



To: West Central Area Committee 29/09/2016

Report by: Joel Carre,
Head of Streets and Open Spaces

Wards affected: Castle, Market, Newnham

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (EIP)

1.0 Executive summary

This report requests that the Committee:

- Determines which of the proposed new second round EIP applications are allocated funding as part of the 2016-17 Environmental Improvement Programme, from those listed in Appendix A of this report.

2.0 Recommendations

The West Central Area Committee is recommended:

- 2.1 To consider the allocation of £2,000 of remaining EIP budget for 2016-17 to the list of proposed projects in Appendix A of this report.
- 2.2 To approve those projects for implementation, subject to the schemes being deliverable, obtaining consents necessary, positive consultation where required and final approval by Ward Councillors.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The Environmental Improvement Programme (EIP) funds and delivers small scale projects around the city that make a lasting and noticeable improvement to streets and public places. The programme was reviewed during 2015 to put more emphasis on smaller, community supported applications (that can be developed and delivered more quickly) and to offer councillors more than one application opportunity each year (subject to resource availability). The programme eligibility criteria are attached at **Appendix D**.

- 3.2 The programme is supported by the City Council up to year 2019-20 with an annual capital budget which is split across the council's four areas depending on population, with devolved decision making to Area Committees to allocate the budget available to individual project applications each year.
- 3.3 First round applications for new EIP projects to be funded from the 2016-17 year budget were invited in early 2016, and considered by West Central Area Committee on 20 April 2016. With the budget available in West Central area during 2016-17, Area Committee determined to add up to seven new projects to the programme, and to allow Councillors a further application opportunity later in 2016.

4.0 2016-17 Year Applications

- 4.1 Applications for further potential EIP projects were invited from West Central area councillors during summer 2016. In order to assist with delivery, the guidance provided to applicants suggested that the focus be on small, straightforward projects that could be delivered within a time frame of relatively few months.
- 4.2 Preliminary feasibility work has been carried out on each of the applications that have been suggested for the 2016-17 Environmental Improvement Programme. This included an initial assessment of the likely costs involved in delivering those projects considered, at this stage, to be potentially feasible.
- 4.3 The table in **Appendix A** lists the new project applications that could be feasibly considered as part of this year's EIP Programme, should they be allocated funding by West Central Area Committee. Only two, very minor, projects have been received in this latest application round.

5.0 Further Aspirations

- 5.1 A number of further aspirations have been suggested but that have thus far not formed completed project applications. It is suggested that if Councillors still wish to pursue these then they consider applying for them in the next application round; likely early in 2017:
- Waiting restrictions in Halifax Road adjacent Sydenham Terrace (likely better as a County Council Local Highways application)
 - Painting of Royal Mail post boxes around Castle ward

- Additional benches in New Square
- Dropped kerbs in Market Square
- Cycle parking outside Derby Stores, Newnham
- New bench and possible tree for Selwyn Road / King's Road corner

6.0 Items for Determination

6.1 The total anticipated cost of the two applications listed in Appendix A (£2,000), along with those supported by the Area Committee in April 2016, is less than the budget available 2016-17. The precise budget has still to be determined, and is dependent on final out-turn costs of projects currently being completed. The new applications can therefore be added to the programme easily, should that be the wish of the Area Committee, and most likely delivered within the 2016-17 programme year.

7.0 Background papers

None

8.0 Appendices

APPENDIX A

Summary of Feasible Second Round EIP Projects for 2016-17.

APPENDIX D

EIP Eligibility Criteria.

9.0 Inspection of papers

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

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