

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

14 July 2020

**Statement and Questions from Isabel McCord about the Chippenham HIF Bid
and the Statement of Community Involvement**

Agenda Item 5 – Public Participation

**To Cllr Philip Whitehead Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for
Economic Development, MCI and Communications**

Question 1 (Statement)

In response to my recent question to Cabinet you stated “ it will be a requirement of the contract that the Council is now negotiating with Homes England to secure the grant that, in the years ahead, developers are subject to a separate and distinct charge that recovers the HIF grant. This is in addition to normal CIL contributions and s106 Agreements. The Council will be required in the contract with Homes England to set out the mechanism for such recovery and will be required to recycle it for use to improve other infrastructure and community facilities “.

I have 3 questions relating to this statement.

- a) Have you developed a mechanism which has been accepted by Homes England. If so will you publish it ?

Response

Negotiations with Homes England are underway in respect of the Grant Determination Agreement that will form the basis of the Agreement between the parties. These negotiations are commercially sensitive and as such it is not possible to release further details in the public domain at this time.

- b) Will the mechanism be legally binding on developers ?
See above

Response

- c) Will it include Stone Circle as well as all the other developers ?

Response

See above

Question 2

Who leads the Future Chippenham programme now that Alan Richell's contract has ended ? How many people are in the team and how many of them are Wiltshire Council employees?

Response

The Future Chippenham programme is led by Simon Hendey as Director for Housing and Commercial development. The Programme team includes officers from within his Directorate and the Council's Programme Office. This team is supported in specialist areas by external consultants, principally via the Council's term framework contracts.

Question 3

Will the planning application for the distributor roads require an Environmental Impact Statement ? If so when will it be published ? Will there be a scoping study ? Will the scoping study be published and if so when ?

Response

The Future Chippenham planning application for the road will be supported by Environmental Impact Assessment, this will be published with the planning application. Work on this has been underway for some time and will continue over the coming months.