

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

**AGENDA
ITEM NO**

7 JUNE 2018

8

Report Title	CAPITAL PROJECT MONITORING
Purpose of Report	To inform the Committee of progress on capital projects within its remit.
Decision(s)	The Committee resolves to: Note the project updates within the report.
Consultation and Feedback	Details are contained within the body of the report.
Financial Implications and Risk Assessment	<p>This committee has oversight and responsibility for the capital projects outlined in the report.</p> <p>Adjustments will be made to future year's allocations and may necessitate a further decision once the outcome from the efficiency work with Ubico has concluded.</p> <p>The Capital programme assumed a funding position based on the budget profiles set out in the February 2018 MTFP. If projects are delayed or are not able to achieve the desired outcomes and do not progress, then the capital budget would remain unspent and not reallocated to additional projects without consideration by the council as part of the 2019/20 budget setting process. Any change in expenditure outside of the agreed budget must be reported separately.</p> <p>David Stanley – Accountancy Manager (s151 Officer) Tel: 01453 754100 Email: david.stanley@stroud.gov.uk</p>
Legal Implications	<p>This report is for information purposes only. There are no specific decisions required; however, as the report contains some items which will be given verbal updates at the Committee no specific legal implications can be given on those.</p> <p>In general Legal advice on each capital project will be provided as appropriate and required. Any strategic risks pertinent to the programmes should be referred to in the Strategic Risk Register.</p> <p>Craig Hallett, Solicitor & Deputy Monitoring Officer Tel: 01453 754364 Email: craig.hallett@stroud.gov.uk</p> <p>RC16.05D21.05</p>

Report Authors	Barry Wyatt, Strategic Head of Development Services Tel: 01453 754210 Email: barry.wyatt@stroud.gov.uk Mike Hammond Head of Community Services Email: mike.hammond@stroud.gov.uk Tel: 01453 754447
Options	The report is for information only. Any decision to re define projects outside of the scope of the capital programme would need to be recommended to Strategy and Resources Committee.
Performance Management Follow Up	Update reports are to be supplied to this committee on a regular basis.

Introduction

1. The following report provides an executive summary of each of the Capital Projects within the remit of the Environment Committee.
2. The purpose of this report is both to advise the Committee of progress with the capital projects and to recommend decisions to members.

Stroud District Cycling & Walking Plan

3. The Council has allocated a sum of £300,000 to a Stroud District Cycling and Walking Plan and Environment Committee has previously agreed the scope of the Plan.
4. A meeting was held, 26th April, with representatives of the County Council (GCC), to consider how SDC's Cycling and Walking plan could be progressed in conjunction with GCC and how our collective financial input could be joined in order to achieve more significant outcomes. GCC are to undertake some initial scoping work regarding both routes.
5. SDC has agreed to set aside £100k as match funding for the resurfacing of the Nailsworth/Dudbridge Cycle Route plus other route enhancements. It is anticipated that this work will be completed this year.
6. A small amount of funding has been agreed with both Stroud and Stonehouse Town Councils as potential match for their bids to the GWR Customer & Communities Improvement Fund. Both bids relate to improving cycling access/parking/signage at the respective stations.
7. A £1K, match funded, contribution has also been agreed towards the cost of the Wotton, Charfield and Kingswood Greenway Feasibility Study.
8. Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust (GWT) have had their EOI to the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) call under the Preserving and Protecting the Environment and Promoting Resource Efficiency strand endorsed and will now move to full application. The project focuses on improving biodiversity, delivered in three clusters of market towns across the County. In the Stroud cluster the project will take place along the Nailsworth to Stonehouse corridor, using the cycle path as the catalyst to

improve biodiversity and green infrastructure along and beside the route. This would include improvements to the cycle path and it is on that basis that support has been offered to the GWT. A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

Wallbridge Gateway Site

9. The committee was verbally updated at the last meeting regarding the withdrawal of the match funding for the project from Ecotricity. SDC contribution of £90k along with the town council contribution of £5k remains.
10. The procurement process had begun based on the previous involvement of Ecotricity, this has now been stopped. It is currently envisaged that the previously agreed design brief will be adjusted to take in to account the smaller budget but with the potential for a phased approach should future funding become available.
11. Following the retendering of the design, Members will need to consider if the more limited scope of the works still represents value for money.
12. On a positive note, the work to stabilise the brewery wall is looking impressive, significantly enhancing the setting of the canal.

Canal Regeneration

13. The Council and Cotswold Canals Trust have now received the crucial initial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The HLF picked the Stroudwater Navigation as one of four projects across the country for development funding and the £842,000 announcement will enable the subsequent application for a further £9million of HLF money to allow the whole project to go ahead.
14. The project aims to take the canal under the M5 motorway, reinstate the 'missing mile' of canal near Eastington and forge a new stretch of canal under the Gloucester – Bristol railway line at Stonehouse.

Multi-Service Contract – Vehicle Replacement

15. Council has agreed an annual budget of £250k for the period of four years 2016/17 to 2020/21, for a capital programme of vehicle replacements for services covered by the Multi Service Contract.
16. UBICO are addressing the committee under a separate item on the agenda.

Market Town Centres Initiative Fund

17. The Council has allocated a budget of £200,000 to support capital projects within town centres, subject to match funding coming from the host town council. An email has now been sent to the Town Councils requesting initial expressions of interest. The email requests submissions by the 8th June.