.3 It is therefore recommended that the £20,000 EIP budget allocation be reallocated to fund new suggestions put forward as part of the programme for this year.

4.0 **SUGGESTED SCHEMES FOR THE 2013/14 PROGRAMME**

4.1 Initial feasibility work has been carried out on all of the schemes that have been suggested for the 2013/14 Environmental Improvement Programme (EIP).

4.2 The table in Appendix A lists all of the schemes that could be feasibly delivered as part of this year’s EIP Programme, should they be allocated funding by the West/Central Committee.

4.3 Any scheme that involves the public highway was submitted to the Highway Authority (Cambridgeshire County Council), to apply for funding from the County Council’s Local Highway Infrastructure Budget.

4.4 A panel of four city County Councillors met to prioritise these suggestions for the city as a whole and made recommendations to the portfolio holder County Cllr Mac McGuire.

4.4 Schemes numbers 3 and 7 have secured funding from the County Council Local Highway Improvements (LHI) budget for 2013/14 totalling £5,400. This funding is subject to a minimum 10% third party contribution, in this case the Environmental Improvement Programme.
4.5 The West/Central Area Committee has £53,634 available to allocate to schemes from its Environmental Improvement Programme Budget. This is made up of an annual allocation of £42,800, plus the remaining budget from previous programme years of £10,834.

4.6 From this available budget it is recommended that £600 is allocated to LHI funded schemes leaving a budget of up to £53,034 for new EIP schemes.

4.7 Further details of the proposed schemes can be found in Appendix A and E of this report.

5.0 PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER SCHEMES

5.1 In 2011/12 the County Council, through the Cambridge Area Joint Committee, allocated £5500 to the West/Central Area Committee from its minor highway works budget, to deliver minor traffic regulation orders and related works.

5.2 The West/Central Area Committee approved a matched funding allocation from its Environmental Improvement Programme budget taking the total budget to £11,000.

5.3 Since then various traffic regulation orders have been delivered, following approval by this Committee, as shown in Appendix E under ‘Traffic Regulation Orders Implemented’.

5.4 There is also a proposal still in progress (Kite Area Parking Review) from the list of proposed schemes put forward last year as shown in Appendix E under ‘Traffic Regulation Orders in Progress’.

5.5 All schemes rely on resources made available by the County Council as the traffic authority. The City Council does not have the authority to carry out the statutory process required for the introduction of the traffic regulation order. It also cannot determine any objections that are subsequently received. This currently has to be carried out by the respective portfolio holder, County Cllr Mac McGuire.

5.6 Taking into consideration the cost of schemes that have now been completed and the estimated cost of those still in progress, there is no budget remaining for new suggested Traffic Regulation Order schemes.
5.7 However, suggestions have been received from Ward Councillors and officers from the City Council’s Waste Services Department, with an estimated value of £3,000, which are shown in Appendix E.

5.8 There are streets across the city where access for larger vehicles is made very difficult or in many cases impossible by the location of on street parking.

5.9 This also has a direct implication for emergency services, particularly the fire brigade, where the consequences are far more serious.

5.10 For these to be deliverable, West/Central Area Committee would need to approve this additional allocation from its Environmental Improvement Programme budget for this year.

5.11 Members of the Committee are asked to approve further development and implementation of the schemes listed Appendix E under ‘Proposed Traffic Regulation Order Schemes’, funded from the EIP budget and subject to positive consultation and any subsequent objections to the proposed TRO being upheld as part of the statutory process.
6.0 Background papers

None

7.0 Appendices

APPENDIX A
Summary of Feasible EIP Schemes for 2013/14.

APPENDIX B
Details of Proposed Schemes

APPENDIX C
Progress of Existing Schemes

APPENDIX D
EIP Eligibility Criteria

APPENDIX E
Proposed Minor Traffic Regulation Order Schemes

7.0 Inspection of papers

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

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