

Report of: Planning Services Business Manager

To: Executive Board – 29th January 2007
Council – 12th February 2007


Item No:

Title of Report : Proposed Expenditure of Financial Contributions made to the Council under Planning Agreements




Summary and Recommendations

Purpose of report:



The purpose of this report is to add to the Capital Programme developer funded schemes.

Key decision: Yes

Portfolio Holder/ Leader of the Council: Councillor J Goddard

Scrutiny Responsibility: Environment and Finance & Performance
Management

Ward(s) affected: All.

Report Approved by

Legal & Democratic Services – Jeremy Thomas




Finance & Asset Management – David King

Planning Services Business Manager – Michael Crofton-Briggs

Planning Portfolio Holder – John Goddard

Policy Framework:

Oxford City Councils vision:


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- Improving the environment where we live and work
 - Improving transport and mobility
 - Providing more affordable housing
 - Providing more and improved affordable leisure activities.

Oxford Local Plan 2001-2016

Recommendation(s):



Executive Board is asked to RECOMMEND Council to:

- a) agree to the inclusion of new schemes to be added to the Capital Programme and additional contributions to schemes already in the Capital Programme set out in Appendix 1
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- b) authorise officers to commission design work in order to enable project appraisals and/or scheme details to be prepared on the new schemes to be implemented by the City Council as set out in Appendix 1

Introduction

1. The purpose of this report is to:
 - add new schemes to the Capital Programme funded by developer contributions;
 - add additional contributions to existing schemes in the Capital Programme.

A full monitoring report on all developer funding was presented to each Area Committee area in August 2006 and this will be repeated during the same period for 2007.

Constraints on using Developer Contributions

2. Developer contributions are sought to mitigate the impact of the development and overcome what would otherwise be a potential reason to refuse a planning application. The contributions are received under the terms of legally binding planning agreements that restrict the purpose for which the contributions can be used. The expenditure of the contributions can only be used on schemes that cover the purpose for which the contribution was received.

Schemes implemented or due to be implemented in the 2006/2007

3. At the start of the 2006/07 financial year, the City held £6,483,575 in developer funding and has received £411,436 of developer funding so far this year. Approximately £900k has been spent or is due to be spent by the end of this financial year and twenty two schemes are due for completion. Again, the main schemes completed or due for completion include:
 - Redbridge Park & Ride – additional facilities;
 - Horspath Road – play area;
 - Friars Entry – environmental improvements;
 - River Isis to Paradise Street & St Thomas Street - footpath link;
 - Garsington Road/Watlington Road – cycle route.

Schemes to be implemented in 2007/2008

4. Normally we would report on schemes where the City Council hold the developer funding but the schemes are to be implemented by the County Council as highway authority. Due to slippage in the County's programme of schemes, all schemes to be undertaken by the County in 2007/08 were given major project approval last year (report to

Executive Board 16th January 2006). Therefore, there is no need for approval to be given on County schemes this year.

5. Approximately £1.3 million will be spent on schemes for implementation in 2007/08. The main schemes for implementation are as follows:

- Tesco to Blackbird Leys Cycle Route
- Bridge over Fiddlers Stream
- Marston Road Scout Hut Improvements
- Cowley Marsh Play Area
- Affordable Housing – Holland Place – Garage Site

Capital Programme

6. **Appendix 1** sets out the proposed changes to the Capital Programme for some schemes funded by developer contributions. These are new contributions received or are previously unallocated contributions.

These changes are either:

- New schemes to be added to the Capital Programme – the new schemes being proposed reflect the reason the development contribution was taken;
- Additional contributions received which can be added to schemes already in the Capital Programme.

7. If these changes are agreed, Area Committee consultation will take place on individual schemes to be implemented by the City Council where appropriate once initial design work has been undertaken.

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Background papers:

Legal agreements for the developer contributions listed, copies of which are held

