

BASFORD AND BESTWOOD AREA COMMITTEE – 24th NOVEMBER 2010

Title of paper:	AREA CAPITAL PROGRAMME	
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Relevant Council Plan theme(s):		
Choose Nottingham		
Respect for Nottingham		x
Transforming Nottingham's Neighbourhoods		x
Supporting Nottingham People		x
Serving Nottingham Better		x
Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):		
This report provides: Information about the area-based funding governance structure. Corporate guidance on the prioritisation of Area Capital Funding. Details of area capital funds available for each ward. Information about proposed schemes needing the approval of Area Committee		
Recommendation(s):		
1	Note the report.	
2	Select works from the proposed schemes identified in appendix 2 under the heading 'proposal' to be undertaken.	

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The environmental improvement (Area Capital) programme is designed to improve the environment of residential areas and create a sense of place for residents that impacts positively on their quality of life.
- 1.2 The funding is provided by the City Council to Area Committees to enable an agreed programme of works to be drawn up. Nottingham City Homes (NCH) expenditure on council estates is derived from the Housing Revenue Account and Area Housing Panels agree the funding of improvements on NCH estates which are then recommended to the Area Committee for approval.

1.3 Appendix 1 outlines the decision-making process for allocating area capital programme resources, while Appendix 2 shows the priorities committed to date in the Area by ward, and the current Programme budget remaining available to the Area Committee. The amounts available within each ward across all funding streams - Area Capital, NCH Environmental improvements, Local Transport Plan improvements and Section 106 funding will be shown. It is intended that Members will receive future information in this format.

1.4 The process of identifying potential environmental schemes will continue to be carried out over the next few months and will involve consultation with residents through the Area Committee and Area Housing Panel. In relation to the Programme, a policy is being devised for the Chief Executive on how the Council will deal with requests for alleviation of traffic congestion and impact from vehicle parking and the need to maintain and retain amenity land across the City. Area Committees are recommended to fund such works from Area Capital funding.

1.6 Construction companies undertaking new developments are required to provide a financial contribution in lieu of providing new open space on site or enhancing existing green spaces (referred to as section 106 money). Contributions received must be used within the Area Committee boundary within which they are generated. Contributions from more than one development in the same Area Committee boundary can be pooled to fund larger projects. Such monies are managed by the Parks and Open Spaces service in consultation with the Area Committees to provide improvements to public open space. The primary focus for this funding is on new or improved sports and recreation facilities, but contributions can be used for other open space improvements within the locality of the development (defined for practical purposes as the same Area Committee boundary as the development site).

2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

2.1 To give focus and transparency to Area Capital funding and ensure the Area Committee is aware of the opportunities for supporting suitable works in the community.

2.2 To achieve value for money by the effective use of funds and enable immediate responses to local priorities.

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 To continue with the current arrangements.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY)

4.1 The coordination of priorities, budgets and works will provide value for money and lead to performance improvements in the City Council and Nottingham City Homes services.

The current commitments against the resources allocated are shown in Appendix 2. It should be noted that the schemes shown pending approval exceed the resources available and approvals can only be made to the level of resource available to fund that type of work.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS AND EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS)

5.1 Procedures to manage risks are already in place for area committees and any decision

making will take account of Crime & Disorder Act and Equality & Diversity implications.

6 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

6.1 Basford and Bestwood Area Committee Report, 21 July 2009 "Area Capital Resources".

7 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

7.1 None.

AREA CAPITAL PROGRAMME Decision-making Process

Flow Diagram

