

REPORT TO THE AREA 5 COMMITTEE

Report No. 9

Date of Meeting	12th December 2006
Title of Report	Calne Streetscene Enhancements
Link to Corporate Priorities	Streetscene enhancements accord with the District Council's Corporate Priorities of Cleaner, Safer and Better Streets, and Partnership Working; and the Wiltshire Strategic Partnership's priority theme of <i>Improving Wiltshire's Streetscene</i> . Streetscene enhancements conserve and enhance the District's built environment and landscape setting and assets and resources, protect and promote the local distinctiveness of North Wiltshire's heritage, and are prepared in consultation with (and where possible include partnership funding from) other local organisations and Councils. Business Area/Team Plan Objectives: Authorisation to expend the available budgets will maintain performance against the agreed Urban Design work programme 2006-7.
Public Report	YES

Summary of Report

This report informs the Committee of options for expenditure of the 2006-7 Capital Budget for the continuation of Streetworks.

Officer Recommendations

- 1. The Area 5 2006-7 Capital Budget for Streetworks be allocated to streetscene enhancements of heritage and upgraded street lighting at the Curzon Street and A4 junction.**
- 2. Authority be given to the Assets, Design & Regeneration Team Leader to seek and accept a suitable quotation from the network supplier for implementation of the works, subject to not exceeding available budgets.**

Other than those implications agreed with the relevant Officers and referred to below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Financial Implications	Legal Implications	Community & Environmental Implications	Human Resources Implications	Equality & Diversity Implications
YES	NO	YES	NO	NO
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The 2006-7 Streetworks capital budget totals £50,000, but has been divided for the 5 Area Committees to decide where each £10,000 is to be expended. It should be noted that for streetworks in the public realm and the need for safe working methods, various consents, licenses, notices and public consultation, the professional fee element rises as the scale of works reduces. Therefore, where possible, proposals presented include an element of partnership funding, are associated with other planned works, or are part of ongoing similar works overseen by others to maximise value for money. Otherwise the available balance for actual works could be reduced by up to 35%.

2. Options and Options Appraisal

- 2.1 A scheme of 5 - 6 No. new heritage lamps throughout the A4 and Curzon Street junction area (matching the new 'white light' types throughout The Strand area), is estimated at under £10,000. The existing utilitarian lighting through this area, although not to best practice, has been considered as adequate lighting in safety terms. An outline scheme plan is illustrated on Appendix 1.

3. Background Information

- 3.1 On 21st October 2003 the Committee resolved the 2003-4 Capital Budget of £10,000 for the continuation of Streetworks to contribute towards high quality and natural materials within the planned 20 mph zone works at Curzon Street. The 14th February 2006 Area 5 Committee were advised that funds have been used for stone kerbing and some permeable aggregate finishes within the works, and would also be used to fund a revised planting scheme agreed with Wiltshire County Council and Calne Town Council. That scheme has now been carried out and the costs were less than the previous scheme, leaving some £7,200 of funding unexpended.
- 3.2 On 7th December 2004 the Committee resolved that the 2004-5 Capital Budget of up to £10,000 for the continuation of Streetworks be contributed towards high quality street lighting within the planned 20 mph zone works at the Curzon Street/Wood Street area, subject to matched funding being made available by Wiltshire County Council and/or Calne Town Council. This scheme has now been completed and utilitarian lighting has been replaced throughout Wood Street and the adjacent stretch of Curzon Street (see Appendix 1).
- 3.3 The 14th February 2006 Area 5 Committee resolved that the 2005-6 Streetworks Capital Budget of £10,000 be allocated as partnership funding towards a scheme of traditional street nameplates, and towards additional street furniture in and around the 20mph zone works in central Calne. Design of the street nameplates scheme is ongoing, and details were recently presented to Calne Town Council. Relevant consents are now being sought.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The 2006-7 Area 5 Capital Budget for the Continuation of Streetworks of £10,000 is currently unexpended and uncommitted. The proposals would utilise and commit that budget during this financial year.

4.2 By utilising this budget to procure street lighting upgrades, in-house design involvement and fees are reduced, and it is estimated that, allowing for some street lighting consultant design fees, approximately £9,000 of the £10,000 would be utilised for actual work items.

5. Community and Environmental Implications

5.1 Streetworks enhancements have significant community and environmental benefits. The junction of Curzon Street with the A4 is both a prominent and well-used area in the Conservation Area. The additional enhancements proposed will improve the visual quality and amenity of this busy town centre location.

6. Risk Analysis

6.1 There are generic safety and financial risks associated with the carrying out of streetscene enhancement works within the public highway, and these are mitigated through the involvement of the street lighting authority's consultants and network supplier, in addition to the application of Council standing orders and financial regulations in placing the relevant order for works.

6.2 Not carrying out these works would leave one part of the central area that has received enhancements to surface materials and landscaping, with utilitarian street lighting that does not match the remainder of the central area. However, if unexpended funds from 2003-4 were added to this and potential future years' funding, a budget sufficient to generate a more cost-effective stand-alone scheme of enhancements could be generated.

Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1: Location Plan
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None

Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
Calne Streetscene Enhancements	Area 5 Committee 7 th December 2004	CA32
Calne Streetscene Enhancements	Area 5 Committee 14 th February 2006	CA44
Calne Streetworks	Area 5 Committee 21st October 2003	CA25