

REPORT OF: Urban Growth Project Manager

TO: South Area Committee

17/7/2017

WARDS: Cherry Hinton, Queen Edith's and Trumpington

**DEVOLVED S106 FUNDING: CLARIFICATION OF DECISION**

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 At its meeting on 24 April 2017, the South Area Committee identified its latest priorities for the use of available S106 contributions for which the Area Committee has devolved decision-making powers, in line with the first recommendation within the S106 report. Business cases for those prioritised projects will be developed, as appropriate, so that projects which pass this project appraisal stage can then be implemented. The Area Committee will be kept informed of progress.
- 1.2 That April 2017 report also included a second recommendation to reverse decisions on two projects previously prioritised in the 2015/16 S106 funding round, which are not now in a position to proceed. Given the focus of discussion at the 24 April meeting on the 2016/17 priority-setting round, it is not clear that the Area Committee explicitly made a decision on that second recommendation. The purpose of this follow-up report is, therefore, to seek clarification of this specific point. It features relevant extracts from the April 2017 report.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The South Area Committee is asked to reverse those decisions made by the Area Committee in the 2015/16 S106 funding round which prioritised the following two proposals:

- a. Accordia junior 'fit kit' (allocated £15,000 of (play) 'provision for children and teenagers' S106 contributions) and
- b. St Paul's Primary School community facility improvements (allocated £40,000 of 'community facilities' S106 contributions).

### 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 New homes and development lead to more demands on local facilities. The council can ask developers to pay off-site S106 contributions to mitigate that impact when it is not addressed on-site. An overview of the council's approach to S106 contributions can be found at <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/our-approach-to-s106>.

### 4. PREVIOUS PROPOSALS NOT IN A POSITION TO PROCEED

This is based on Section 5 from the 24 April 2017 report.

- 4.1 Whilst most of the S106 projects prioritised by South Area Committee in 2015/16 are under development or have already been completed, it has become clear since the decision-making on the 2015/16 funding round that two proposals are not in a position to go ahead.
- 4.2 The proposal to install junior 'fit kit' at the Accordia development (Trumpington ward), allocated £15,000 of 'provision for children and teenagers' S106 contributions in December 2015, generated only a small and mixed response from local consultation. This leads officers to conclude that there is not now sufficient local appetite for this proposal in that part of Trumpington. In contrast, suggestions for trim trail facilities and more play equipment for over 8s at Trumpington Rec Ground have been made both by Trumpington Residents' Association and ChYpPs (the Children and Young People's participation service) on behalf of local children.

**UPDATE:** Amongst its other S106 priorities from the 2016/17 round, the South Area Committee on 24/4/2017 agreed to fund trim trail, skate park and climbing frame facilities at Trumpington Rec Ground.

- 4.3 St Paul's Primary School (Trumpington ward) has withdrawn its application for a £40,000 'community facilities' S106 grant for a multi-purpose community meeting space after contractors' estimated building costs were higher than expected and the school's land-owners decided that other works were a greater priority.
- 4.4 Section 2 of this report recommends that these two proposals should be de-prioritised. If the Area Committee agrees, the S106 contributions allocated to these projects will be returned to South Area devolved funds.

## **5. IMPLICATIONS**

Payment of the local S106 contributions currently allocated to these two projects were made/completed in the last three or four years. Most are not subject to expiry dates but, where time limits do apply, these are not until 2024 or 2025. This means that there is still plenty of time for decisions to be made on how to use these S106 contributions in a timely way on relevant local projects.

## **6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 6.1 These background papers on the S106 devolved decision-making process were used in the preparation of this report:
- 'S106 devolved decision-making' report to South Area Committee, 24 April 2017;
  - 'S106 devolved decision-making: 2015/16 priority-setting round' report to South Area Committee on 14 December 2015.

## **7. INSPECTION OF PAPERS**

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

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