

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

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REPORT OF: Director of Environment

TO: South Area Committee

13/10/2014

WARDS: Cherry Hinton, Queen Edith's and Trumpington

**S106 DEVOLVED DECISION-MAKING:  
TAKING STOCK AND MOVING FORWARD**

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**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 A report is set to be considered to the council's Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 16 October, which proposes arrangements for the next rounds of S106 priority-setting. There will be a short presentation to the Area Committee, in order to highlight what these recommended changes (if approved) will mean for the South Area.
- 1.2 The Area Committee is not being asked to make any priority-setting decisions on 13 October. This is simply an opportunity to brief councillors on the proposed new arrangements and to provide an update on the progress of S106-funded projects previously prioritised by Area Committee.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The South Area Committee is asked to note:

- 2.1 the proposed arrangements for the third and fourth priority-setting rounds in 2014/15 and 2015/16; and
- 2.2 the progress being made on S106-funded projects that have been prioritised by the South Area Committee in 2012/13 and 2013/14.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Here is a summary of the key points from the Scrutiny Committee report. The report itself can be found via the council's Developer Contributions web page ([www.cambridge.gov.uk/s106](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/s106)).
- 3.2 The council asks developers to pay S106 contributions for new or improved facilities in order to address the impact of development. Over the last two years, the council has devolved to area committees decision-making over the use of devolved S106 contributions from planning approvals in their respective areas.

- 3.3 There have been two S106 priority-setting rounds in 2012/13 and 2013/14. During the last two years, the council has completed 36 S106-funded projects overall. Another 35 are on-going. Details for the projects in South Area can be found in Appendix A: an oral update will be provided at the meeting. There are also two projects from South Area on the 'on hold list of the council's Capital Plan: see Appendix B.
- 3.4 There are competing pressures as to what happens next. There are expectations for the council to move forward with the next round of S106 priority-setting so area committees can identify their next set of priorities. At the same time, there are calls for the council to finish the delivery of the S106 projects already identified before adding more projects involving delivery by the council to the Capital Plan.
- 3.5 As a way forward, it is proposed that the next (third) priority-setting round this autumn should focus on projects that can be grant-funded from developer contributions. Processing grants for projects being taken forward by local community groups, involves much less officer time than projects being managed and delivered by the council. This would enable council officers to focus on delivering of existing S106 priority projects before a wider priority-setting round in 2015/16. The key features and processes involved in the next rounds are set out in Appendices C and D.

#### **4. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The following papers were used in the preparation of this report.

- "S106 priority-setting and devolved decision-making", report to Community Services Scrutiny Committee, 16/10/14

Other background information can be found on the Council's Developer Contributions web page ([www.cambridge.gov.uk/S106](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/S106)).

#### **5. INSPECTION OF PAPERS**

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

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**S106 projects: South Area Committee**

| CP ref.  | Projects completed in the last 2 years                                     | £k S106 |
|--|--|---------|
| <b>Projects agreed prior to 1<sup>st</sup> round S106 priority-setting</b> |  |         |
| PR25   | Grant for Rock Road library community meeting space                        | <25     |
| -  | Bat and vole biodiversity project at Accordia                              | <15     |
| SC474  | Cherry Hinton Hall grounds improvements: phase 1                           | 75      |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> 106 priority-setting round</b>                           |  |         |
| PR34g  | Grant for Centre at St Paul's: phase 3                                     | 50      |
| PR32a  | Hanover Court/Princess Court meeting space                                 | 100     |
| PR32b  | Nightingale Avenue Rec trim trail  | 25-50   |
| PR32c  | Cherry Hinton Rec Ground improvements (play dome, panna goals, skate park) | 100-125 |
| PR32d  | Grant for Cherry Hinton community hub                                      | <25     |

| CP ref.  | On-going projects   | £k S106 |
|--|---|---------|
| <b>Projects agreed prior to 1<sup>st</sup> round S106 priority-setting</b> |   |         |
| SC548  | Southern Connections public art project   | 75-100  |
| <b>2nd 106 priority-setting round</b>                                      |   |         |
| PR34k  | Grant for Netherhall School cricket nets  | 25      |
| PR32e  | Accordia scooter/trim trail (more consultation this autumn; committee report will follow) | 25-50   |
| PR32f  | Cherry Hinton Baptist Church family centre  | 50-75   |
| PR32g  | Cherry Hinton Rec pavilion refurbishment  | 100     |
| PR32h  | Trumpington Bowls Club pavilion   | 50-75   |
| PR32i  | War memorial improvements (landscaping) (expected in November 14)                         | <25     |

## Projects currently on the 'on hold' list

- 1 The following projects have previously been added to the council's Capital Plan but are currently on the 'on hold' list as there is not yet sufficient funding available for the projects to be taken forward.

| CP ref. | On-hold projects from South Area                | £k S106 |
|---------|---|---------|
| 474     | Cherry Hinton Hall grounds improvements phase 2 | 400     |
| 475     | Nightingale Avenue Pavilion                     | 200     |

3. **Cherry Hinton Hall Grounds improvements: phase 2:** This project is 'on hold' list because lottery funding opportunities were being explored in order to fund a full masterplan of improvements. Although this did not come to fruition, there is still £400k of S106 informal open space contributions allocated to the project. Proposals for a series of smaller-scale grounds improvements at Cherry Hinton Hall are being developed, so that project appraisals for works using these existing allocations can be brought forward in due course.

- 4.1 **Nightingale Avenue Pavilion:** The project was added to the Capital Plan on the understanding that community facilities contributions from the Bell School site (once received in phased payments) could go towards the overall costs of the project, which could be in the region of £300k-£400k. Contributions are still awaited: the first instalment has been requested recently and subsequent phased payments are likely to come in over a number of years.

- 4.2 In the meantime, the South Area Committee in January 2014 earmarked £200,000 of outdoor sports contributions for this project (currently allocated from devolved funding). Depending on the facilities to be included in a new pavilion and considerations about how it would be managed, there are still questions about which contribution types the S106 funding for this project would come from.

- 4.3 It is possible that the project might need further allocations of S106 outdoor sports funding, if the currently anticipated levels of community facilities contributions are no longer appropriate for this particular project. Such project allocations would need to be determined as part of a future S106 priority-setting round.

## Appendix C: Next priority-setting rounds – key features

|  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> round   | 4 <sup>th</sup> round   |
|--|---|---|
| Focus on   | Project proposals that can be grant-funded from S106 contributions  | All proposals (either for S106 grant-funding or management/ delivery by the council)  |
| Contribution types being considered                  | Those suitable for S106 grant funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• community facilities</li> <li>• indoor sports</li> <li>• outdoor sports and</li> <li>• (possibly), public art – (small-scale projects by local groups)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• community facilities</li> <li>• informal open space</li> <li>• play provision for children and teens</li> <li>• indoor sports</li> <li>• outdoor sports</li> <li>• public art</li> <li>• public realm</li> </ul>   |
| Area Committees will prioritise local proposals for: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• community facilities</li> <li>• outdoor sports facilities</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• community facilities</li> <li>• informal open space</li> <li>• play provision for children and teens</li> <li>• outdoor sports</li> </ul>  |
| Relevant Exec Councillors will prioritise proposals  | Strategic proposals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• community facilities</li> <li>• outdoor sports facilities</li> </ul> <p>And all proposals for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• indoor sports facilities</li> </ul> | Strategic proposals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• community facilities</li> <li>• informal open space</li> <li>• play provision</li> <li>• outdoor sports</li> </ul> <p>And all proposals for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• indoor sports facilities</li> <li>• public art</li> <li>• public realm</li> </ul> |
| Consultation   | Primarily for local community groups with capital project proposals   | Local residents and community groups  |
| When   | Consultation in November 2014 followed by priority-setting reports to area & scrutiny committees in January/February 2015   | (Provisional) consultation in June '15 followed by priority-setting reports to area/scrutiny committees between Oct-Dec 2015  |
| When could priorities be taken forward               | From 2015/16 (depending on the readiness of grant-funded priority projects)   | From 2016/17 (depending on the readiness of priority projects)  |

## Appendix D: S106 priority-setting: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> rounds

