

Report to	Chippenham Area Board
Date of Meeting	4th July 2011
Title of Report	Chippenham Area Highways Budget 2011/12 Prioritisation of Schemes

Purpose of Report

To seek Chippenham Area Board's approval of the Chippenham Community Area Transport Group's (CATG) recommendation for the prioritisation of schemes for funding from the Chippenham Area Highway's Budget in 2011/12:

1. Christian Malford Main Road/Station Road - allocate £6,000 to design and implement a footway link & pedestrian safety improvements.
2. Lowden & Rowden Hill allocate £10,000 to build 2 no. pedestrian refuges, one on Lowden and a further one on Rowden Hill (close to Chippenham Community Hospital).
3. Chippenham, Pewsham (nr Forest Lane) - allocate £4,000 for the provision of pedestrian / cycle improvements.
4. Chippenham, Pewsham (Canal Road / Pewsham Way) allocate £9000 for the provision of a new footway link and changes to the existing splitter island to allow pedestrian movement.
5. Queens Crescent, Chippenham - allocate £1,500 to undertake a full pedestrian crossing assessment.

1. Background

- 1.1. During the course of each year, Wiltshire Council receives numerous petitions and requests for small-scale transport and highway improvement schemes.
- 1.2. In previous years, an allocation has been made in the budget to fund a small number of the schemes requested by Town and Parish councils. To identify those that would receive funding, all requests were assessed and prioritised using the Council's Scheme Assessment Framework, which provides an objective, quantitative and rapid method for evaluating and ranking schemes. However, following the establishment of area boards, this area of funding presents the opportunity for decisions on investment in highway improvements to be taken locally.
- 1.3. The Area Boards have been allocated a total budget of £250,000 in 2011/12 in order to assess, prioritise and implement a number of small-scale transport schemes within their community areas. This funding has been distributed between all 18 Area Boards in accordance with a formula which takes into account total population and the geographical area covered. In the case of the Chippenham Area, £18,087 has been allocated for CATG funded schemes in 2011/12. The carry forward from the 2010/11 budget is £14,802.00, This gives a total budget of £32,889.00 for 2011/12.
- 1.4. Chippenham Area Board convened a Community Area Transport Group (CATG) to work with officers which meets 4 times per year to consider schemes placed on the Highways Improvements Request. The Chippenham CATG will then make recommendations to Chippenham Area Board as to which schemes should be prioritised for further assessment and potentially subsequent funding in 2011/12.
- 1.5. All initial assessments have been carried out by the Principal Highways Engineer.

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. In considering the recommendation from the CATG, Chippenham Area Board will need to be mindful of the objectives of the Local Transport Plan (LTP) and the likely availability of future funding for implementation. Current LTP objectives are safety, accessibility, economy, integration and environment.
- 2.2. It should be noted that the £32,889.00 budget is for capital projects and can only be used to provide new and improved infrastructure. It is to be used for schemes that improve safety, increase accessibility and sustainability by promoting walking, cycling and public transport, and improve traffic management. It cannot be used to fund maintenance schemes; these are selected using technical surveys and inspections. In addition, it cannot be used to pay for revenue functions such as passenger transport.
- 2.3. Based on advice from Highways' officers following their assessment of the prioritised schemes, and having due regard for how feasible and affordable each scheme is likely to be, the CATG recommend that the following schemes receive funding allocation as detailed in the following table:

Christian Malford – Main Road/Station Road	Design and implement new footway link & pedestrian safety improvements	£6,000
Lowden & Rowden Hill - Chippenham	Build 2 no. pedestrian refuges, one on Lowden and a further one on Rowden Hill (close to Chippenham Community Hospital)	£10,000
Pewsham Way nr Forest Lane - Chippenham	Provision of Pedestrian / Cycle improvements.	£4,000
Pewsham Canal Road / Pewsham Way - Chippenham	Provision of a new footway link and changes to the existing splitter island to allow pedestrian movement	£9,000
Queens Crescent - Chippenham	Undertake pedestrian crossing assessment.	£1,500
TOTAL		£30,500

3. Environmental & Community Implications

There are no immediate environmental implications from the recommendations made in this report.

4. Financial Implications

Chippenham Area Board has a discretionary highways budget of £32,889.00 to allocate in 2011/12. If the Area Board agrees with the recommendations made by the CATG the discretionary highways budget balance will be £2,389.

5. Legal Implications

There are no specific Legal implications related to this report.

6. HR Implications

There are no specific HR implications related to this report.

7. Equality and Inclusion Implications

There are no specific equality and inclusion implications related to this report.

8. CATG recommendations

That the funding is allocated to schemes as listed at 2.3.

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

Members of Chippenham Area Transport Group (CATG)

Councillor Desna Allen (Chair)	Chippenham Area Board Chairman
Councillor John Scragg	Chippenham Town Council
Jane Clark	Chippenham and Villages Area Partnership (ChAP)
Martin Rose	Principal Highway Engineer
Spencer Drinkwater	Principal Transport Planner
John Clark	Chippenham Vision Board Chairman
Councillor Bill Douglas	Chippenham Area Board
Steve Cross	Divisional Highways Manager North
Kristian Price	Area Highway Engineer
Councillor Mary Mullins	Biddestone & Slaughterford Parish Council
Councillor Ray Stockall	Christian Malford Parish Council Chairman
Tim Martiensen	Chippenham Vision Board Director
Councillor Nina Phillips	Chippenham Area Board
Councillor Rick Squires	Kington St Michael Parish Council

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