

Item

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

To: North Area Committee:

13th November 2023

Report by:

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Wards affected:

East Chesterton, West Chesterton, King's Hedges and Arbury

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 North 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 North Area Committee is recommended to:

- i. To note the EIP budget allocation for North Area for 2023/24 and for Strategic EIP see 3.4,
- ii. To consider the new EIP ideas and project submitted for North Area, against the EIP Funding availability and the eligibility criteria (Appendix A – Table 1),
- iii. Consider the recommendations made in Appendix B; Tables 1 and 2, discuss and clearly outline the committee's priorities in line with the available 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, Environment and Community Scrutiny 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 the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces and City Services. 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 such as the Tree and Biodiversity Strategies, plus the Herbicide Reduction Plan. 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 £27,184 available for North 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 2022. There was also an opportunity to select any ideas put forward and like or comment on them, this ran until the 28th September 2023. These opportunities to submit project bids was advertised 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 North 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 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 The current status of EIP projects in the North Area and other areas can be viewed [here](#).

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

- 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 North 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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or

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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 North Area, and strategic programme information.

Please consider that the funding available is **£27,184** and the 19 project submissions for the Area EIP are estimated to cost £74,600, 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 North 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 North Area:

No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description	Proposed by	Ward	Estimated Cost	Cost Deliverability Eligibility Rating	Persons Support Consultation Tool	Officer Funding Suggestion (Summarised Text)	Link to Application
					£	R/A/G			
N2 - 2024	A second wildflower meadow in Five Trees, off Fen Road	Plant a second wildflower meadow in Five Trees open space to complement the approved S106 funded meadow the is yet to be planted. Install a pair of benches for people to rest and enjoy the quiet of Five Trees.	Local Resident	E Chester ton	5,000	Green	Thumbs up 14	Recommended - supported deliverable making the space more socially useable	Link to Application
N4 - 2024	Resurface footpath and plant wildflowers on Kings Hedges Recreation Ground	Reconstruct or resurface the footpaths on Kings Hedges Recreation Ground, particularly along the southeast edge behind Albemarle Way to remedy the currently uneven surface deep holes which are unattractive and a risk to visitors. Remove overgrown remains of old paving alongside the path by the flats and replace with wildflowers.	Local Resident	Kings Hedges	20,000	Amber/Red	Thumbs up 20	Not Recommended - High cost not good value vs benefits for EIP also responsibility of County Council	Link to Application
N6 - 2024	Support Mayfield School to increase biodiversity & habitat for pollinators	Replace the existing raised flower beds in the grounds of Mayfield School with a range of shrubs and wildflowers to maximise biodiversity and provide a natural habitat for pollinating insects. Intended to improve local biodiversity and the wellbeing of the children, teachers, and parents, it will also provide educational opportunity for children and improve the aesthetic of the space for all its visitors. The ongoing maintenance of the new planters will be the responsibility of the school.	Local Resident	Arbury	4,500	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 79 and 2 Negative Comments	Recommended - Though in other Public Ownership - it is publicly visible and accessible. Strongly supported, highly deliverable biodiversity priority	Link to Application
N7 - 2024	Repair and Power Wash Planters Damaged by Vehicles	Repair and pressure clean damaged planters at the Highworth/Leys Road roundabout that have been damaged by vehicles. The planters are a significant part of the green space on the estate and should be maintained.	Local Resident	W Chester ton	2,000	Amber	Thumbs up 2 ad 1 Negative Comments	Not Recommended – Not high priority improvement could be implemented through Highways funding or Community Engagement Team	Link to Application
N10 - 2024	Welcome to Victoria Park!	Replace grass on either side of the entry to Victoria Park to create visually interesting gardens tolerant to shade and changing moisture level below the hornbeams. Create curb cuts to take in surface water from the road to support the plantings. Install a bench for people to rest and wait between buses.	Local Resident	W Chester ton	3,000	Amber	Thumbs up 3 and 2 negative comments	Not Recommended – Highway ownership hard to est. wildflowers in heavy foot trafficked area. Bench might be feasible.	Link to Application
N11 - 2024	Growing a Community: A Community Garden at Nun's Way	Establish a community garden in Nun's Way recreation ground to promote local biodiversity and community cohesion. Planting native wildflower grasses, vegetable patches, and fruit trees will support the local ecosystem and attract pollinators and wildlife. Community ownership of the space will foster a stronger, healthier, and more connected neighbourhood. Installing	Local Resident	Kings Hedges	5,000	Amber	Thumbs up 3 and 2 Negative Comments	Not Recommended – Principle supported however needs considerable funding, protection from ASB	Link to Application

No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description	Proposed by	Ward	Estimated Cost (£)	Cost Deliverability Eligibility Rating	Persons Support Consultation Tool	Officer Funding Suggestion (Summarised Text)	Link to Application
		benches and bins will enable opportunity for people to rest or provide picnic spots thus promoting social interaction.						and high maintenance liability	
N12 - 2024	Water Street Preservation Plan	Enhance Water Street Carpark to create a safe destination for residents and visitors and to enable local biodiversity to thrive. Restore and manage bug hotels, create wildlife corridors, plant wildflower meadows, and provide educational opportunity for people to engage with and raise awareness of nature.	Local Resident	E Chester ton	3,000	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 24	Recommended – Considerable community support, investment only on City or County land, as ownership of some land in locale uncertain	Link to Application
N13 - 2024	Safety for schoolchildren and Elderly on the Carisbrooke Road Green footway	Improve the lighting under the trees and at the entrance to the local school on Carisbrooke Road Green improving the safety and security of children, residents, and visitors.	Local Resident	E Chester ton	3,500	Amber/Red	Thumbs up 13	Not Recommended – land not in ownership, not an EIP priority. Ltd public benefit alternative routes available.	Link to Application
N14 - 2024	Boosting Biodiversity in Happy Bee Streets	Increase the nectar rich flowers in Ascham Road, Gurney Way and Atherton Close and extend their flowering times during the year by planting more bulbs and sowing more wildflowers seeds round the trees and some lampposts to provide an abundance and succession of food sources for pollinating insects.	Local Resident	W Chester ton	2,000	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 13	Recommended – community led biodiversity improvements	Link to Application
N15 - 2024	Raised Beds on Hazelwood Close	Install raised beds on the patch of grass where Hazelwood Close meets Molewood Close and fill them with shade-loving plants. The grass provides very little in the way of biodiversity or visual interest.	Local Resident	Arbury	1,000	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 7	Recommended – community led biodiversity improvements	Link to Application
N16 - 2024	Remove 2 Redundant Grey Royal Mail Storage Boxes in Hurst Park Estate	Remove two unused grey Royal Mail storage boxes from the grass verges at the entrance to Mulberry Close and on Highfield Avenue, close to Hurst Park Avenue.	Local Resident	W Chester ton	500	Amber / Red	Thumbs up 2 Substantive Negative Comments	Not Recommended – Privately owned assets, no authority to remove, benefits to decluttering but not an EIP priority.	Link to Application
N17 - 2024	Ramsden Square Rec biodiversity improvement	Plant two deciduous trees on the NE and two on the SW sides of Ramsden Square Recreation Ground to replace two felled trees that were never replaced and improve the biodiversity of the immediate and wider area, increasing bird and invertebrate populations.	Cllr Jenny Gawthrope-Wood	Kings Hedges	1,000	Green	Thumbs up 17	Recommended – Meets EIP priorities and Arboriculture Team fully supportive	Link to Application
N19 - 2024	Campkin Road greening	Remove tarmac/ asphalt and concrete bollards in two areas of Campkin Road and replace with meadow grasses and flowers or shrubs enhancing the area for people and biodiversity.	Cllr Jenny Gawthrope-Wood	Kings Hedges	5,000	Amber/Red	Thumbs up 27 and 1 Substantive Negative Comment	Not Recommended – Potential high cost needs considerable groundwork, gain for investment is low and increases maintenance. Tree planting could be a possibility	Link to Application
N20 - 2024	Replace previous planting in Kings Hedges	Regreening areas of Kings Hedges which have over time been reduced or lost. Planting to include shrubs or similar robust plants that will enhance the area for people and biodiversity.	Local Resident	Kings Hedges	2,500	Amber	Thumbs up 38	Not Recommended – However needs decompaction chances of getting	Link to Application

No.	Scheme Title	Scheme Description	Proposed by	Ward	Estimated Cost (£)	Cost Deliverability Eligibility Rating	Persons Support Consultation Tool	Officer Funding Suggestion (Summarised Text)	Link to Application
								something established is low plus impacts on visibility splay.	
N22 - 2024	Improve biodiversity and safety for children and dogs at Chesterton Rec	Create a barrier at two openings that have no gates at Chesterton Recreation Ground to minimise the risk of children and dogs easily exiting the rec onto the busy Elizabeth Way. Establish windflower or other planting, or fencing, as a preventative measure. Include additional planting alongside the path at the entrance closer to the bridge.	Local Resident	E Chesterton	3,000	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 7	Recommended – At one exit which is straight onto footway possibility of an easygate install in Recreation Ground	Link to Application
N23 - 2024	Protection of grassy areas and biodiversity increase at front of Rutland Close	Establish a low-level flowerbed or other planting option(s) to enhance biodiversity and a seating area to prevent vehicles overrunning and parking on the grass at the front of Rutland Close.	Cllr P Sheil	Arbury	3,000	Green / Amber	Thumbs up 14	Recommended – Deliverable with community support improve biodiversity but may not solve vehicle crossover	Link to Application
N24 - 2024	Building Biodiversity at Alexandra Gardens	Improve the biodiversity and amenity value of Alexandra Gardens by adding bird and bat boxes and a variety of ground-level measures such as wildflower mounds and wooden insect habitats. Strategic placement of habitat features can be used to block off dark corners and prevent antisocial behaviour at night, while others can provide natural seats or infrastructure for children to play on.	Cllr S Carling	W Chesterton	4,600	Green	Thumbs up 3	Recommended – Fits with EIP priorities & management plan	Link to Application
N25 - 2024	Improve access pathway and surface to Five Trees openspace	Resurface the pavement that runs between Anglers Way, Cam Causeway, and Bourne Road which is very uneven and suffers from large pools forming when it rains which causing a safety and accessibility issue for many users.	Cllr Bird on behalf of Local Residents	E Chesterton	5,000	Amber	Thumbs up 23	Not Recommended - High cost not good balance between value and benefits for EIP.	Link to Application
N26 - 2024	To reinstate a lamp post, on Elmfield Road	Reinstate lamppost on Elmfield Road/ Eastfield, outside Nos 15 & 17, to increase the level of safety for users at night, particularly vulnerable residents.	Cllr Bird on behalf of Local Residents	E Chesterton	3,000	Amber/Red	Thumbs up 2	Not Recommended - This is not applicable for EIP funding street light improvements need to be referred to County Council.	Link to Application

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

Project Number	Scheme Title	Project Value £	Available £
N2 - 2024	A second wildflower meadow in Five Trees, off Fen Road	5,000	
N6 - 2024	Support Mayfield School to increase biodiversity & habitat for pollinators	4,500	
N12 - 2024	Water Street Preservation Plan	3,000	
N14 - 2024	Boosting Biodiversity in Happy Bee Streets	2,000	
N15 - 2024	Raised Beds on Hazelwood Close	1,000	
N17 - 2024	Ramsden Square Rec biodiversity improvement	1,000	
N22 -2024	Improve biodiversity and safety for children and dogs at Chesterton Rec	3,000	
N23 -2024	Protection of grassy areas and biodiversity increase at front of Rutland Close	3,000	
N24 - 2024	Building Biodiversity at Alexandra Gardens	4,600	
TOTAL NORTH AREA EIP		£27,100	£27,184

Table 3: 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
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
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
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 4 – Projects rejected from the EIP Strategic Funding Round within North Area

Scheme Title	Scheme Description (Summarised)	Proposed by	Ward	Estimated Cost	Status	Why Rejected	Link to Application
				£			
Upgrading of Fence - and planting shrubs to provide a natural biodiverse barrier	At St Albans' Recreation Space, replace existing fence/install fence where none exists with a steel knee diamond rail fence. This would prevent unwanted access onto a well-used open space. Vehicle access point would be installed to allow grass cutting machinery onto the site and existing tree/shrub lines would be bolstered with extra planting helping to form a natural biodiversity rich barrier.	Asset Management Team	Arbury	12,000	Rejected	This project does not fall within the criteria for EIP. However a similar with EIP criteria project sN3 – 2024 - 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 - 2024	Biodiversity Improvements on St Alban's Recreation Space	20,000
sN5/8 - 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

***Note:** Several projects were rejected as being ineligible for EIP funding if you wish to see a list of these please contact us and we will be happy to share these.