

3 September 2015**Agenda Item: 4****REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAYS****SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES CAPITAL PROGRAMMES UPDATE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update Committee on the delivery of the 2015/16 Supporting Local Communities (SLC) capital programme; and to approve the proposed invitation to community groups/organisations to bid for 2016/17 SLC funding.

Information and Advice**2015/16 SLC capital programme**

2. Following its budget allocation of £0.5m which was approved at the 26 February 2015 County Council meeting, the 2015/16 SLC capital programme was approved at the 2 April 2015 Environment & Sustainability Committee.
3. Each of the 2015/16 SLC scheme bids received was assessed against the previously agreed criteria, which takes account of deprivation, economic benefits to the local area (e.g. increased tourism, local jobs, training), community benefits (including local support for the scheme and community cohesion), the amount of funding requested, the amount of external funding secured and voluntary hours available. A copy of the assessment criteria is attached as appendix 1.
4. To maximise the number of schemes that could be funded each bid was limited to a maximum award of £50,000.
5. The budget available allowed the 25 highest scoring schemes to be prioritised for delivery during 2015/16 (28% of the total number of bids received). During the period 2014/15-2017/18 £10,000 per year of the SLC capital programme is allocated to the refurbishment of war memorials and in 2015/16 funding has also been allocated to the restoration of Southwell Memorial Arch.
6. All of the schemes prioritised for funding will, however, only receive SLC funding if they can secure the declared match funding levels and if the scheme can be delivered during the 2015/16 financial year. Should any schemes become undeliverable, reserve schemes will be accelerated and delivered as part of the current year SLC programme.

7. An update on the delivery of the 2015/16 SLC programme is given in appendix 2. Expenditure is currently within budget and, as can be seen in appendix 2, three schemes will no longer progress making funding available to be reallocated to one or more of the highest scoring reserve schemes, depending on the available budget and their cost. The SLC schemes which will no longer be delivered during 2015/16 and their funding allocation are shown in the table below.

Schemes no longer to be progressed in 2015/16	Funding amount
Keyworth Community Park project	£ 5,214
Creation of a wildlife/habitat area in Bircotes	£25,000
North Sherwood Tenants community centre access improvements	£18,650
Total funding available to be reallocated	£48,864

8. Following the publication and notification of the successful and unsuccessful bids in April 2015, four applicants provided further information and requested that their bids be reassessed. The four bids have been reassessed against the SLC criteria and this has resulted in two schemes scoring sufficiently to be included in the reserve programme – Wellow Church schoolroom and Ley Street, Netherfield play park. It is therefore recommended that these two schemes are added to the reserve programme. Should the Committee agree with this proposal there would be six reserve schemes which are shown in the table below along with their assessment scores.

2015/16 SLC reserve schemes			Scheme score						
			Element						
Organisation's Name	Project	Funding requested	2	3	4	5	6	7	TOTAL
Edwinstowe Parish Council	Play area	£19,000	1	2	2.5	3.5	1	1	11
St Swithin's School Room Trustees	Wellow Church schoolroom	£19,999	1	2	3.5	2.5	1	1	11
Bilsthorpe Parish Council	Crompton Road multi user sports area	£50,000	3	2	2.5	1.5	1	1	11
Lowdham Parish Council	Play area refurbishment	£18,000	1	2	2.5	3.0	1	1	10.5
Hope Nottingham (Beeston)	Refurbishment of community centre	£50,000	2	2	3.0	1.5	1	1	10.5
Netherfield Locality Partnership	Ley Street play park for 4-8 year olds	£50,000	2	2	2.5	2	1	1	10.5

9. Three of the reserve schemes score 11 points. There is currently insufficient funding available to bring forward the Crompton Road multi-user sports area as the scheme requires £50,000. It is therefore recommended that the two other schemes that score 11 points are brought forward for delivery during 2015/16.

Proposed reserve schemes to be brought forward for delivery in 2015/16	Funding amount
Edwinstowe Parish Council play area	£19,000
Wellow Church schoolroom	£19,999
Total funding reallocated	£38,999
Total funding still available	£ 9,865

10. As detailed in appendix 2, the Cuttle Hill, East Leake scheme may also not proceed due to the possibility that the parish council might have to reallocate its contribution elsewhere. Should the Cuttle Hill, East Leake bid be withdrawn a further £6,000 would become

available; and if this occurs it is suggested that the Lowdham Parish Council play area refurbishment scheme be brought forward for delivery during 2015/16.

11. The recommended revised 2015/16 SLC capital programme is included as appendix 3 to this report. Should any further currently planned schemes prove to be undeliverable in 2015/16 reserve schemes of the appropriate value, which are deliverable in the current financial year, will be accelerated into the 2015/16 programme.

2016/17 SLC capital programme

12. Following a suggestion at 2 April 2015 Environment & Sustainability Committee it is proposed that £20,000 of the 2016/17 SLC capital programme be allocated to funding village gateway signs. It is also recommended that there is a cap of £2,000 for each parish within this element of the programme.
13. It is planned that the invitations to bid for 2016/17 SLC funding will be issued in September 2015 with the closing date for applications in December 2015. The bids will then be assessed against the criteria in early 2016 and a report on its outcome and the proposed 2016/17 SLC programme will be presented to a future Environment & Sustainability Committee meeting for approval.
14. The future SLC programme is, however, still subject to capital budget approvals at the 25 February 2016 County Council meeting.

Other Options Considered

15. Other options considered are set out within this report. The package of SLC schemes detailed above were developed to reflect a balance of member, public and stakeholder requests and priorities, value for money and delivery of the County Council's objectives.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

16. The proposed programme of SLC schemes selected are the schemes which scored the highest when assessed against the criteria and are therefore considered to offer the greatest benefits. The SLC programme will continue to be monitored on a monthly basis to ensure financial and delivery implications are considered and acted upon accordingly.

Statutory and Policy Implications

17. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) It is recommended that Committee:
 - a) note the update on the delivery of the 2015/16 SLC programme as detailed in this report
 - b) approve the proposed changes to the 2015/16 SLC programme for implementation as contained in paragraphs 8 to 11 of this report and detailed in appendix 3
 - c) note the proposed dates for invitation to bid for the 2016/17 SLC capital funding
 - d) approve the proposal to allocate funding for village gateway signs as detailed in paragraph 12 of this report subject to the provisions set out in paragraph 14.

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:
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Constitutional Comments (LM 04/08/15)

18. The recommendations in the report fall with the terms of reference of the Environment and Sustainability Committee.

Financial Comments (GB 10/08/15)

19. Funding to support the Supporting Local Communities programme is approved within the current approved capital programme.

Background Papers and Published Documents

- Supporting Local Communities Fund report to 6 March 2014 Environment & Sustainability Committee
- 2 April 2015 Environment & Sustainability Committee Supporting Local Communities capital programme

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All