

Item

Environmental Improvement Programme Project Submission Summary Report (2023) for Discussion

To: East Area Committee:

7 December 2023

Report by:

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Wards affected:

Abbey, Coleridge, Petersfield, Romsey

Key Decision: No

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report details the Environmental Improvement (EIP) applications and ideas received for 2024 funding for projects in the East Area. The Area Committee can comment on the applications and make recommendations. The area-based recommendations made by all the area committees and those put forward for city-wide strategic funding will be included in an overall recommendations report to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces and City Services, for an out of cycle decision on behalf of the Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.2 The report provides information on eligibility, funding criteria and funding budgets for the Environmental Improvement Programme.

2. Recommendations

The East Area Committee is recommended to:

- i. To note the EIP budget allocation for East Area for 2023/24 and for Strategic EIP see 3.4,
- ii. To consider the new EIP ideas and project submitted for East Area, against the EIP Funding availability and the eligibility criteria (Appendix A – Table 1),
- iii. Consider the recommendations made in the Appendix B; Tables 1 and 2, discuss, and clearly outline the committees' priorities in line with the available area EIP funding, for consideration by the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces and City Services.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council's Environmental Improvement Programme (EIP) has been operating as a rolling programme since 2004. The programme budget, which has been £170,000 per annum for the most recent period up to 2020/21. In 2020/21, Committee approved restructuring the programme budget, allocating £70,000 pa to a Strategic programme (which all Area Committees can bid towards) and £100,000 pa devolved between the four Area Committees (on a per capita basis) for Local project bids with the decision on both Area and Strategic bids now devolved to Executive Councillor for Open Spaces. The current EIP eligibility criteria are set out along with the programme application form in **Appendix A**.
- 3.2 The programme has been subject to periodic review to improve flexibility, ensure good value and help speed up project delivery. That said, there have been delivery difficulties with much of the programme was put on hold for 2020/21 and 2021/22, due to the impact of the Covid pandemic and the need to redirect resources towards Covid response and recovery.
- 3.3 As referred to in 3.1 above, there are now two forms of EIP funding:
 - **Local Area:** With a budget of £100,000 pa, which is devolved and divided between the four Area Committees (South, East, West/Central and North), in proportion to the size of each Area's population. Committees consider which projects in their area they recommend for funding, up to a project value of £5,000 (or £10,000 if strongly supported).

- **Strategic:** With a budget of £70,000 pa, this element of the programme is dedicated to priorities the Council has identified as being important across all areas of the city and which are aligned to the Corporate Plan and supporting strategies including Tree / Biodiversity / herbicide reduction plan, long grass policy etc. This includes making better use of roadside verges, enhancing tree canopy, improving biodiversity and benches (that promote community/ social interaction).
- 3.4 Based on the devolved Area Committee Local budget, there is a total of £29,114 available for East Area as a proportion to the size of its population and £70,000 for citywide Strategic EIP.
- 3.5 An open application process for project bids within the city was started on the 28th June 2023 and closed on the 17th August 2023. There was also an opportunity to select any ideas put forward and like or comment on them, this ran until the 28th September 2023. The opportunities to submit project bids was advertised, via a press release and on the Council's website through the current consultations page with links through to Citizenlab (the Council's community consultation and engagement platform).
- 3.6 East Area Committee members are asked to consider the projects included in Appendix B and after considering the funding parameters, eligibility and known public support (indicated from the Citizenlab platform) to make clear recommendations on priority projects for the area EIP funding, to be considered by the Executive Councillor.
- 3.7 Recommendations will be included in the final recommendation report and include both EIP Local area funded projects and Strategic projects.
- 3.8 Following consideration of the final recommendation report by the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces and City Services the approved bids will be published in early 2024.

3.9 Following publication of approved projects, project delivery will commence through the Environmental Services - Project Delivery Team throughout 2024, in liaison with project proposers and local ward councillors.

3.10 Those unsuccessful Local Area project bids, along with any Strategic project bids, supported by Area Committees but unable to be afforded this year, might be considered in any further available funding round if reapplied for (subject to annual budget setting/ any available budget underspends), alongside any new applications received.

3.11 Note, current status of EIP projects, already approved in the East Area and other area programmes can be viewed at [link](#).

4. Implications

(a) Financial Implications

The current EIP has an approved capital budget allocation of £170,000 per annum from 2021/22 (funding re-phasing from 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 to 2024/25 subject to annual budget setting).

(b) Staffing Implications

Historically a small number of projects have proven difficult to develop and deliver and have had a disproportionate impact on staffing resource in comparison with other programme work. The programme needs to be managed and delivered within the existing funded EIP programme management staffing resource (2 FTE).

(c) Equality and Poverty Implications

EIP project bids have historically been prioritised across all areas proportionate to population and in accordance with locally identified need. The impact of all EIP projects on Equality Act 'protected groups' is assessed at the design/ planning stage of each approved project. All hard infrastructure schemes are designed to national standards to accommodate the needs of those with

physical impairments, including mobility, sight and hearing. The overall impact of the programme is considered positive.

(d) Environmental Implications

The programme aims to preserve and improve the quality of the natural and built public realm environment across Cambridge, in a manner that does not contribute towards climate change and leaves a positive legacy for future generations. The Council has declared both a Climate and Biodiversity Emergency and there is increased focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation and biodiversity protection and net gain. The overall impact of the programme on the environment within Cambridge is therefore rated as +M (positive; Medium).

(e) Procurement Implications

The programme projects are either delivered in-house, utilising existing internal resource within Environmental Services, or externally, via existing framework contract arrangements. To ensure value for money, the larger Strategic programme schemes may be delivered through competitive tender processes.

(f) Community Safety Implications

The programme is designed to deliver local public realm environmental improvements and foster increased pride of place and community cohesion. Several local area projects have been delivered in association with local community and voluntary groups. As a result, the programme is considered to have a positive impact on community safety.

5. Consultation and communication considerations

The Citizenlab engagement tool has been used to canvass public views directly and further involve and engage all sections of the community in the Council's EIP decision making process. All the programme projects are consulted on at the planning/ design stage, with the level/ type of consultation determined by and proportionate to the nature, scale, and scope of the proposed project. With much of the programme being small-scale projects, it is imperative that the proportionate principle continues to be followed.

6. Background papers

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

- Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee Agenda and Minutes 21st March 2019.
<https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=476&MId=3566&Ver=4>
- Current status of EIP funded projects included in:
<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/environmental-improvement-programme>

7. Appendices

Appendix A – EIP application form and eligibility criteria,

Appendix B – EIP project submissions, recommendations for 2024 East Area, and strategic programme information.

8. Inspection of papers

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

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Appendix A

Environmental Improvement Programme (EIP)

2024 Year Project Ideas

Proposal/ideas are open from the 28th June 2023 until the 17 August 2023. Submission ideas are unlikely to be accepted following the 17 August 2023. Following this ideas submission phase through our [engagement platform](#), you can select any ideas put forward and either like or dislike them to a maximum of 10. This stage will run from the 22nd of August until the 28th September 2023.

First Name

Surname

Email Address
(not to be shared
with public) so
we can contact
you for more
project details if
your idea is
supported

Location of suggested
Environmental Improvement -
Street/Greenspace name or
nearest postcode

Title - What: Issue/Problem/Improvement – please give a title to idea and what your idea is likely to achieve:

Description - How: Suggested Solution – please outline how you feel your objectives might be best met e.g., improve biodiversity on Such and Such Street – Plant wildflower grasses on greenspace on corner outside number 1 Such and Such Street and change grass cutting regime:

Outcomes - Why: Such and Such Street is part of an important Local Nature network corridor, it will help with health and wellbeing of local people, improve the environment, contribute towards secure nature species for the future.

Who: Please outline who or which Group or local Councillors are supporting the project. Whether group of residents are likely to be engaged and assist in establishing the project for example for

wildflowers when initially planted they need some intensive looking after for first two or three months e.g., watering and weeding until they get established.

Proposed Budget - Not compulsory - But may outline items required, and possibly an approximate cost of these giving an approx. budget requirement - note Officers may add in estimate costs or change any costs inputted based on experience of delivering projects.

Environmental Improvement Programme (EIP): Eligibility Criteria

Essential Criteria:

- Projects should have a direct, lasting, and noticeable improvement to the appearance of a street or area.
- Projects should be publicly visible and accessible.
- Should the scheme be on private land, the owners' permission must be granted – unless there are exceptional circumstances by which the Area Committee may wish to act unilaterally, with full knowledge and responsibility for the implication of such action.
- Projects must ensure low future maintenance costs / liabilities.

Desirable criteria:

- Active involvement of local people.
- The project will benefit a large number of local people.
- Additional 'partnership' funding available.
- Ease and simplicity of implementation.
- Potential for meeting key policy objectives (e.g. improves biodiversity, improves community safety or contributes to equal opportunities).

Ineligible for funding:

- Where a readily available alternative source of funding is available.
- Revenue projects (i.e. management and maintenance of existing facilities).
- Projects that have already received Council funding (unless it can be clearly demonstrated that this would not be 'top up' funding).
- Works that the City or County Council are under an immediate obligation to carry out (e.g. repair of dangerous footways)
- Play areas (S106 funding should fund these facilities)

Other Information:

The following categories of work were agreed as being eligible for funding by the Area Committees:

- Works in areas of predominately council owned housing

Projects we generally fund and deliver from EIP Area funding are:

Pathways, wayfinding lighting on recreation space, landscaping, Street Trees, benches on recreation space and highway, community noticeboards, fencing.

EIP Strategic project funding key themes:

Strategic EIP allocation is for initiatives to make better use of the city's green amenity spaces and verges, enhancing tree canopy, encouraging social interaction in our open spaces and encouraging biodiversity. Applications of this type are more likely to be funded from Strategic EIP.

Appendix B – EIP project submissions, recommendations for 2024 East Area, and strategic programme information.

Please consider that the funding available is **£29,114** and the **24** project submissions for the Area EIP are estimated to cost **£67,100**, as set out in the table 1 below.

Prior to the committee the project list and details were sent out to ward Councillors for the East Area with the advice that Councillors consider the projects put forward giving an opportunity to indicatively prioritise which ones they would wish to proceed. Within the Table below there is an Officer rating based on Officer comments and analysis, table 2 puts the green and green/ amber rated projects into Officer recommendations for approval. However, this is to be discussed with the final recommendation for project funding approval coming from Area Committee Board Members. Where applicants have estimated costs of works, or not included, Officers may have added or adjusted to appropriate estimated amounts.

Table 1: Summarised project submissions, support, and Officer ratings for East Area:

No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Summarised)	Proposed by	Ward	Est. Cost	Cost Deliverable Eligibility Rating	Persons Support Consultation Tool	Officer Funding Suggestion (Summarised Text)	Link to Application
					£	R/A/G			
E1 – 2024	Rainwater collection for Millennium Gardens, Petersfield	To harness and recycle surface water discharge from council owned building and store for community usage. Water butt (up to 500 litres) affixed to colonnade of council managed mixed use site at corner of Norfolk St and St Matthew's St	(City Officer)	Petersfield	2.3k	Green	Thumbs up 1	Recommended - Deliverable and low cost comparatively for a positive outcome	Link to Application
E2 – 2024	Creating Spaces to Meet on Coleridge Rec.	To install 2x picnic benches on the west side of the rec, and at least one picnic bench on the east side of the rec, one picnic bench in the corner close to the Fanshawe Road allotments, cycle racks near the children's play area.	Local Resident	Coleridge	5k	Green	Thumbs up 1	Recommended - Strong support, highly deliverable making the space more socially useable.	Link to Application
E3 – 2024	Wildflowers and Biodiversity at the Priory on Priory Road	To plant wildflowers and other appropriate biodiversity improvements on the grass surrounding the Priory building. Priory Road local residents group are already involved in biodiversity projects, such as participating in No Mow May with their gardens and investigating the Happy Bee Streets Scheme.	Cllr Bulat	Abbey	3k	Amber	Thumbs up 5	Not recommended - On private land and Funding could come from Strategic EIP City 4 or City 5.	Link to Application
E4 – 2024	Mini orchard for Rawlyn Road Oval Green Space	The Rawlyn oval is a small grassy space with a tree border. Planting of fruit trees planted to increase visual interest, biodiversity and provide free fruit for residents and Abbey Food Hub. The project is supported by the Abbey ward city councillors. We hope to get planting support from local Friends groups but would need some guidance from expert officers.	Cllr Bennett	Abbey	3k	Amber	Thumbs up 4	Not recommended – This area is highway verge and not intended as a community garden.	Link to Application
E5 – 2024	Hampden Gardens green area refresh	To replace the current sleepers with new materials of a similar size and shape, and the waste material being reused into habitats for invertebrates at this area, and other open spaces across the city. Plus a small wildflower meadow to enhance biodiversity in the vicinity as well.	Community Engagement Team (City Officer)	Romsey	3.5k	Amber/Red	Thumbs up 1	Not recommended - Any works likely short-lived given the broader aspirations for the area, so funding not currently a priority.	Link to Application
E7 – 2024	Rawlyn Corner bench	A sturdy bench for weary shoppers to rest at on their way home and enjoy the wildflowers.	Cllr Bennett	Abbey	2k	Green	Thumbs up 3	Recommended - Supported and is highly deliverable.	Link to Application
E8 – 2024	Plantings around Equiano Bridge.	The grassroots community groups involved with the bridge renaming project would like to partner with residents of Riverside & request some containers are situated at the footings of Equiano Bridge, where there is a paved area. We would like to plant pollinator favourites and spring bulbs. We will organise maintenance of the plantings within our groups.	Circles of Change, MNQ & Cambridge African Network	Abbey	2k	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 53 and 1 negative Comment	Recommended – Strongly supported works would need consent of County Council.	Link to Application

No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Summarised)	Proposed by	Ward	Est. Cost	Cost Deliverability Eligibility Rating	Persons Support Consultation Tool	Officer Funding Suggestion (Summarised Text)	Link to Application
E9 – 2024	Extend the successful Green the Streets scheme in Petersfield ward	This builds on the already successful greening Petersfield EIP schemes to promote window boxes and hanging baskets. This proposal is a 3rd phase, to cover the rest of the streets in the ward where front doors open directly onto the pavement and most homes have no front gardens: Perowne St, Convent Garden, Mill St, Cross St and the Mill Rd ends of Mawson Rd and Glisson Rd. Also, where small pockets of land exist in public areas in these streets suitable for landscaping, planting beds is also proposed to be funded.	Cllr Robertson	Petersfield	2k	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 8	Recommended - Supported is deliverable. Although scope Ltd to hanging baskets/window boxes unlikely to include small greenspaces.	Link to Application
E10 – 2024	Blind corner needs` safety measures	A passageway at the north entrance to Mill Rd cemetery opens directly onto the pavement of Norfolk St. There have been several near misses. Suggested works to put a set of railings in the passageway to slow cyclists down.	Cllr Robertson	Petersfield	3k	Green	Thumbs up 1	Recommended - Highly deliverable and low cost comparatively for a positive safety outcome	Link to Application
E11- 2024	Community Noticeboard needed	A community noticeboard is needed for the north Petersfield area. St Matthews Piece has no noticeboard and would benefit visitors/community to be aware of events being organised in the area. PACT, other community groups, and local councillors all support this proposal. (Replace board that was previously vandalised).	Cllr Robertson	Petersfield	1.8k	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 4	Recommended - Deliverable, relatively low cost with community benefits rather than environmental.	Link to Application
E12 – 2024	Riverside shrub bed planting	Residents have outlined that there are planting beds in need of care, one in the Abbey Riverside area that runs down the length of River Lane from the junction with Beche Road to Riverside and a big planting bed at the junction of Beche Road and Abbey Road. If the beds could be re-established to being suitable for residents to care for then the project would improve biodiversity in the area helping with the wildlife corridor and improving the environment at a local level working in partnership with the community.	Community Engagement Team	Abbey	2.5k	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 16	Recommended - Strong support, deliverable, though needs to be capital investment to fill gaps and damage not replace entirely	Link to Application
E14 – 2024	Improve a valuable green space / leisure area at St Thomas Square Play Park	This place of nature, leisure and play frequented by residents, their children and dogs (it is a very popular place for local dog owners) must now be valued by its local council and energies should now turn to enhancing it. There is nowhere to sit outside of the enclosed children's play area. Therefore, it is suggested 3 or 4 benches/picnic tables are placed in this park.	Local Resident	Coleridge	4k	Amber/Red	Thumbs up 36	Not recommended - Any works likely short-lived given the ongoing work in the area, therefore funding not currently seen as a priority.	Link to Application
E15 – 2024	Plant a tree and improve planting on Hobart/Suez Junction	To plant a second tree on the other side to the one already planted and improve the planting around it for improved biodiversity and improve the look for residents, as it currently looks quite unkempt and attracts some litter and fly-tipping.	Cllr Moore	Coleridge	2k	Amber	Thumbs up 9 and 1 Substantive Negative Comment	Not recommended – Already funded in current programme with a project for trees in this area.	Link to Application
E16 – 2024	Improve dog safety at Coleridge Rec	One of the Coleridge Rec gates opens directly onto Coleridge Rd and one side of the gate is always open for access, which has led to a dog being killed. Proposed solution: A fence could be installed inside the park, which could be opened like a gate for vehicle access or hedge planting inside the gate, or install a gate that slams shut on that entrance only.	Cllr Moore	Coleridge	4k	Amber	Thumbs up 1	Not recommended - As not a high priority in terms of EIP programme and potential create additional complexity for management	Link to Application

E17 – 2024	Re-paint fencing and increase biodiversity in St Thomas's Square	The western side of St Thomas's Square has wooden fencing which needs painting or preserving then add some planting such as lavender along it to improve the biodiversity and to make the square more attractive for residents.	Cllr Moore	Coleridge	2k	Amber	Thumbs up 10	Not recommended - As not a high priority in terms of EIP programme arguable not capital spend and area oversubscribed	Link to Application
No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Summarised)	Proposed by	Ward	Est. Cost	Cost Deliverability Eligibility Rating	Persons Support Consultation Tool	Officer Funding Suggestion (Summarised Text)	Link to Application
E19 – 2024	Improve the Brothers Place play area	The fence alongside the Brothers Place play area has been damaged by children using it as a football goal and the space looks unkempt. Install a football goal like in the MUGA and add some planting to increase biodiversity and the amenity of the area.	Cllr Moore	Coleridge	3k	Amber / Red	Thumbs up 3	Not recommended - Sports & Play not within scope of EIP funding, biodiversity element would be hard to establish because of intensive usage of this space.	Link to Application
E20 – 2024	Plant wildflowers at entrance of Coleridge Rec	Rewilding would send a message to residents that the council can help with this. There are grassy areas at the main entrance to Coleridge Rec that could support wildflower meadow. There is also space for a couple of benches at the entrance which would make a useful resting point for any elderly residents or residents with mobility challenges.	Local Resident	Coleridge	3k	Amber	Thumbs up 40	Not recommended - Wildflower element already funded from EIP, though benches could be considered in future.	Link to Application
E21 – 2024	Aberdeen Avenue garden, Accordia, or similar location	There has been a very successful community planting project with new native species hedges. To ensure that the new hedges thrive water is required, but there is no external source of water. Can the Council fund some supplying water bowsers, plus periodic filling of the bowsers as a temporary fix until a longer-term solution can be found. A longer terms fix should be the collection of rainwater for use in the public gardens.	Cllr K Thornburrow	Petersfield	3.5k	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 13 and 3 Substantive Negative Comments	Recommended - Cannot fund temporary solution but can investigate and hopefully implement a longer-term solution.	Link to Application
E22 – 2024	Install bench in front of St Thomas Hall	This area is a very pleasant place to look at and it could be enjoyed even more if there was a place to sit. To install a bench near to St Thomas Hall so people can meet for a chat with a neighbour or enjoy a rest. This area of Coleridge is noticeable bereft of places to sit; there are very few benches currently.	Local Resident	Coleridge	2k	Green	Thumbs up 16	Recommended – Deliverable, only issue would be potential to encourage ASB.	Link to Application
E23 – 2024	2 x Community Information Noticeboards in Romsey	There are many local events and good causes, yet there are no prominent noticeboards. The one at Romsey Rec on Ross Street needs replacing and putting a noticeboard at the Coop or Romsey R would provide a means for the community to know about what is going on.	Cllr Baigent	Romsey	3k	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 6	Recommended - Deliverable, relatively low cost with community benefits rather than environmental	Link to Application
E24 – 2024	Enhance wildflower meadow at entrance to the Tiverton Estate	There was a wildflower meadow area planted but it is now inadequate as a wildflower feature. Suggestion to plant more wildflowers at location. Area could be left to rewild, and mowers asked to only mow the part which is used as a path next to the sapling?	Local Resident	Coleridge	2k	Amber	Thumbs up 22	Not recommended - There is a project in the current programme sE24 for community gdns on Tiverton Estate	Link to Application

E25 – 2024	Revamp the raised flower planters outside the Mill Road Cooperative Supermarket	Romsey Square seating and raised flower beds outside the Coop need an overhaul to prevent further deterioration. The flowerbeds are difficult to maintain due to extreme heat events. The wooden planters, seats and signage need to be serviced. Screws tightened, fixings replaced, some colour staining on the woodwork would improve the area. The planters would benefit from deeper composting to retain moisture. The plants could then be refurbished with a mix of colourful annuals bi-annuals and spring bulbs.	Cllr Baigent	Romsey	2.5k	Amber	Thumbs up 25 and 2 negative comments	Not recommended - Deliverable but mainly revenue items outlined. Community Engagement could be involved or funded via Strategic EIP City 5	Link to Application
No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Summarised)	Proposed by	Ward	Est. Cost	Cost Deliverability Eligibility Rating	Persons Support Consultation Tool	Officer Funding Suggestion (Summarised Text)	Link to Application
E27 – 2024	Landscaping Opportunities for Gwydir Street, in location of approved 2 x benches	Two benches already approved, and discussions started with residents suggest at these bench sites there is an opportunity to improve the landscape around.	Cllr K Thornburrow	Petersfield	2k	Amber	Thumbs up 3	Not recommended – Small areas in harsh environments unlikely to establish and ongoing maintenance liability	Link to Application
E28 – 2024	Greening the Ironworks: Contributing towards improving biodiversity	This is a stage 2 to build on the EIP to increase biodiversity at the site. The funding, if successful, will cover the whole development site area. This would help to integrate the communities (and create mini wildlife corridors) in the various parts of the development. We propose the purchase of a water feature installed in a suitable place in the Ironworks' grounds. A large wild plant bed to be created with plants that suit endemic types of butterfly (caterpillars). There are active residents and groups who wish to promote 'green' and biodiversity improvements.	Local Residents	Petersfield	4k	Amber	Thumbs up 33	Not recommended - Area subject to land transfer so still responsibility of developers. Already supported through the first phase funded EIP E14-2023, could be funded with Strategic EIP City 4 or 5.	Link to Application

Table 2: Officer recommendations for project approval from the East Area EIP (Green and green/ amber rated projects):

Project Number	Scheme Title	Project Value £	Available £
E1 - 2024	Rainwater collection for Millennium Gardens, Petersfield	2,300	
E2 - 2024	Creating Spaces to Meet on Coleridge Rec.	5,000	
E7 - 2024	Rawlyn Corner bench -	2,000	
E8 - 2024	Plantings around Equiano Bridge.	2,000	
E9 - 2024	Extend the successful Green the Streets scheme in Petersfield ward	2,000	
E10 - 2024	Blind corner needs` safety measures	3,000	
E11 - 2024	Community Noticeboard needed	1,800	
E12 - 2024	Riverside shrub bed planting	2,500	
E21 - 2024	Aberdeen Avenue garden, Accordia, or similar location	3,500	
E22- 2024	Install bench in front of St Thomas Hall	2,000	
E23 - 2024	2 x Community Information Noticeboards in Romsey	3,000	
TOTAL EAST AREA EIP		£29,100	

Table 3: Projects rejected from the EIP Funding Round within East Area

Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Summarised)	Proposed by	Ward	Estimated Cost	Status	Link to Application
				£		
To decrease loneliness in the east of Coleridge Ward	In Coleridge (east) there are no indoor community spaces. The St Thomas's Road development offers the opportunity to rectify this. Already, on the plans, there is marked a 'community shed'. The residents assn would like a proper indoor community space that could be used in all seasons for light art and craft groups, reading groups, a men's shed, etc with the purpose of bringing groups of people together to enjoy a shared interest. £20,000 would be a good match funding to promoting the project.	Local Resident	Coleridge	20,000	Rejected	Link to Application
Stop cutting back plants on Coleridge Road planted by residents	There have now been instances of council workers destroying plant-life nurtured by local residents in Coleridge since 'No Mow May'. A bright yellow verbascum was cut to the ground on Coleridge Road; a plant that is not a hazard or a nuisance and was bringing benefit to people and insects. It is asked that the grass cutting regime on grass verges along Coleridge Road is changed so that it carefully avoids cutting down these plants. It is clear that those in charge of the mowers are not fully aware of how to preserve biodiversity in our local area.	Local Resident	All Wards		Rejected	Link to Application

Refuse bins for the Chisholm Trail	Suggested that there is not a single waste bin on the Chisholm Trail anywhere along its length from the river to Newmarket Road and onto to Colhams Common by the railway overpass, or to Ditton Lane as it runs behind Ditton Fields. There is ALWAYS waste along the route and much more so on Cambridge United match days. Providing bins (and emptying them!!) would make the environment along this trail much better for we humans, the local wildlife both animal and vegetable.	Local Resident	Abbey		Rejected	Link to Application
Make the basketball hoop usable again in Lichfield Park	The basketball hoop in Lichfield park is no longer usable since the fence was installed around the playground. Options include: Move the hoop to the other side of the stand - or add another one on that side, move the whole basketball stand back so that there is more space to play in front of it, move the fence around the playground so it cuts off that corner.	Cllr R Moore	Coleridge		Rejected	Link to Application
Maintain/replace swings at play area by Robert May Close	As pictured, the two swings for babies and toddlers are currently unsuitable for use. Could these please be maintained so that children can use these swings again? They also look quite old and mouldy so perhaps they would qualify for being replace	Local Resident	Coleridge		Rejected	Link to Application

Table 4: Projects for Strategic Funding. (The projects recommended are an equal value to the Strategic EIP funding allocation)

No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Summarised)	Proposed by	Ward	Estimated Cost	Cost Deliverability Eligibility Rating	Persons in Support and neg. comments	Status	Link to Application
					£	R/A/G			
sE6 - 2024	Whitehill Estate Green Corners - from "no ball games" to cheerful spaces	Implement a variety of improvements to be shared across several green corners of the Whitehill Estate for the benefit of people and biodiversity. Improvements include seating for relaxation, sensory garden(s) for residents with disabilities, night blooming plants for nocturnal species such as moths, wildflowers to attract pollinators, and communal food growing to promote community cohesion.	Cllr Bennett	Abbey	7,500	Amber	Thumbs up 9	Not recommended	Link to Application
sE13 - 2024	Trees needed in barren streets	Plant trees in the streets of north Petersfield where there are currently none to provide a natural habitat for many animals, birds, and insects, harness storm water, reduce noise and light pollution and improve the overall wellbeing of people, wildlife, the environment, and the street scene.	Cllr R Robertson	Petersfield	15,000	Amber	Thumbs up 53 and 3 negative comments	Not recommended	Link to Application
sE18 - 2024	Increase biodiversity and tree cover on Cherry Hinton Road	To plant a number of trees on Cherry Hinton Road as it has long stretches without trees and between Perne and Coleridge Road has wide pavements on one side. There are also two patches of grass, one outside Kwik-fit and one on the corner of Derwent Close which could have some planting to increase biodiversity and improve the look and feel of the road for residents.	Cllr R Moore	Coleridge	15,000	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 31	Recommended	Link to Application
sE26 - 2024	Improve and brighten up the whole area around the roundabout at Cromwell Road	Create colourful, welcoming, and habitat rich areas of planting on several small green spaces in Romsey Place to promote pollinator and other species and provide a sense of wellbeing and community cohesion among residents. Install seating to enable people to sit, relax, and enjoy the space(s)	Cllr Baigent	Romsey	5,000	Amber	Thumbs up 21	Not recommended	Link to Application
sN3 - 2024	Biodiversity Improvements on St Alban's Recreation Space	Improve the biodiversity and amenity value around the boundary edges of St Alban's Recreation Ground. Improvements could include invertebrate and wildflower banks, with the banks creating a wildflower seed bank, bee-mounds, additional tree planting, and social interaction through seating.	Project Development	Arbury	20,000	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 14	Recommended	Link to Application
sN5 and sN8 combined 2024	Biodiversity Improvements on Arbury Town Park	Improve the biodiversity and amenity value on the boundary areas of Arbury Town Park. Improvements could include invertebrate and wildflower banks, with the banks creating a wildflower seed bank, hedging along Arbury Road park-edge, bee-mounds, additional tree planting, and social interaction through seating. An access point created with lockable bollards or similar, to allow authorised vehicles onto the green space.	Project Development and Local Resident	Arbury	20,000	Green / Amber	Combined Thumbs up 51 and 1 Negative Comment	Recommended	Link to Application (1) Link to Application (2)
sN9 - 2024	Hedges for Kings Hedges - for Biodiversity and People Friendly Spaces.	Plant hedgerows to improve green spaces in Kings Hedges and provide a diverse sheltered sanctuary where insects, birds and mammals can thrive. Four locations are proposed (Along the south side of Hanson Court; in Arbury Town Park; The Pulley, close to the old hedging at the Apollo Way end; and grass bordered by Roxburgh Road, Northfield Avenue and Sackville Close).	Local Resident	Kings Hedges	10,000	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 36	Recommended	Link to Application
sN18 - 2024	Greening Gilbert Road Through Tree Planting	Plant trees along the south side of Gilbert Road at the Milton Road end, near The Fellows House Aparthotel to replace lost trees and plant new to re-green and reclaim this end of the road from further unsightly development, and to improve the wellbeing of people, wildlife, the environment, and the street scene.	Cllr S Carling	W Chesterton	5,000	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 40 and 7 Negative Comments	Recommended	Link to Application

No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Summarised)	Proposed by	Ward	Estimated Cost	Cost Deliverability Eligibility Rating	Persons in Support and neg. comments	Status	Link to Application
City 4 - 2024	Citywide Happy Bee Street Biodiversity and Habitat Creation Projects	Create opportunity for residents to be able to undertake and manage small scale biodiversity improvements in their neighbourhoods across the city, including creation of wildflower meadows, benches, habitats (bees, invertebrates, and hedgehogs), tree planting, bulb planting and community garden areas (such as raised planters). This will involve making increasing use of green assets to reduce climate impacts, improve biodiversity, and promote social well-being.	Community Engagement Team	All	10,000	Amber	Thumbs up 11	Not recommended	Link to Application
City 5 – 2024	Citywide led Biodiversity, Habitat and Green Infrastructure Improvement Projects	Community led volunteer groups working with residents, businesses, and organisations to develop and enhance local community areas and growing spaces ensuring better value for money and reducing environmental impact by utilising local resources. Measures will reduce climate impacts, improve biodiversity, and promote social well-being and include benches (to increase social interaction), wildflower meadows, trees, and invertebrate (bees) and wildflower bank(s)/features, as well enhancing existing areas to support wildlife corridors. Many of these project interventions will incorporate and improve the availability of hedgehog habitats and highways across the city.	Community Engagement Team	All	10,000	Amber	Thumbs up 6	Not recommended	Link to Application
City 7 - 2024	Fingerposts advising the public of the locations of City Centre public toilets	Install directional signage to enable residents and visitors to access public facilities/conveniences easily and quickly ensuring their visit to the city centre is a comfortable one. Signage will improve the offer of the city, enable people to navigate external spaces more easily and efficiently, improve pedestrian flow, and create a more pleasant experience for all.	Parks Assets Team	City Centre	7,500	Amber	Thumbs up 6	Not recommended	Link to Application

Table 5: Officer recommendations for project approval from the Strategic Funding (Green/amber rated projects):

Project Number	Scheme Title	Approved Value £
sE18 - 2024	Increase biodiversity and tree cover on Cherry Hinton Road	15,000
sN3/8 - 2024	Biodiversity Improvements on St Alban's Recreation Space	20,000
sN5 - 2024	Biodiversity Improvements on Arbury Town Park	20,000
sN9 - 2024	Hedges for Kings Hedges - for Biodiversity and People Friendly Spaces.	10,000
sN18 - 2024	Greening Gilbert Road Through Tree Planting	5,000
TOTAL OVERALL STRATEGIC EIP PROJECTS		£70,000

Table 6: Projects rejected from the EIP Strategic Funding Round Citywide

Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Summarised)	Proposed by	Ward	Status	Link to Application
Provision of Additional Public Water Fountains	The number of public water fountains has dwindled, and Cambridge has very few available in the city. With increasing hot weather significantly more are needed to cater for residents and visitors. At a minimum there should be one in each public park and several disbursed throughout the city. The more the better! A budget of £5000 should cover approximately 2-3 freestanding water fountains, or approximately 5-10 fountains attached to the outside of council-owned buildings. It should be investigated if Anglian Water would cover the cost of the water.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Clean up railings. Remove plastic tags and redundant posters. Reduce plastic use	Arrange work parties or community group to cut off plastic ties from railings. Collect, document, and dispose. Make poster campaigns use biodegradable string instead. Encourage students and people to remove posters when event over. Make a 'sin bin' to put all the plastic in to show what waste and harm is being done. Encourage more responsibility to the environment and educate what a lovely place Burrell's walk used to be and could be returned to (Pre Covid)? or Better still - ban all plastic from Burrell's Walk - and make it a poster free zone?	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
More accessible community growing spaces (garden/farm/allotment)	Bringing in more accessible areas for people to grow food and flowers, is a useful way to turn mowed grassland into a biodiverse, wildlife rich area. Also helping to offset carbon emissions in the city. There are plenty of mown grassland spaces, where this project could be held: Jesus Green, Midsummer common, Christ's Piece, Coldhams Common, Parker's Piece. Community growing spaces are very important for the community's health, giving access to healthy, local produce, where there may have not been access before.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Don't bulldoze Coton orchard	Don't bulldoze Coton orchard and save £200m	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Metal work Barriers	Obstacles rather than protections they litter all public and green spaces. Timber fencing in limited spaces is a better option. Around Parker's piece, they thwart all transit. Hedges and trees would delineate pathways, allow spaces for play, sport and create intimate spaces for picnics. Superfluous metal in children's play areas should be replaced by forgiving wood and tarmac by soft grass. The main rail station concourse is a bereft expanse of concrete which needs to recover the cycle spaces, shrubs, hedges and meaningful sculpture that enlivens public space and encourages rail travel	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Benches for bus stops	Benches are important for elderly and pregnant women waiting for buses. No maintenance required once established. Will help to encourage more people to use buses and reduce car traffic in and around Cambridge.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Increase not decrease for biodiversity to remain	Would be lovely to see lots of empty overgrown spaces planted with wildflowers. Maybe stop building train stations in Cambridge, the one South is currently building on a 1/3 of the local Hobsons nature reserve and it is very upsetting to lose so much green biodiversity space to yet another man-made structure. Stop taking away green spaces will increase biodiversity no end	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Street clutter to street treasure	Footpaths and corners of roads have become increasingly cluttered with all manner of faceless boxes: telecoms data exchanges, cable TV etc While they deliver important services to our homes and businesses, these boxes degrade the built environment, especially for pedestrians. What if all service cabinets above a certain size in Cambridge had to provide visual interest, and provide for the community in some way? Commission local artists (with a decent budget) to customise them, inspired by local history, landmark, or association with the area.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Stop Plastic pollution and debris in River Cam with Bubble Barriers.	Install Great Bubble Barrier systems at a strategic location in the River Cam in Cambridge. These barriers use air bubbles to create a curtain across the river that diverts floating debris into collection points on the riverbank. The barrier can be customized to the local conditions of the River Cam in terms of width, depth, flow speed, etc. The River Cam suffers from high levels of plastic pollution and litter entering from storm drains, runoff, and other sources. Bubble barriers would create a 24/7 passive capture system to improve water quality by diverting trash before it flows downstream and ultimately reaches the ocean. This demonstrates Cambridge's commitment to sustainability and acting against plastic pollution.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application

Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Summarised)	Proposed by	Ward	Status	Link to Application
No Waste To Landfill	Reduce waste to landfill to effectively zero by implementing separate food waste bins for anaerobic digestion, and then landfill waste goes through a waste to energy process. Treat the ash as per the description in this article. https://www.thisiseco.co.uk/news/what-happens-to-waste-to-energy-incineration-ash/ To deliver this practically, issue a fourth bin or toughened paper bags for food waste that cannot go in the garden waste bin. Those bins are collected alongside the black bin round. Force the contractors to adopt this by more effective procurement, bringing in-house by setting up a not-for-profit to take over tenders if necessary.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Improvement of zoning laws to consider transport routes	Ensure the new biocampuses and tech businesses are built on land surrounding transport hubs (train stations, park and ride sites/bus hubs, etc). There is little logic to the volume of housing built near Cambridge Central station, and then building science hubs a 30 minute walk from either station (Beehive site or the Mitchams Corner site bring examples).	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Bee bricks installed for all new developments	Mandate installation of bee bricks, 1 per domestic dwelling, and 1 for every 20 people at capacity for commercial dwellings, to be installed for all new developments and extensions to existing developments.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Sell city Car Parks to fund extension of park and ride sites	Sell the existing city centre multi storey car parks to developers on the condition they provide a single storey capacity public car park for blue badges /parent & child, which are returned to the council without cost. Use the revenue to invest in the park and ride, starting with the investment in the rapid-to-deploy 'meccano - style' multi storey car parks being installed at the Park and Ride sites. The reduction in parking in the city, combined with the increase in park and ride capacity, will help drivers from out-of-town switch to park and ride.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Enact a city wide ban on illuminating offices 'out of hours'	Several buildings in the city remain illuminated well outside of office hours. Some buildings (Apples new HQ and the Car Dealerships near the Science Park) actively illuminate their frontage for no real benefit other than vanity. Ban this. Doesn't save the council money but won't cost anything major and will stop unnecessary electricity consumption.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Add areas of town that are 'pro graffiti art' to reduce unsightly tagging	Like the Laneways in Melbourne, designate an area of the city (or add it as a requirement for relevant future developments) as graffiti art friendly areas. Identifying buildings that are not of historical importance, artists can work without impeding pedestrians and cyclists, and there isn't risk of tagging windows or signage, is not too hard.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Increase involvement in Green growing areas and quality information	Use spaces that are currently only grass as areas for growing things such as herbs and fruit trees. To help organise this you could invite members of the public to oversee each area. This would help keep the project sustainable. Another branch that comes under the same goal is circulate maps showing cycle routes and pathways including accessibility for wheelchair users and information about toilets (including accessibility and any associated costs). On these maps there would also be information about the planting spaces. Large areas of lawn don't help with biodiversity as much as having a variety of plants. Food sold in supermarkets already have a lot less nutrients. This could be implemented on green spaces such as Parker's Piece which is already a busy area, so people in the city that have an interest in gardening are likely to get involved. People are taking up an increasing interest in the environment and this would help different members of the community to get involved.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Local run/owned animal farm	Animals can help with healing, loneliness, Mental Health issues. Funding to get established would be needed and running costs would be met by donations and funding and selling of produce hen eggs, cow's milk, fruit and veg grown on the farm allotment there is a potential underused area within Cambridge. Agreement would need to be set up with the local landowner and the running of the farm by community residents volunteers, help from the East Anglia agriculture University based off the A10 at Milton help from retired farmers, local children, and adults just all ideas that with Funding could become reality if it gets the thumbs up.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Allow windowboxes - increase biodiversity and appearance	Leaseholder Terms do not allow windowboxes. By simply removing this condition, we could create the opportunity for microhabitats and connect up bigger garden areas, boosting pollinator and other biodiversity, and at the same time improve the visual environment in many areas.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application
Mutual Aid/Farmland/Workshops	Poverty and Homelessness have been rapidly increasing over the last couple of decades. During these tough times we need to help provide essentials to these vulnerable people. It would be great if we could provide the community with land that can be used to grow food sustainably, this land could be used to grow vegetables, fruit and medicinal plants that could help decrease our dependency on the systems we currently use. It would be great if we could create areas in which the community can come together and partake in mutual aid workshops, in which we create makeshift heaters, blankets etc.	Local Resident	All	Rejected	Link to Application