ITEM 02b

Amesbury Area Board 1 July 2010

Chairman's Announcements

Local Transport Plan (LTP) Scheme Selection Process

Purpose of announcement
To ask the Area Boards to set up a Community Area Transport Group to identify schemes they wish to progress using the discretionary highway budget that has been allocated to the Boards.

Background
The establishment of Area Boards presents an opportunity for decisions on small-scale transport and highway improvement schemes to be taken locally.

In response to this there are plans for the Area Boards to be allocated a discretionary budget to assess and select small-scale transport schemes to be progressed in their community areas. The amount of funding available to the Area Boards will be confirmed in due course.

The allocation will be for capital funding 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 or to pay for revenue functions such as passenger transport.

Due to the complexity of assessing and selecting a scheme from the many requests, and the potential time that such an agenda item would take, it is proposed that recommendations are made to the Area Board by a Community Area Transport Group (CATG).

Members of the CATG will be identified by the Community Area Manager in conjunction with the Chairman, and agreed at the Area Board. It is requested that the number on each Group should not exceed ten and that the meetings take place during the day. Meetings will be attended by relevant officers from Wiltshire Council and will be chaired by the Area Board Chairman.

It is envisaged that the first meeting of the CATG would include a half day workshop covering the following matters:-

- Background to the Council's transport policies and transport funding.
- Review of requests received in the community area.
- Assessment of schemes.
- Discussion on the need for a feasibility study
- Discussion on future funding
- Selection of scheme(s)
- Recommendation to Area Board.