Hersham and Esher Local Spending Board

Date of meeting: 20th March 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject:</th>
<th>Allocation of the meaningful proportion of Community Infrastructure Levy funds for Hersham and Esher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lead Officer:</td>
<td>Planning Policy</td>
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<td>Portfolio Holder:</td>
<td>Portfolio Holder for Planning Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Link to Council Priorities:</td>
<td>P2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exempt information:</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delegated status:</td>
<td>For recommendation to Cabinet</td>
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<td>Key decision:</td>
<td>No</td>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Council adopted the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in April 2013 and is required to allocate a ‘meaningful proportion’ of CIL collected within communities where development comes forward. This is to be spent on local infrastructure improvements needed to mitigate the impacts of development in that specific area. In July 2017 the Elmbridge Cabinet agreed that the amount allocated locally would be reduced to 15% from 25% in line with the minimum required in legislation. This change took effect for funds collected from August 2017. The remainder of CIL funds are allocated towards strategic infrastructure within the Borough and a separate governance structure has been set up to allocate these funds.

Detailed within this report are the applications submitted for 2018, to be considered by the Hersham and Esher Local Spending Board.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT

The Hersham and Esher Local Infrastructure Spending Board consider the applications outlined within the report and award funding as appropriate.

REPORT:

1. Background
   1.1 In June 2013 it was agreed through Cabinet that the most appropriate way of allocating this ‘meaningful proportion’ of CIL funds in Elmbridge would be through the formation of Local Infrastructure Spending Boards. In areas that have a Parish Council legislation requires that these funds are passed directly to Parish Councils.

2. Funds available and rules of spending
   2.1 £545,000 is available for the settlement of Hersham to allocate to local infrastructure, whilst Esher has £157,000 available. Legislation states that these funds must be spent on projects that meet the following criteria.
      • The provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or
      • Anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that
development places on an area.

2.2 The definition of infrastructure is broad and includes:
- Roads and other transport infrastructure
- Flood defences
- Schools and other educational facilities
- Medical facilities
- Sporting and recreational facilities
- Open spaces

3. Funding applications received
3.1 Applications were invited between 20 November 2017 and 19 January 2018. The Council has received 12 applications for CIL funds, 9 for Hersham and 3 for Esher. The total requested is £274,902, with £220,402 being requested in Hersham and £54,500 in Esher.

3.2 Applicants have been invited to the meeting to speak in support of their application should they wish to. There will be the opportunity for Board members to ask any questions. All applicants have been asked to update the Board if any funding for the project has been awarded from other sources since the application date.

3.3 The applications are as follows:
- Surrey County Council to provide electronic vehicle-activated signs on Burwood Road. CIL funding of £20,000 has been requested (Hersham).
- Bell Farm Primary School to expand office and staff space for the growing school. CIL funding of £66,659 has been requested. A quotation has been provided that is consistent with the amount requested (Hersham).
- The Lower Mole Partnership for surfacing of another section of the circular riverside path in Hersham. CIL funding of £5,400 has been requested for the works (Hersham).
- Walton Charity for the construction of fencing and creation of a communal area at Burhill allotment site. CIL funding of £8,698 has been requested for the works. Quotations have been provided that are consistent with the amount requested (Hersham).
- North East Surrey Short Stay School for Creation of a garden area at the school to regenerate a currently unused area. CIL funding of £10,166 is requested. Three quotations have been provided that are consistent with the amount requested (Hersham).
• Weybridge Beekeepers for a Bee education centre, training apiary and community hall. CIL funding of £20,000 is requested (Hersham).

• Hersham Youth Trust to replace defective roofing of Hersham Young People’s Centre. CIL funding of £68,483 is requested. One quotation has been provided to the Council, selected from the procurement process for which three quotations were received (Hersham).

• Burwood Preschool for installation of gas central heating for the community building on Vauxmead for Burwood Preschool. CIL funding of £19,204 is requested. Quotations have been provided that are consistent with the amount requested (Hersham).

• Hersham PCC to cover the shortfall in CIL funding for the provision of additional toilet facilities at Vauxmead that was allocated funds in 2017. CIL funding of £1,800 has been requested (Hersham).

• Esher C of E High School for Provision of protective flooring to protect sports hall floor for multi-use of hall. CIL funding of £13,500 has been requested. One quotation has been provided that is consistent with the amount requested (Esher).

• Esher Green Surgery to improve toilets (staff and patient) and decorate waiting room. CIL funding of £6000 has been requested (Esher).

• 1st Claygate Scouts to extend the Scout Centre. CIL funding of £35,000 has been requested (Esher).

The full application forms and supporting information are available within Appendices A - L to this report. As part of the application process, annual accounts are requested for organisations that are not in the public sector. These are also included where supplied.

4. Update on 2017 CIL funded projects
4.1 Both projects funded last year were successfully completed during the summer of 2017. The Lower Mole Partnership finished their planned riverside path surfacing work, which has been well received by the local community. The additional toilet facilities were also installed to benefit both the users of Vauxmead and the Guide hut.

5 Community feedback
5.1 CIL guidance sets out that spending of the local proportion should reflect what local residents view as important improvements in their area. The extensive response to the 2017 Local Plan consultation provided feedback from the local
community on what they consider to be the infrastructure priorities for their area.

5.2 Local infrastructure improvements that were referenced through the consultation are set out in the list below.

- Pedestrian crossing at Hersham station
- Improved, affordable public transport
- Road repairs
- Upkeep of green areas

In addition, the following issues were raised by residents during previous CIL application rounds:

- Expansion/enhancement to Pleasant Place GP surgery/medical services
- Traffic calming in village, Queens Road and Hersham Road to junction with West Grove mentioned specifically
- Footpath improvements within the village, Queens Road mentioned specifically
- Improved cycle lanes
- Highway improvements generally
- Accessibility improvements at Hersham station
- Crossing on Molesey Road near Coronation Recreation Ground entrance
- Village hall provision/improvements
- Improvements at Bell Farm due to rising numbers
- Parking issues on side roads, Burwood Road mentioned
- Footpath access from Felcott Road to Coronation Recreation Ground
- Traffic flow on Molesey Road where traffic turns into Waitrose.
- Improvements to Hersham riverside park
- Gate from Hersham Memorial Garden into Pleasant Place
- Toilet facilities on Vaux Mead
- Dog litter bins
- Tree planting

The views expressed by the local community on infrastructure priorities are considerations when assessing applications for funding

6 Decision making
6.1 To inform decision making all applications submitted have been scored by officers against criteria to indicate the suitability of the project for CIL funding. This assessment is provided as a guide for Councillors and aims to give a value to the criteria that Councillors always consider when deciding applications. Scores have been weighted to place a higher value on projects that most obviously address the impacts of development, in line with the purposes of CIL. Criteria used are:

- The extent to which the project mitigates the impact of development within the borough
- The level of benefits to residents, including evidence of community support
- The level of match funding attached to the project
- Value for money of the scheme and added value that CIL could deliver
- Deliverability
6.2 As the scoring assessment shows there are projects that are able to demonstrate how they are assisting in mitigating the impacts of development. This includes projects that support growing schools in the local area, attempt to improve road safety or improve access to open spaces locally.

6.3 For a number of projects, the link between the proposal and the impact it has on addressing the demands that development places on an area is much less clear. Councillors will need to consider this issue and the suitability of using CIL funding.

6.4 Local Ward Councillors will be asked to either:
   1. Recommend awarding full or part funding towards the schemes submitted
   2. Refuse funding towards a scheme

6.5 If required, award of funding can be conditional on further information being provided. In line with procurement requirements, all applications for over £5,000 will be required to provide evidence of a minimum of three written quotations of work. Approved funding is paid to applicants on submission of verifiable invoices for the project.

6.6 Unallocated funds will be rolled over and be available for future allocation rounds

Financial Implications:
£545,000 is available for the settlement of Hersham and £157,000 for the settlement of Esher and funding applications totalling £220,402 for Hersham and £54,500 for Esher have been received.

Environmental / Sustainability Implications:
Improvements to infrastructure within the Borough assist in improving the sustainability of the area.

Legal Implications:
Relevant to meeting the Council’s obligations under the Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010 (as amended).

Equality Implications:
None for the purpose of this report.

Risk Implications:
Approved funding is paid on the submission of verifiable invoices ensuring that money is used for the projects as described.

Community Safety Implications:
None for the purpose of this report.

Principal Consultees
All Local Ward Councillors and Surrey County Councillors for Hersham and Esher.
**Background Papers:**
None for the purpose of this report

**Enclosures/Appendices:**
Appendices A-M