

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT OF: Director of Environment

TO: East Area Committee

23/10/2014

WARDS: Abbey, Coleridge, Petersfield, Romsey

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

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A report is being 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 the decisions (to be) made by the Executive Councillor for City Centre and Public Places will mean for the East Area.
- 1.2 The Area Committee is not being asked to make any priority-setting decisions on 23 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 East 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 East 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).
- 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 relating to the projects in East Area can be found in Appendix A.
- 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, the scrutiny committee report proposes 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 B and C.
- 3.6 In November 2014, local community and sports groups will be asked for their new or updated project proposals for which they would seek S106 grant-funding. More information about this exercise (including details of how much devolved funding is available to East Area for community and sports facility contribution types) will be made available on the council's Developer Contributions web page in late October. For now, see the advice for consultees in Appendix 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).

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: East Area Committee

CP ref.	Project completed in the last 2 years	£k S106
Projects agreed prior to 1st round S106 priority-setting		
PR26	Grant for Flamsteed Road Scout Hut	100
PR26	Grant for King's Church Community Centre	100
PR26	Grant for St Martin's Church Centre: phase 1	100-125
PR26	Grant for St Martin's Church Centre: phase 1b	100-125
SC432	Mill Road Cemetery memorial public art	50-75
SC476	Abbey Pool paddling pool splash pad	125
SC477	Coleridge Rec Pool paddling pool splash pad	100
SC496	Petersfield & Flower Street play area (also funded from other sources)	<25
SC497	Peveler Road play area	75-100
1st round S106 priority-setting: strategic projects		
PR34i	Grant for Cherry Trees centre (incl. £36k funding from East Area)	75-100
1st round S106 priority-setting: local projects		
PR30a	Stourbridge Common biodiversity improvements	<25
PR30c	Ditton Fields outdoor fitness equipment	25-50

1st & 2nd round projects were prioritised subject to consultation/appraisal, as appropriate. Assuming those still being appraised are approved, delivery is expected within the next 6-12 months, unless otherwise stated.

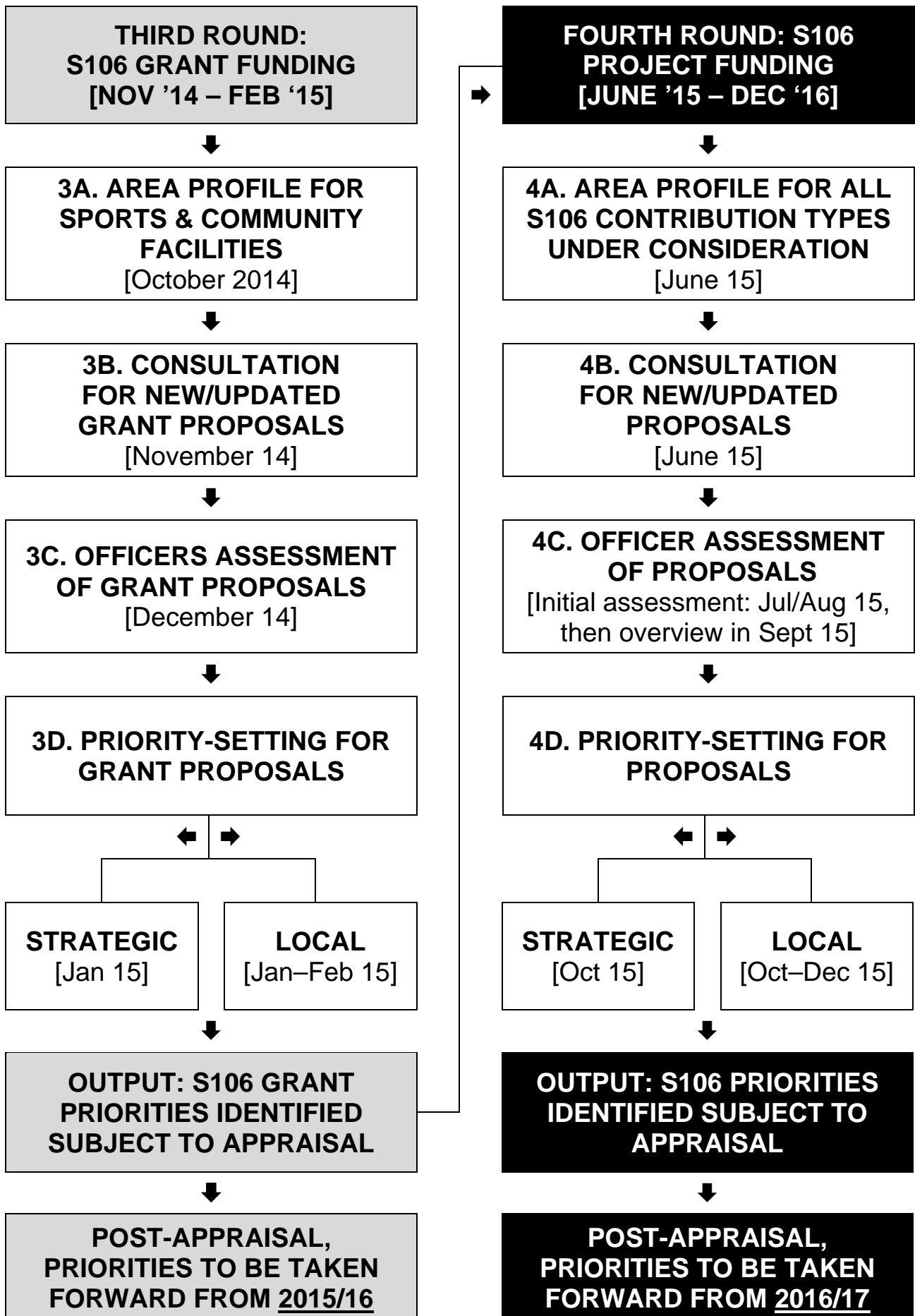
CP ref.	On-going projects	£k S106
Projects agreed prior to S106 priority-setting 1st round		
PR26	Stanesfield Road Scout Hut (expected to complete in December '14)	100
SC479	Abbey Pool play area (expected to complete in November '14)	75-100
SC544	Coleridge Recreation Ground improvements (play area installation – October / November '2014)	275-300

CP ref.	On-going projects	£k S106
1st priority-setting round: local projects		
PR30b	Improve access to Abbey Pool play area from Coldham's Common (expected Nov '14)	<25
PR30d	St Thomas Square play area	50
2nd priority-setting round: local projects		
PR30e	Cavendish Road (Mill Road end) improvements (seating, paving public art)	25-50
PR30f	Bath House play area improvements (public consultation being arranged)	50
PR30g	East Barnwell Community Centre improvements (delivery not due until 2015/16)	250-275
PR30h	Romsey 'Town Square' improvements (construction programme for autumn 2015)	50-75
PR30i	Ross Street community centre improvements (expected in December '14)	50-75

Appendix B: Next priority-setting rounds – key features

	3 rd round	4 th 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"> • community facilities • indoor sports • outdoor sports and • (possibly), public art – (small-scale projects by local groups) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community facilities • informal open space • play provision for children and teens • indoor sports • outdoor sports • public art • public realm
Area Committees will prioritise local proposals for:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community facilities • outdoor sports facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community facilities • informal open space • play provision for children and teens • outdoor sports
Relevant Exec Councillors will prioritise proposals	Strategic proposals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community facilities • outdoor sports facilities <p>And all proposals for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • indoor sports facilities 	Strategic proposals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community facilities • informal open space • play provision • outdoor sports <p>And all proposals for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • indoor sports facilities • public art • public realm
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 C: S106 priority-setting: 3rd and 4th rounds



Advice for local groups seeking grant-funding

In seeking project ideas for new/improved facilities in Cambridge, consultees are reminded that:

- a. developer contributions cannot be used for funding running costs or repairs or maintenance or projects outside the city of Cambridge;
- b. proposed new/improved facilities need to be publicly accessible (grant recipients have to sign a community use agreement);
- c. the more information that consultees can provide about their proposals the better (eg, what is proposed and where, how much it could cost, how it would benefit residents (including residents from disadvantaged wards), what preparations are already in place, how long the project could take and when it could be completed);
- d. the amount of developer contributions available is limited and it will not be possible to fund all the ideas received- tough priority-setting decisions will need to be made;
- e. groups seeking funding for new/improved facilities are encouraged to explore other funding sources and carry out fund-raising. As part of this, groups will need to make sure they can afford the running and maintenance of any new/improved facility that they are looking to develop.