

JOINT REPORT OF DIRECTORS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD REGENERATION AND HOUSING

AREA CAPITAL RESOURCES

1 SUMMARY

The Area Capital fund is a three-year capital programme to improve footways, street lighting, fencing and other areas that will enhance the public realm.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Area Committee:-

- (a) note the total spend of £2.060m to 23 June 2008, as detailed in Appendix A at the locations in Appendix B;
- (b) note that to date 58 footpaths and 42 works to the public realm have been completed;
- (c) note the available funds of £698,000 for the remainder of the programme to the end March 2009, as detailed in Appendix A;
- (d) note the value of works previously approved for 2007-08 of £448,000, as detailed in Appendix A at the locations in Appendix C;
- (e) note that 3 footpaths and 15 public realm works are expected to be completed by 31 March 2009;
- (f) note the Executive Board on 19 February 2008 approved a further allocation of £5m per year for financial years 2009-10 and 2010-11 for Area based capital investment in the public realm, of which West Area has been allocated £1.976m over this 2 year period.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Executive Board on 18 July 2006 approved the allocation of £22m for Area based capital investment in the public realm.
- 3.2 The programme is being delivered through collaborative working across several departments and service areas.
- 3.3 Works are commissioned through Highways Construction and Maintenance by using a combination of existing staff, agency staff and sub-contractors.

- 3.4 The allocation for West Area is £3.206m over three years. At least 70% of which must be spent on footpath reconstruction or resurfacing.
- 3.5 The remaining 30% may be used to enable priority schemes addressing community safety, fencing, lighting and other initiatives to improve the public realm.
- 3.6 Appendix D outlines information on the quality of the works and on the process involved regarding utilities companies.

4 PROPOSALS

The Project Manager will report to the Area Committee on a quarterly basis on the progress being made and with any proposed alterations to the agreed programme.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The allocation for the West Area is £3.206m for three years. The figure includes an element for fees to cover the management of the procurement and delivery of the programme. Progress on budget spend will be reported back to this Committee during the course of the three year programme. Arrangements for the future years 2009-11 will be similar to those used formerly.
- 5.2 Highway Construction and Maintenance staff are undertaking programme management with support from Major Projects, an internal Gateway Review has been undertaken as required by Financial Regulations.

6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

7 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

The programme will enable a series of improvement to take place that will improve the condition of footways for disabled and elderly residents.

8 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

A risk register has been produced and is regularly monitored.

9 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The report supports the priorities of the Corporate Plan to transform local neighbourhoods, support local people and ensure that Nottingham is a safer City.

10 CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS

The programme is expected to assist in the reduction of crime and disorder by enhancing the local neighbourhood.

11 VALUE FOR MONEY

The removal of artificial boundaries within the public realm will enable far better, more simple integration of service procurement, with further opportunities to lever in third party funds, thus creating a much more efficient and effective provision of service.

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

None.

13 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

None.

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APPENDIX A – Statement of Accounts at 23 June 2008

Housing/Non-Housing

Area	Ward	Budget			Completed to date				Committed				Remaining funds	
					Highways	Housing	Highways	Housing	Highways	Housing	Highways	Housing		
		Total	Housing	Non Housing	Footpath	Footpath	Public Realm	Public Realm	Footpath	Footpath	Public Realm	Public Realm	Housing	Non Housing
West	Aspley	3206	385	532	219	2	2	202	20	7	290	54	120	1
	Bilborough		450	1184	686	69	14	252	33	14	0	30	85	451
	Leen Valley		39	616	576	33	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	40
	Totals	874	2332	1481	104	16	459	53	21	290	84	206	492	
			3206		1585	2060	475		74	374		698		

APPENDIX B – Works completed to 23 June 2008

<u>Ward</u>	<u>Footway</u>		<u>Public Realm/Environmental</u>		
	<u>Highway</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Highway</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Description</u>
<u>Aspley</u>	Woodfield Road			1-3 Rosslyn Drive	Fencing
	Frinton Road			Various	Hardstandings
	Whitwell Close			149-155 Eltham Drive	Fencing
	Bradfield road			75 Tunstall Drive	Fencing
	Amesbury Circus			48 Withern Road	Fencing
	Wareham Close			178-182 Lindfield Road	Fencing
	Dulverton Vale (Amesbury/Bells Lane)			Shepton Crescent	Hardstandings
	Brecon Close	Brecon Close		53 Withern Road	Dropped kerb
	Albury Drive			94 Withern Road	Hardstanding
	Rosslyn Drive			69 Ainsdale Crescent	Hardstanding
				36/38 Bidford Road	Fencing
				Welstead Avenue/Harwill Crescent	Fencing
				7/9 Dulverton Vale	Fencing
				119 Ainsdale Crescent	Gate
				109-117 Ainsdale Crescent	Extend gardens
				159,167,169 Minver Crescent	Fencing
				11,13,15 Minver Crescent	Fencing
				18,33,35,42,64,78 Harwill Crescent	Fencing
				21,23,25 Bankwood Crescent	Fencing
				7-10 Ashwell Gardens	Fencing
				598 Aspley Lane	Fencing
				1 Orchard Close	Fencing
				Woodfield Road	Fencing

APPENDIX B continued

Ward	Footway		Public Realm/Environmental		
Bilborough	Highway	Housing	Highway	Housing	Description
	Hoylake Crescent	Hoylake Crescent		St Agnes Close	Fencing
	Darnhall Crescent	Darnhall Crescent		Denewood Crescent	Hardstandings
	Westerham Close			Bramley Green	Walkways
	Caterham Close			St Agnes Close	Fencing
	Bartlow Road	Bartlow Road		39-42 Cuxton Close	Fencing
	Huxley Close	Huxley Close		1-45 Cuxton Close	Gates
		Clanfield Close		Marldon Close	Fencing
	Canver Close			Beechdale Estate	Hardstandings
	Earls Close			Denewood Close	Rear gates
	Hanslope Crescent			102-112 Staverton Road	Fencing
	Flamsteed Road, Part			Bilborough Estate	Hardstandings
	Westwick Road			46 Fircroft Avenue	Dropped kerb
	Canwick Close	Canwick Close		Morden Close	Fencing
	Crowley Close			Beechdale Road garages	Fencing
	Cotswold Road				
	Tangmere Crescent	Tangmere Crescent			
	Wyrle Drive				
	Balmoral Crescent				
	White Lodge Gardens	White Lodge Gardens			
	Ranmere Road		Wollaton Vale CC		Tarmac to forecourt
	Cuxton Close		Wigman Road Centre Reserve		Tarmac

APPENDIX B continued

Ward	Footway		Public Realm/Environmental		
Leen Valley	Highway	Housing	Highway	Housing	Description
	Marchwood Close	Marchwood Close		3,13,23,31,41,45,14 Wistow Close	Fencing
	Vale Crescent North			25 Southwold Drive	Fencing
	Ainsley Road			1 Aberford Avenue	Hardstanding
	Southfield Road				
	Dorothy Grove				
	Northdown Road				
	Shepherds Wood Drive				
	Vale Crescent South				
	Rodwell Close				
	Manville Close				
	Radford Bridge Road				
	Revesby Gardens				
	Aspley Park Drive				
	Greendale Gardens				
	Aylestone Drive				
	Plantation Side				
	Darley Road				
	Darley Avenue				

APPENDIX C continued

<u>Ward</u>	<u>Footways</u>			<u>Public Realm/Environmental</u>		
<u>Bilborough</u>	<u>Highway</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Highway</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Description</u>
					Moor Road flats	Fencing
		St. Michaels Avenue			163-169 Strelley Road	Fencing
					St Michaels, St Martins, St Levens	Fencing
	Greaves Close				St Michaels Avenue	Barriers
					Fairley Road	Fencing
					St Michaels, St Martins, St Agnes	Gating to stairwells

Quality of Work

The City Council's Highways service employs a team of supervisors who check on day to day quality of workmanship and address the problems they identify as they arise.

Some problems only come to light months after work has been carried out which is why a second inspection is carried out some months later (normally 3/4 months after completion of the works).

There is a perception about the quality arising from the use of slurry seal as a surface treatment.

Slurry seal is an acceptable engineering treatment and is very economical. Re-tarmacing the same footway rather than using slurry seal would, in general terms, quadruple the cost resulting in only a quarter of the area being covered for the same money.

Process with Utility Companies

With regard to concerns raised regarding Utility companies digging up recently resurfaced footways the process followed is:-

- a) annual footway programme is agreed with Area Committees;
- b) Highways then send the agreed lists to Network Management;
- c) Network Management then inform Highways where there are potential conflicts;
- d) Highways then re-programme works to reduce conflicts.

Under the Traffic Management Act 2004 and previous legislation Utility companies have the right to excavate the highway to repair/maintain their equipment.

Specifically under the 2004 legislation the Local Authority (Network Management) can insist that full width reinstatements are undertaken if their works fall within the first 12 months of the new footway being completed. Outside of this period the Utility Company is only required to resurface the footway with the same materials.

It is the duty of the Highway Authority to police the reinstatement works carried out by Utility companies and enforce that their works are carried out in a safe manner and that the reinstatements meet the required standards.

In view of the intensity of the footway programme, and the recent problems, Highways have employed an extra resource to liaise and co-ordinate our works with those of the Utility companies.