

Calne Area Board 24 August 2010

Chairman's Announcements

Local Transport Plan Funding Allocation Scheme

Purpose of announcement

To ask the Area Boards to identify schemes they wish to progress using the discretionary highway budget.

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 to establish a working group to analyse proposals and make recommendations to the Board.

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.

Local Transport Plan Car Parking Strategy

The Council's current car parking strategy dates back to 2000 and now needs to be reviewed to reflect the move to Wiltshire Council and to ensure that parking charges and standards are broadly consistent across the whole of the county.

A parking strategy can be one of the most useful tools available to local authorities in helping them achieve their objectives. In particular, it can:

- support the local economy;
- encourage the use of sustainable travel modes;
- enhance the look of streetscenes;
- meet residents' needs for car parking;
- raise revenue for the Council to reinvest in transport measures; and
- provide essential access for the mobility impaired.

The Council commissioned its consultants Mouchel to undertake the review.

Consultation on Mouchel's report is open from **12 July to 3 September 2010**.

Our preferred method of communication is for comments to be submitted online at <http://consult.wiltshire.gov.uk/portal>. Paper copies of the questionnaire and a reference copy of Mouchel's main and technical report are also available from all libraries.

The Council will feedback to Area Boards in the autumn and the Council's Cabinet will consider the results in December, with any changes becoming effective from April 2011.

Community Payback – Call for Grot Spots

Wiltshire Probation Services is launching a new scheme, 'Community Payback, Involving Local Communities'. The scheme works with offenders to offer free labour to local communities to enhance the local environment. This includes clearing undergrowth, removal of graffiti or litter, repairing and redecorating community facilities and other environmental projects.

The Community Payback initiative has been supported by our Area Boards to receive Performance Reward Grant funding to provide mobile facilities which will enable the work to be carried out more efficiently and to broaden the reach of the project to include more rural parts of the county.

Area Boards are asked to call for 'Grot Spots', local areas which need clearing or community facilities which need decorating, litter picking or graffiti removal. These can be referred to the Community Payback Scheme, either directly using the referral form on the Community Payback leaflet or via their Community Area Manager.

Consultation on Initial Site Options for the Aggregate Minerals Site Allocations

Department: Neighbourhood and Planning

Further Enquiries to: Sophie Davies

Date Prepared: August 2010

Direct Line; 01225 713429

A consultation on potential sites for sand and gravel extraction commenced on 5 August 2010. Because the consultation is starting in August it will run for a period of eight weeks.

It is important to stress that the plan is at a very early stage of production and only proposes potential site options for minerals extraction. At this stage none of the sites listed in this document have any firm planning status - i.e. they are not the councils' preferred sites, but areas of land that have been promoted for consideration by landowners and the minerals industry.

The potential sites fall within the Electoral Divisions of:

- Alderbury and Whiteparish
- Winterslow
- Minety
- Cricklade and Latton
- Bromham, Rowde and Potterne
- Melksham Without North
- Calne Rural
- Calne South and Cherhill
- Melksham Without South
- Corsham Without and Box Hill
- Chippenham, Lowden and Rowden
- Kington.

The consultation report identifies key issues and constraints for development of each of the proposed sites and represents the first opportunity for communities and stakeholders to share their views on the suitability of the sites included in this plan.

We would encourage anyone wishing to view and comment on the report to use the online portal <http://consult.wiltshire.gov.uk/portal>

Alternatively, the report will be available for viewing at Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council main offices and libraries throughout the county and borough.

The Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council main offices are located at:

- County Hall – Trowbridge

- Bradley Road – Trowbridge
- Monkton Park – Chippenham
- Browfort – Devizes
- Wyndham Road – Salisbury
- Watt Tyler House – Swindon.

The comments received through this consultation will be used to help inform the scope of further detailed assessments on the potential sites. This in turn will inform which sites should be carried forward into the formal plan and which should be dropped from further consideration. A formal draft of the Aggregate Minerals Site Allocations DPD, presenting the sites selected to be carried forward, is timetabled for publication and consultation in spring 2011.

Further information is available by contacting the Minerals and Waste Policy team on 01225 713429, or e-mail mineralsandwastepolicy@wiltshire.gov.uk.