

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING
27th October 2005

Section 106 Expenditure
Provisional Programme for Expenditure for Sustainable Transportation Projects

OPEN	
COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:	A Better Environment
CORPORATE PLAN THEME:	Enabling Community Wellbeing
KEY PRIORITY:	Transport Infrastructure
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor James Dudley
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Head of Planning, Health and Environment
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APPENDICES:	Appendix 1 – Provisional programme for the expenditure of S106 monies on sustainable transportation.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To apprise Members of the background, procedure and programme of potential projects for capital expenditure on improving sustainable transportation in and around Kidderminster and the Wyre Forest District and to seek approval to a programme of projects for implementation.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is asked to DECIDE:

- 2.1 To approve the programme of projects for expenditure of Section 106 monies held on sustainable transportation as outlined at Appendix 1 to this report.
- 2.2 That the Head of Planning, Health and Environment in consultation with Cabinet Member, be authorised to approve the final selection and details of the schemes set out under items 4 - 12 inclusive in Appendix 1 for implementation as part of the programme

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The District Council may enter into a planning obligation with the owner of land in its area under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended). Section 106 planning agreements can be used to secure community infrastructure to meet the needs of residents in new developments or to mitigate the impact of new developments upon existing community facilities. It is important to ensure that any money secured is spent appropriately and within the specified timescales of the agreement.
- 3.2 Policy IMP.1 of the Adopted Wyre Forest District Local Plan sets the background for the use of planning obligations (both planning agreements and unilateral undertakings), to provide for related environmental works, infrastructure, community facilities and services. The transportation policies within the Local Plan set out the requirements for developer funding towards walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure in appropriate circumstances.
- 3.2 The Planning Health and Environment Division's Business Plan includes an action to draw up a capital expenditure programme for those S106 monies retained for implementing sustainable transport infrastructure.

4.0 LOCAL CONTEXT

- 4.1 Kidderminster is suffering from increasing levels of traffic congestion, which has significant environmental, social and economic impacts. The Ring Road forms a significant barrier for pedestrians and cyclists wishing to access the town centre from the surrounding residential areas. Congestion is becoming a major problem at junctions around the town and this has contributed to the declaration of an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) at The Horsefair.
- 4.2 Integration between the rail station on Comberton Hill and the town centre is poor and the pedestrian environment is unpleasant. There are currently no bus priority measures within the town, which hampers the reliability of local buses and contributes to their declining image within the District.
- 4.3 Within the more rural areas of the District, there is a lack of transport choice with poor frequency of bus services resulting in over reliance on the private car. As a result, many young people find it difficult to access employment opportunities and local services.
- 4.4 The Provisional Worcestershire Local Transport Plan (July 2005), contains the following policies relating to Kidderminster that could be supported by Section 106 funding:
- Policy WF3: To work with rail industry partners and the Severn Valley Railway to undertake improvements at Kidderminster Railway Station that will improve accessibility within and to the station, improve the connectivity between the station and the town centre, and improve bus/rail interchange.

- Policy WF6: To support the work of the Wyre Forest Bus Quality Partnership by helping the development of a fully integrated, affordable public and community transport network for Wyre Forest, providing the opportunity for seamless multi-modal journeys.

5. Current S106 Sustainable Transport Funds

- 5.1 The table below outlines details of those S106 funds that are currently being held by the Council for expenditure on sustainable transport projects. The total amount of funding currently available stands at £150,000.

App. No	Location	S106 Funding Area	Year received	Amount
WF222/94	Waterside Grange, Kidderminster	Enhance pedestrian access	2000/01	£50,000.00
WF382/02	New Forest Close, Far Forest	For sustainable transport initiatives serving the rural areas of the District including the Parish of Rock.	2002/03	£5,000.00
WF760/01	Foley Business Park, Stourport Road	Upgrading Sustrans or alternative transport	2002/03	£10,000.00
WF1262/02	Lion Square, Bromsgrove Street, Kidderminster	Sustainable transport & Environmental improvements	2003/04	£10,000.00
WF950/00	Kidderminster College, Market Street	Sustainable transport measures.	2003/04	£75,000.00

6. Provisional Programme for Capital Expenditure

- 6.1 Appendix 1 to this report sets out a list of project proposals for the expenditure of S106 Sustainable Transport funds. The proposals have been developed against the local policy context and represent an indicative list. It should be noted that detailed information on costings, match funding and engineering works would need to be obtained from Worcestershire County Council in order to progress some of these schemes further.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 The proposed expenditure would be met from the S106 funds for sustainable transport projects currently being held by Financial Services.

8. Risk Management

- 8.1 The failure to identify and approve projects for the expenditure of S106 monies will result in the lack of a clear strategy for the most resource effective use of the funding and will not bring benefits to local residents, businesses and visitors.

9. Conclusion

- 9.1 The provisional programme for the expenditure of S106 monies on sustainable transportation set out at Appendix 1 to this report represents a clear strategy for the most resource effective usage of these funds. The proposed projects have been developed in accordance with the local policy context as set out under paragraphs 4.1- 4.4 above.

10. Consultees

10.1 CMT

10.2 Planning Property & Commercial Solicitor

10.3 Head of Financial Services

11. Background Papers

11.1 Worcestershire Provisional Local Transport Plan 2006-11
(Worcestershire County Council July 2005)

11.2 Planning Application Files as follows:

- WF/222/94 Stourvale Works, Kidderminster.
- WF/950/00 Kidderminster College, Market Street.
- WF/760/01 Plot 2a Foley Business Park.
- WF/382/02 New Forest Close, Far Forest.
- WF/1262/02 Lion Square, Kidderminster.

4th October 2005