

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

AREA CAPITAL FUND MANAGEMENT

1 SUMMARY

The Area Capital Fund is an imaginative development enabling far greater local ownership regarding the maintenance of footpaths together with an investment in the built environment, uninhibited by normal budget constraints of whose ownership the land is within the City Council.

This report introduces the opportunities that exist, with recommendations to enable spend this year, and wide meaningful consultations for future years.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that members:

- 2.1 Approve that the majority of spend this financial year is on footpaths needing reconstruction or resurfacing, as those paths constitute a potential tripping hazard or will fail, thus requiring more work soon, to a programme agreed with the Chair of this Committee, as at Appendix 1.
- 2.2 Make suggestions for schemes, for footpaths, street lighting, fencing repairs and environmental improvements, which will be evaluated for inclusion in the programme later in the year, or for future years.
- 2.3 Agree that a robust consultation process be initiated in the autumn to assess requirements from the public and interest groups primarily for the following two years, together with some quick wins this year.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 £22million has been set aside for all the Area Committees to help administer and manage of which 70% must be spent on footpath reconstruction or resurfacing over the next three years, of which £3.2million is for West Area.
- 3.2 The remaining 30% may be spent on a range of ancillary items such as: street lighting, fencing, gates, CCTV, bollards, seating and bins.
- 3.3 The fund may be spent on any part of the Public Realm owned by the City, to address diverse issues such as environmental improvement or reducing the level, or fear, of crime.
- 3.4 Monies have come from various sources, and can be spent on highways, housing, open spaces areas, in an integrated way, so that an overall lift of the area is achieved, rather than simply repairing an aspect.

- 3.5 While the overall budgets are broadly the same in each financial year, it is permissible for an Area to elect to spend more or less than one third each year, so long as the total fund is on profile.
- 3.6 Similarly the 70 / 30 balance needs to be achieved over the three years, thus for instance where consultation and procurement issues this year may inhibit large spends on fencing or lighting (for instance), it may be best to concentrate a larger spend on footpaths in 2006/07 and then have a higher spend on environmental aspects in the latter years.
- 3.7 It is quite possible that more ambitious schemes can be addressed in the latter years, and some form of match funding may enable significant local improvements.
- 3.8 A bi-product of this investment can be the growth of training (apprentice) placements with the works teams / companies undertaking these works.

4 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 Appendix 1 lists the priority and reserve list schemes agreed with the Chair following walkabout with officers in all three wards in the West Area.
- 4.2 Further suggestions for works later this year or for future years are invited.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The budget for this Committee is £3.2 M for three years. A running commitment account will be maintained and reported to this Committee on a broadly quarterly basis.

6 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

The works will be based on sound engineering principals for initial evaluation of needs, followed by several forms of consultation and community involvement. The considerably increased budget will enable a series of improvements, with an ability to address access issues for wheelchair users, and increased security issues for those with a fear of crime.

7 CONSULTATIONS

The Area Committee comes between two consultation events being held in the West Area, in Bilborough on 9th November and in Aspley on 23rd November focusing particularly on years 2 and 3 of this programme.

8 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- 8.1 The works should very much address the Local Community Plan, enabling a considerable improvement to the environment, addressing many issues in a structured manner.
- 8.2 Specific quarterly monitoring of key aspects for the ten City Priorities and ten Local Priorities will reflect on these attributes

9 CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS

Crime is priority within every area and will be positively addressed and monitored.

10 VALUE FOR MONEY

The removal of artificial boundaries within the public realm will enable far better, simpler integration of service procurement, with further opportunities to lever in third party funds, thus creating anew paradigm of service delivery.

11 List of background papers other than published works or those disclosing confidential or exempt information

Area Capital funds

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APPENDIX 1:

Committed in progress complete patching complete	BILBOROUGH		
	Code No	Priority	Street
	Code No	Priority	Reserve
	Code No	Priority	Additional???
	0093301	Hoylake Crescent	Hoylake Crescent
	94720	Darnall Crescent	Darnall Crescent
	94721	On Hold 2007 PRIORITY	Hanslope Crescent
		On Hold 2007 PRIORITY	Hanslope Crescent
	94722		Westerham Close
	94723		Caterham Close
			Caterham Close
	94724	On Hold 2007 PRIORITY	White Lodge Gardens
		On Hold 2007 PRIORITY	White Lodge Gardens
	94725		Bartlow Road
			Bartlow Road
	94726		Chidlow Road
	94727		Huxley Close
			Huxley Close
	94728	On Hold 2007 PRIORITY	Melbury Road
	94729	On Hold 2007 PRIORITY	Caincross Road
	94730	On Hold 2007 PRIORITY	Wootton Close
	94731	On Hold 2007 PRIORITY	Fairnley Road
	94732	On Hold 2007 PRIORITY	Gayton Close
	94733	On Hold 2007 PRIORITY	Melford Road
	94734	On Hold 2007 PRIORITY	Cheadle Close
			Clanfield Road
	Committed Total	Highways	£298,200.00
	Committed Total	Housing	£46,000.00
	Leen Valley		
	Committed Total	Highways	£476,100.00
	Committed Total	Housing	£0.00
	Aspley		
	Committed Total	Highways	£162,100.00
	Committed Total	Housing	£300.00
	Total West Area	Highways	£936,400.00

Total West Area	Housing	£46,300.00
Total	Budget, Year 1	£1,022,000.00
	Balance remaining	£39,300.00

Area Lists

Location	Description	Comments
Frampton Road	raised by Age Concern	2007?
Ranmere Road	raised by Age Concern	2007?
Ambergate Road	raised by Age Concern	2007?
Falston Road	raised by Age Concern	2007?
Stotfield Road	footways	2007?
Melbury Road	2006 reserve	2007 Priority
Fairnley Road	2006 reserve	2008 Priority
Hanslope Crescent	2006 reserve	2009 Priority
Morden Close		2010 Priority
Hornchurch Road		2011 Priority
White Lodge Gardens	Highway	2012 Priority
White Lodge Gardens	Housing	2013 Priority
Caincross Road		2014 Priority
Wootton Close		2015 Priority
Gayton Close		2016 Priority
Melford Road		2017 Priority
Cheadle Close		2018 Priority
Mebourne Road Walkway		2020 Priority???

Committed	ASPLEY		
in progress			
complete	Street		
patching complete			
Code No	Priority	Reserve	Additional???
0094714		Woodfield Road	
0094715		Frinton Road	
0094716		No Construction needed	Whitwell Road
0094927			Whitwell Close
0094717		No Construction needed	Honiton Road
0094718			Bradfield Road
0094719			Westleigh Road
			Westleigh Road
	Committed Total	Highways	£162,100.00
	Committed Total	Housing	£300.00

Area Lists

Location	Description	Comments
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Committed	LEEN VALLEY		
in progress	Street		
complete	Priority	Reserve	Additional???
patching complete			
0094735	Marchwood Close	Start 6 Nov	
			Marchwood Close
0093305	Vale Crescent South		
0094736			Vale Crescent North
0094737	On Hold 2007?	Grassington Road	
0094738			Ainsley Road
0094739			Southfield Road
0094877			Dorothy Grove
0094740		Northdown Road	
0094878			Shepherds Wood Drive
0094741	On Hold 2007?	Kingsbury Drive	
	Committed Total	Highways	£476,100.00
	Committed Total	Housing	£0.00

Area Lists

Location	Description	Comments
Prestwood Drive	footway	done 05
Grassington Road		2007?
Kingsbury Drive		2007?