

Report to	South West Wiltshire Area Board
Date of Meeting	25 August 2010
Title of Report	Local Transport Plan – Highways Projects
Purpose of Report	
<p>To request that Councillors note expressions of interest regarding nine projects seeking approval for further development leading to their being funded from the Board's discretionary highways budget.</p>	

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/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 an opportunity for decisions on investment in highway improvements to be taken locally.
- 1.3. In 2010/11 the Area Boards have been allocated a discretionary budget of £250,000 and will be involved in the assessment and selection of small-scale transport schemes to be progressed in their community areas. This funding has been distributed between the Area Boards in accordance with a formula which takes into account population and the area covered. The allocation to the South West Wiltshire Area Board is £17,079.
- 1.4. In choosing their local transport scheme(s), the Area Boards will need to be mindful of the priorities of the LTP and the likely availability of future funding for implementation.
- 1.5. It should be noted that this allocation is 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, these are selected using technical surveys and inspections. In addition, it cannot be used to pay for revenue functions such as passenger transport.

2. Community Area Transport Group

- 2.1. 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 was proposed that recommendations are made to the Area Board by a Community Area Transport Group (CATG). However, it was decided at the Area Board meeting on 23 June that an initial list of expressions of interest

would be forwarded to the Community Area Manager by 31 July. He would in turn notify the Area Board of such submissions [this report].

- 2.2. The Area Board will then establish a CATG which would be charged with identifying the scheme(s) to be progressed with this funding. An initial workshop would be convened to start the process (see below).
- 2.3. Members will be identified by the Community Area Manager in conjunction with the Area Board Chairman. Membership should not exceed ten and the meetings take place during the day. Meetings will be attended by relevant officers from Wiltshire Council including a senior transport planner, a senior traffic engineer and the relevant Head of Service for Local Highways and Streetscene. The meeting will be chaired by the Area Board Chairman.

3. Other Highways projects

- 3.1. Whilst the CATG's would initially meet to discuss the allocation of the discretionary highway budget, it is envisaged that they would continue to meet on a six monthly basis to consider requests in order to determine those that are feasible and that might be eligible for funding in future years.

4. Community Transport Workshops

- 4.1. It is envisaged that the first meeting would include a half day workshop covering the following matters:-
 - Background to the LTP, transport policies, and breakdown of total Council funding.
 - Use of the Assessment Framework to prioritise requests.
 - Review of requests received in the community area.
 - Undertake scheme assessment– taking into account typical costs, LTP criteria, constraints on implementation etc.
 - Discussion on the need to fund a scoping/feasibility study
 - If any scheme cannot be accommodated in the Area Board budget consider funding options for the implementation phase – i.e. LTP, match funding, section 106 etc.
 - Selection of scheme(s)
 - Recommendation to Area Board

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	Nil
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5. Expressions of Interest Received

5.1. The following expressions of interest have been received:

Proposer	Location	Project
Ansty Parish Council	Ansty	30mph repeater signs and other signage
Bishopstone Parish Council	Bishopstone	Feasibility study into safety measures on main road through village
Chilmark Parish Council	A303/A350 junction	Slip roads to facilitate access and egress from A303
Dinton Parish Council	Dinton	Traffic calming measures
Donhead St Mary Parish Council	Ludwell	Footpath clearance <i>[re-submitted as an issue and being actioned by Parish Steward]</i>
M Fowler	B 3089 section Fonthill Bishop to Hindon	Solid white lines in centre of road to prohibit overtaking
Mere Parish Council	Mere centre	Disabled parking space
D Mclean	Ugford	Traffic calming measures
West Tisbury Parish Council	Tuckingmill Road/Monmouth Road	Re-alignment

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