

Portfolio Holder Decision

Warwickshire cycling links: A package of infrastructure improvements

Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property
Date of decision	12 February 2021
	Signed

Decision taken
<p>That the Deputy Leader of the Council approves the addition of five cycling schemes into the capital programme, funded by S106 Agreement contributions to a combined value of £747,334. The five schemes are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Weddington Road, Nuneaton. Funding received £210,694 2. Radford Road, Leamington Spa, Funding received £95,074 3. Daventry Road, Southam. Funding received £150,000 4. Whitley South, Baginton. Funding received £150,000 5. Heathcote, Leamington Spa. Funding received £141,566

Reasons for decisions
<p>The County Council has secured and received funding through S106 Agreements to deliver five cycling infrastructure schemes. Approval is now required from the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property to add these schemes to the capital programme funded by the S106 contributions to progress the development and delivery of identified schemes.</p>

Background information
<p>In July 2020, the Government published '<i>Gear change: a bold vision for cycling and walking</i>' plan, which set out its vision and aims for the future of cycling.</p> <p>The Council's Cycling Strategy aims to increase cycling in Warwickshire by improving the safety and quality of the cycling environment. The funding allocations outlined in this</p>

report will progress the delivery of safe off-road cycling routes which will enable more people to complete everyday journeys by cycle.

S106 Agreement funding has been received towards the costs of delivering the cycling infrastructure schemes listed in table 1 which will link new development with town centres, rail stations and employment/education centres, and will also deliver key missing links within Warwickshire's urban cycle networks.

The developer contributions are ring-fenced for walking and cycling infrastructure improvements. The funding will be used to progress development and delivery of identified cycle schemes.

Table 1: S106 Contributions received for the development of off-site walking and cycling infrastructure improvements.

Location	Value
Weddington Road, Nuneaton	£210,694
Radford Road, Leamington Spa	£95,074
Daventry Road, Southam	£150,000
Whitley South – Baginton	£150,000
Heathcote, Leamington Spa	£141,566

Financial implications

The S106 contributions listed in table 1 have been received by the County Council and need to be allocated to appropriate capital budgets. This requires that the schemes are added to the capital programme which will also enable the development and delivery of schemes to progress.

There is a risk that as scheme design work progresses, additional unexpected costs will emerge which exceed the available funding. To overcome this issue all cost estimates will include a suitable contingency allowance for the stage of design. Should the contingency be insufficient to meet the increased costs the Cycle Schemes Project Board will decide whether to seek additional funding to deliver the scheme or to descope the project to meet the available budget.

Monitoring of the capital project costs will be reported as part of the quarterly financial monitoring report to Cabinet.

Environmental implications

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Transport is the single largest cause of carbon emissions in the UK. The cycle schemes detailed in this report will provide infrastructure which will enable more journeys to be made by cycling, thereby contributing to reduced carbon emissions as well as lower

levels of congestion and improved air quality.

Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

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Approving the addition of these schemes to the capital programme will enable scheme development and delivery to progress. This will include working towards the establishment of a delivery programme. The new cycling schemes identified within this report will be entered onto the Capital Programme and a corresponding finance code established.

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Lead Member	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property

Urgent matter?	<i>No</i>
Confidential or exempt?	<i>No</i>
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	<i>No</i>

List of background papers

N/A

Members and officers consulted and informed

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Butlin

Corporate Board – N/A

Legal – Ian Marriott

Finance – Caroline Jones

Equality – Keira Rounslly

Democratic Services – Isabelle Moorhouse

Councillors – Cllr Adkins, Cllr Crump, Cllr Kondakor, Cllr Redford and Cllr Birdi.

Local Member(s): Cllr Adkins, Cllr Crump, Cllr Kondakor, Cllr Redford and Cllr Birdi