Executive Summary:

This report sets out the seven applications for funding from the Thames Ditton, Long Ditton, Hinchley Wood & Weston Green portions of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds for 2019. The total amount requested from the CIL budget for these projects is £204,000.

As at January 2019 the total funds available to allocate towards local infrastructure improvements in the Thames Ditton, Long Ditton, Hinchley Wood & Weston Green settlement area is £227,934.16 (this figure excludes funding previously allocated towards projects), so there are sufficient funds for all applications under consideration.

RECOMMENDED: that

(a) the Local Spending Board for Thames Ditton, Long Ditton, Hinchley Wood & Weston Green consider the applications outlined within the report and award funding as appropriate.

Report:

1. CIL Background

1.1 The Council adopted CIL in April 2013. CIL allows the Council to raise funds from some forms of new development to pay for infrastructure that is, or will be, needed to mitigate the impacts of development. As set out in the CIL Regulations, an initial 5% is retained by the Borough Council for administration costs.

The remaining CIL receipts are spent in accordance with the regulations and the approach adopted by Cabinet and Council in July 2017. That is:

- 40% of CIL collected (post allocation to administration and Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG)) is ring fenced to fund a programme of strategic infrastructure projects;
35% of CIL is allocated through the Strategic Spending Board to more ad-hoc strategic improvements required to address the impacts arising from development across the Borough;
• 15% is allocated through the Local Spending Boards (and in the case of Claygate, to the Parish Council); and
• 10% of CIL is ringfenced (post allocation to administration and SANG) for maintenance purposes.

1.2 For the 15% of CIL funds outlined above, the Council has formed settlement area committees known as Local Infrastructure Spending Boards where local Councillors will decide on how these local CIL funds will be allocated. In the case of Claygate, the local proportion of CIL funds will be passed directly to the Parish Council.

2 2019 Applications to be considered by the Local Spending Board

2.1 For the allocation of CIL funds, applicants are required to submit funding proposals to the Council. Funding applications were invited from 10 September 2018 – 21 October 2018. Applications received by the closing date had until 30 November 2018 to supply additional information required to validate their application.

2.2 The applications that have been put forward are shown in the following table and further details can be found in appendices to this report. The Board should note that the amount of funding available exceeds the amount that has been applied for. Any remaining funds are carried over to the allocation process for the following board.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheme name and description</th>
<th>CIL funding sought</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application 1 - Canopies &amp; Seating</strong> (Hinchley Wood School) Further details can be found in Appendix A</td>
<td>£15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application 2 - Artificial Pitch, Active Play &amp; Garden Area</strong> (Thames Ditton Infant School) Further details can be found in Appendix B</td>
<td>£100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application 3 - Playground Re-surfacing &amp; Markings</strong> (Long Ditton Infant &amp; Nursery School) Further details can be found in Appendix C</td>
<td>£15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application 4 - Pond Fencing</strong> (Lower Mole Partnership) Further details can be found in Appendix D</td>
<td>£6,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application 5 - Ditton Reach - Metal Gates</strong> (Elmbridge Borough Council) Further details can be found in Appendix E</td>
<td>£9,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application 6 - Re-surfacing Access to Ditton Common</strong> (Elmbridge Borough Council) Further details can be found in Appendix F</td>
<td>£40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application 7 - Cycle Storage Racks</strong> (Esher College) Further details can be found in Appendix G</td>
<td>£18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£204,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 Project assessment and officer recommendations

3.1 The first consideration is whether the schemes are eligible for funding based on the Legislation, which 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.

3.2 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 space

3.3 All applications submitted have been assessed by officers against a number of criteria to indicate the suitability and value in considering CIL funding. Criteria used were:
- 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, and
- Deliverability

The assessment summary is included at Appendix H.

**Application 1 - Canopies & Seating** (Hinchley Wood School) - Appendix A

3.4 The application requests £15,000 to install an outdoor canopy and tables with bench seats outside the building used by Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) students. The project will make use of the existing paved area to increase the outdoor learning space that is accessible by all of the students. The school is currently over-subscribed and in need of additional space that can be accessed throughout the year in all weather.

The school has had three successful applications to this Local Spending Board in the past; in 2016 receiving £9,900 for a multi-use games area (MUGA), in 2017 receiving £12,955 for cycle parking and in 2018 receiving £20,000 for additional cycle parking.

3.5 Based on the improvement to the facility, benefits to the community and the funding already secured the project scores 17 / 25 (see Appendix H).  

**Application 2 - Artificial Pitch, Active Play & Garden Area** (Thames Ditton Infant School) – Appendix B

3.6 The application requests £100,000 to upgrade playing field to an artificial pitch, as we as redeveloping the playing and garden area at the back of the school. The use of the current playing field is weather dependent and creating the multiple active play areas at the back of the school would benefit the students as well as the users from the community outside of school times.

In 2016, Thames Ditton Infant School was awarded £11,000 for replacing a section of roof canopy for increased outdoor PE provision from this Local Spending Board.

3.7 Based on the upgrade to the facilities, community support and funds already secured the project scores 17 / 25 (see Appendix H).
**Application 3 - Playground Re-surfacing & Markings** (Long Ditton Infant & Nursery School) – Appendix C

3.8 The application requests £15,000 to resurface the playground and mark it out into multiple activity areas. The deteriorating surface is unsafe and has been raised as an issue by parents and students and resurfacing the space will increase the capacity and usage of the space.

No CIL funding has been awarded to Long Ditton Infant & Nursery School to date.

3.9 Based on the upgrade to the facilities, benefits to the users and funding already secured the project scores 17.5 / 25 (see Appendix H).

**Application 4 – Pond Fencing** (Lower Mole Partnership) – Appendix D

3.10 The application requests £6,800 to install a fence around the pond in Stoke Field to reduce the number of dogs entering the pond. The fence, gate signage and stock netting will help protect the biodiversity, vegetation and wildlife in and around the pond.

The Lower Mole Partnership has had successful applications from other Local Spending Boards for footpath projects, but no CIL funding from this Local Spending Board has been awarded to date.

3.11 Based on the protection of the pond, commentary from users, and funding already secured the project scores 14.5 / 25 (see Appendix H).

**Application 5 - Ditton Reach - Metal Gates** (Elmbridge Borough Council) - Appendix E

3.12 The application requests £9,200 to install metal gates at the entry points of Ditton Reach. The gates will increase the security of the open space outside of closing hours, ensuring the appropriate usage of the area. While also providing better protection for the residents using the space and safety for those living near the entrance points.

The Council has had two successful applications to this Local Spending Board in the past; in 2017 receiving £40,000 for the Community Café in the Thames Ditton Centre, and in 2018 receiving £10,000 for the Weston Green, Ditton Common Footpath.

3.13 Based on the upgrade to the facility, supporting growth and safety and community support the project scores 16 / 25 (see Appendix H).

**Application 6 - Re-surfacing Access to Ditton Common** (Elmbridge Borough Council) - Appendix F

3.14 The application requests £40,000 to upgrade the access track with a tarmac-based surface. Due to increased use the track has deteriorated, and commentary from residents and users has been made about the state of the surface and safety issues it causes. The new surface will enable safer and easier access to residents and user of the sports clubs, as well as decreased maintenance requirements and costs.
The Council has had two successful applications to this Local Spending Board in the past; in 2017 receiving £40,000 for the Community Café in the Thames Ditton Centre, and in 2018 receiving £10,000 for the Weston Green, Ditton Common Footpath.

3.15 Based on the upgrade of the facility, supporting growth and capacity, community support and usage the project scores 16 / 25 (see Appendix H).

**Application 7 - Cycle Storage Racks** (Esher College) – Appendix G

3.16 The application requests £18,000 to install additional cycle racks. The lack of facilities from current demand and focus on cycling in the upcoming Travel Plan for the College have created the need for the additional cycle rack capacity. Promotion of cycling at the College will reduce the amount of travel congestion surrounding the school.

No CIL funding has been awarded to Esher College to date.

3.17 Based on increased facilities, supporting growth, and funding already secured the project scores 17 / 25 (see Appendix H).

4 **The Board’s consideration**

4.1 In assessing all of the details provided for the seven bids the Local Spending Board should consider the criteria used in the scoring assessment:
   - How the project addresses impacts created by new development
   - The potential impact of a project
   - Deliverability of the project
   - Match funding and value for money

4.2 Members are asked to consider the funding of these projects and make the allocation decisions.

**Financial implications:**
The Local Spending Board will make the final decision on allocation of CIL funding. £227,934.16 is available for the settlement of Thames Ditton, Long Ditton, Hinchley Wood & Weston Green. Funding applications totalling £204,000 have been received, so there are sufficient funds for all applications under consideration.

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

**Legal implications:**
The decisions made by the Local Spending Board as to the allocation of CIL must be in conformity with the relevant legislation governing CIL (CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended)). Applicants that are awarded funding sign up to terms and conditions ensuring that CIL monies are spent in line the project as submitted.

**Equality Implications:**
None for the purpose of this report.

**Risk Implications:**
The key risk for the Council associated with this funding is the financial risk of non-delivery of projects. To manage this, approved funding will be paid on the submission of verifiable
invoices ensuring that money is used for the projects as submitted.

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

**Principal Consultees:**
Officers, CMB, Legal, Finance

**Background papers:**
None for the purpose of this report.

**Enclosures/Appendices:**
All applications and the scoring sheets are included as appendices A-H.

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