PLANNING & ECONOMY PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION – 21 MAY 2024

ALLOCATION OF TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS – LYMINGTON AND PENNINGTON

1 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 It is recommended that:
 - the Portfolio Holder notes the progress of the approved schemes at:
 - Ramley Road
 - Public Transport improvements in the vicinity of Ampress Park / Lymington Hospital
 - the Portfolio Holder approves the allocation of £146,872.98 of held S106 transportation monies to fund a crossing at Avenue Road, Lymington

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 In February 2015 Cabinet approved several projects which would be funded by Section 106 contributions that were held by the Council. The Cabinet report authorised the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transportation to make such subsequent amendments as deemed appropriate to the approved project lists.
- 2.2 This report provides an update on the progress of the schemes in Lymington that were agreed in 2015 and seeks approval of the reallocation of monies from existing allocations that haven't progressed to a new project at Avenue Road, Lymington.

3 POLICY FRAMEWORK

3.1 The projects which are the subject of this report benefit a wide sector of the community and respond positively to Local Plan policies:

Local Plan 2016-2036 Part One: Planning Strategy

- Policy ENV3: Design quality and local distinctiveness;
- Policy CCC1: Safe and healthy communities;
- Saved policy CS7: Open Space Sport and Recreation;
- Policy STR8; Community services, infrastructure and facilities;
- Policy CCC2; Safe and sustainable travel
- 3.2 The transportation contributions held were sought to improve pedestrian and cycle routes and assist public transport to improve accessibility by non-car modes. Such policy objectives remain, as most recently expressed in the Local Transport Plan 4, adopted by Hampshire County Council in 2024. Therefore, any projects would need to be in accordance with these objectives.

4 SCHEMES BEING PROGRESSED

Ramley Road, Lymington

4.1 A scheme to encourage the reduction of traffic speeds on Ramley Road was approved in the February 2015 Cabinet report. An initial proposal to install speed

humps has now been discounted in favour of progressing a safe crossing point close to the Our Lady and St Joseph Catholic Primary School.

- 4.2 The project is expected to require a reduction in width of the highway to create a pinch point and enable the widening of the footway to the back of the highway boundary. This may result in a priority signal being required after detailed design to allow one vehicle priority on the reduced width carriageway. In addition, the scheme would narrow the crossing at Hazel Road to create a further safe crossing and assist with flooding issues.
- 4.3 Once HCC have received the funds it is likely to take around 7 months to produce a detailed scheme and achieve a competitive tender. The physical works will be timed to minimise disruption to parents and students travelling to and from school.
- 4.4 The Council have £147,710.42 allocated to this scheme, and whilst no further approvals are required, the Portfolio Holder is asked to note the progress on this scheme.

Public Transport Enhancements, Lymington

4.5 The Council is holding around £35,000 towards public transport enhancements in Lymington between Ampress Park / Lymington Hospital and the town centre. HCC have the following 6 schemes which could be implemented within 6 months and maximising use of the funds. The contributions are residual contributions collected from the development of the business units at Ampress Park itself.

Lymington Hospital Bus Stop Lymington New Forest Hospital Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI) bus stop flag and pole including timetable cases to be located at the Lymington Hospital bus stop.

Provide RTPI web departure board on hospital reception/waiting area display screens (if available).

<u>Ricardo Way, Wellworthy Road (northbound) Bus Stop</u> New bus shelter and RTPI bus stop flag and pole. New drop kerbs to provide accessible crossing point to/from Ampress Park.

Ricardo Way, Wellworthy Road (southbound) Bus Stop

Installation of a new HCC bus stop flag and pole to raise the profile of this stop and complement the recommended bus stop improvements on opposite side of road.

Alexandra Road/A337 Bus Stop

Relocate bus stop onto widened central island, paint bus stop cage on A337, install new bus stop flag and pole and provide dropped kerbs to cross Hollywood Road.

Alexandra Road/A337 mini roundabout improvements

Remove the central island and replace with white road markings.

Lymington town.

Refurbishment of bus shelters and/or installation of new RTPI/HCC bus stop flag and poles including timetable cases promoting connections with Lymington hospital.

4.6 The S106 for which these monies were collected specifically states that the monies must be spent on public transport improvements in this area. Therefore, whilst no further approvals are required, the Portfolio Holder is asked to note the progress on these schemes.

5 PROPOSED CROSSING AT AVENUE ROAD

- 5.1 Local councillors and residents have expressed increasing concerns as to the safety of users of Avenue Road, near to Lymington Infant and Junior Schools. There are particular concerns relating to the safety of children using the road and crossing at the start and end of the school days, in part due to the speed of traffic travelling on this road.
- 5.2 To reduce traffic speed, Hampshire County Council (HCC) have offered a proposal to widen the pavement between the area on Avenue Road between the school entrance (on the north) and the road leading to Lymington Sports Ground (to the south). The proposal is to create a drop crossing by widening the pavement and creating a pinch point on at this location and create a safe crossing point. The scheme would include pavement widening to the back of the highway, a drop crossing and tactile paving.
- 5.3 Investigation in to whether signalisation could be included has also been considered but is not considered necessary to deliver the highway safety improvements required and would exceed the monies available at this time.
- 5.4 As with the project at Ramley Road above, there is a similar timescale expected for progressing the project of around 7 months to produce a detailed scheme and achieve a competitive tender.
- 5.5 In total, from residual funds from completed schemes, schemes that can be no longer implemented and unallocated funds, there is £146,872.98 that can be allocated to this scheme. HCC have confirmed that they are confident that this amount is sufficient to design and implement the scheme.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Council is currently holding all the identified funds to deliver these projects having collected them as developer contributions from various developments in and around Lymington. Therefore, there would be no direct cost to the Council. Should the projects not be approved then officers will need to identify further projects to ensure that the contributions held are delivered on suitable schemes.
- 6.2 Hampshire County Council's initial analysis of the schemes has identified that the budgets identified are sufficient to implement the project. To enable the schemes to proceed, should this report be signed off, an invoice will be raised by HCC and the funds transferred. Officers will liaise regularly with HCC to monitor implementation.

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 Officer have liaised with local councillors who are supportive of the schemes.

8 CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 None

9 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The identified proposals bring direct environmental benefits through enhancing, improving and increasing capacity of use by non-vehicular transport methods and creating a safe walking/cycling environment.

10 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The projects identified above will improve accessibility in their respective areas and provide enhanced opportunities for children, parents and carers, who are less abled, as well as other uses of the highway and footways in these areas.

11. PORTFOLIO HOLDER ENDORSEMENT

I have agreed to the recommendation of this report.

Sign: Derek Tipp

Date: 21 May 2024

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Background Papers:

Cabinet Paper 4 February 2015 – Allocation of Developers' Contributions https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/ Data/Cabinet/20150204/Agenda/CD R09490.pdf

Cabinet Paper 16 January 2013 – Allocation of Developer Contributions https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/ Data/Cabinet/20130116/Agenda/CD R08046.pdf

Date on which notice given of this Decision – 21 May 2024 Last date for call in – 29 May 2024