

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

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REPORT OF: Director of Environment

TO: North Area Committee

30/10/2014

WARDS: Arbury, East Chesterton, King's Hedges, West Chesterton

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

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**1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Following a report to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 16/10/14, the arrangements for the next S106 priority-setting rounds have been confirmed. There will be a short presentation to the Area Committee to outline progress on S106-funded projects previously prioritised by the Area Committee, the next steps in the process and what this means for community groups and residents wishing to put forward proposals for new/improved facilities. The Area Committee is not being asked to make any priority-setting decisions on 30/10/14.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The North 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 North Area Committee in 2012/13 and 2013/14.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 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 and another 35 are on-going: details for projects in this area can be found in Appendix A.

- 3.3 The arrangements for future priority-setting rounds have been developed in the context of competing pressures: on the one hand, expectations for the area committees to be able to identify their next priorities; and, on the other, calls for the council to complete the S106 projects already identified before adding more projects (involving delivery by the council) to the Capital Plan.
- 3.4 As a way forward, it has been agreed that the next (3<sup>rd</sup>) priority-setting round (in late autumn 2014 and early 2015) should focus on projects (primarily for new/improved community and sports facilities) 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. There will, however, be a wider (4th) priority-setting round in 2015/16, when ideas for projects that could involve council delivery can be considered. The key features and processes involved in the next rounds are set out in Appendices B and C.
- 3.5 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 the North 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

This and 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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## Appendix A: S106 projects: North Area Committee

CP ref.	Projects completed in the last two years	£k S106
<b>Projects agreed prior to 1<sup>st</sup> round S106 priority-setting</b>		
SC436	Pye's Pitch facilities (pitches, access & landscaping)	25-50
SC468	Vie play area (revised)	25-50
SC478	King's Hedges paddling pool splash pad	125
SC494	Kings Hedges (The Pulley) play area	75-100
SC556	Grant for Arbury Community Centre	75-100
<b>1<sup>st</sup> round S106 priority-setting: local projects</b>		
PR31c	Nun's Way skate park	50-75
PR31j	Grant to Mitcham's Models public art project	<5

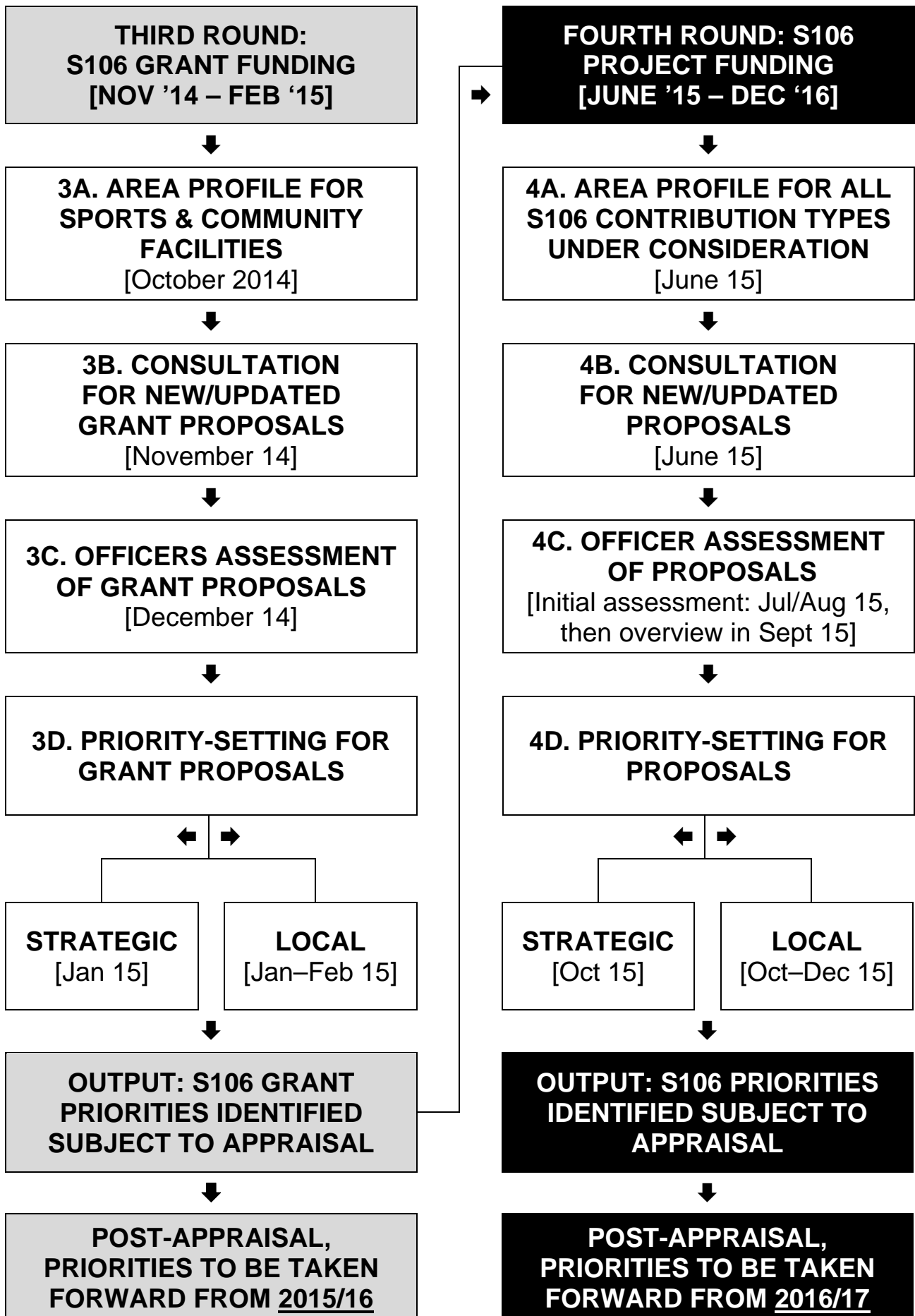
1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> round projects were prioritised subject to consultation/appraisal, as appropriate. Assuming those still being appraised are approved, delivery is expected within the next 6-12 months, unless otherwise stated.

CP ref.	On-going projects	£k S106
<b>Projects agreed prior to 1<sup>st</sup> round S106 priority-setting</b>		
SC469	Vie open space (residual landscaping works)	125-150
<b>1<sup>st</sup> round S106 priority-setting: strategic projects</b>		
PR34a	Logan's Meadow local nature reserve (largely complete)	125-150
PR34g	Grant for St Andrew's Hall extension (expected January 2015)	125-150
<b>1<sup>st</sup> round S106 priority-setting: local projects</b>		
PR31b	BMX track by Brown's Field community centre	25-50
PR31d	Chestnut Grove play area improvements	50
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> round S106 priority-setting: local projects</b>		
PR31e	Alexandra Gardens trim trail	25-50
PR31f	Buchan Street Neighbourhood Centre improvements (expected in December '14)	100
PR31g	Grant for Milton Road library community rooms (awaiting feasibility study from county council: delivery projected to be end 2015/16)	100
PR31h	Lighting for Nun's Way multi-use games area	<25
PR31i	Perse Way flats play area	25-50

## Appendix B: 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 C: S106 priority-setting: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.