

Cheltenham Borough Council
Officer Decision Report – 4th July 2017
Application for European Structural and Investment Funds for
Green Infrastructure

Accountable member	Cllr Chris Coleman - Clean and Green Environment
Accountable officer	Tracey Crews
Ward(s) affected	St, Pauls, St Peters, Benhall, The Reddings, Pittville, Lansdown, College, Sandford.
Key/Significant Decision	No
Executive summary	To enter into a joint bid for European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) in partnership with Gloucester City Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council to enhance urban green infrastructure. To utilise existing funds allocated to Green Space revenue budgets, the Property and Asset Management planned maintenance budget, and S106 funds for public art. The bid could attract 100% match funding.
Recommendations	To agree project funding set out in the report. To enter into an agreement with partner authorities, with Gloucester City Council as the lead authority, to make a funding bid to ESIF.

Financial implications	<p>As these schemes are already within Green Space revenue budgets, planned maintenance budgets and S106 funds, we would be using existing funds for these items. The 100% match funds from the joint ESIF bid would allow for additional enhancements to the urban green infrastructure to be undertaken over and above the work listed below.</p> <p>Contact officer: Andrew Knott , Andrew.knott@cheltenham.gov.uk, 01242 264121</p>
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Legal implications	<p>Should the ESIF funding application be successful, the council will enter into an agreement with Gloucester City Council and the other delivery partners drafted by One Legal. Gloucester City Council is the accountable body to the DCLG for the funding and GCC will be the only party to the DCLG funding agreement (if one is required by the DCLG). The agreement between the Council and GCC will require GCC to pay the relevant amounts of the funding to CBC provided that CBC has complied with its obligations under the agreement. The obligations will be to carry out the projects listed in the agreement and comply with the terms of the DCLG funding agreement.</p> <p>Contact officer: donna.ruck@teWKesbury.gov.uk,</p>
HR implications (including learning and organisational development)	<p>None</p>
Key risks	
Corporate and community plan Implications	<p>The projects will contribute to the Council's environmental objectives by improving and enhancing urban green space quality.</p>
Environmental and climate change implications	<p>Project benefits will include more sustainable forms of municipal planting, and improved biodiversity.</p>
Property/Asset Implications	<p>None directly from the works. £35,000 of priority 1 funding is allocated in year 2018 /19 from the Council's planned maintenance budget for the desilting of Pittville residium.</p> <p>Contact officer: David Roberts@cheltenham.gov.uk</p>

1. Background

- 1.1 Officers of Cheltenham Borough Council have been working with Gloucester City Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council to identify eligible schemes that will qualify for ESIF funding. The aim being to identify schemes where funding already exists that will attract 100% match funding for environmental enhancement work to the Urban Green Infrastructure, as identified in the Joint Core Strategy.
- 1.2 The funding can take place over a period of three years. The schemes identified are listed below:

Project	CBC Funding	Total £ over 3 years
Pittville Lake – undertake landscape enhancement to lake, the lake margins to improve bio diversity and water quality	Funding is allocated in the Council's Property and Asset Management Planned Maintenance programme for 2018/19 for the de-silting of the Pittville residium.	35,000
Honeybourne Line Cycle Path – undertake vegetation management prescriptions from management plan. Improve tree understorey and grassland habitat.	Funding is allocated through Section 106 for the provision of public art on the Honeybourne Line.	20,000
Sustainable Planting – continue with projects to develop sustainable planting schemes throughout the town, and link in with current project reviewing the production and maintenance of seasonal bedding plants.	Part of the Parks and Gardens annual revenue budget is allocated to landscape infrastructure works including planting schemes.	30,000
Benhall Open Space - Grassland habitat improvement and meadow creation.	Part of the Parks and Gardens annual revenue budget is allocated to landscape infrastructure works including meadows and planting schemes. The proposal is to allow an equal annual amount over the three year life span of the project totalling £10,000	10,000
Total		£95,000

2. Reasons for recommendations

- 2.1 Eligible schemes will enable the Green Space Division of CBC to continue its work undertaking environmental enhancement projects with Friends and Community Groups.

3. Alternative options considered

- 3.1 None.

4. Consultation and feedback

4.1 The Green Space Division of Council has a long established record of undertaking environmental landscape enhancements in partnership with community friends groups, and these projects are a continuation of these objectives

5. Performance management – monitoring and review

5.1 Baseline ecological surveys will be undertaken before and after the work to evidence improvements as required under the funding agreement. Gloucester City Council are the lead authority making the application, an agreement is proposed outlining the responsibilities of each partner authority.

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Appendices	1. 2.
Background information	1.

The risk				Original risk score (impact x likelihood)			Managing risk				
Risk ref.	Risk description	Risk Owner	Date raised	Impact 1-5	Likelihood 1-6	Score	Control	Action	Deadline	Responsible officer	Transferred to risk register
	Any risks associated with equality impact										
	Any environmental risks										
<p>Explanatory notes</p> <p>Impact – an assessment of the impact if the risk occurs on a scale of 1-5 (1 being least impact and 5 being major or critical)</p> <p>Likelihood – how likely is it that the risk will occur on a scale of 1-6 (1 being almost impossible, 2 is very low, 3 is low, 4 significant, 5 high and 6 a very high probability)</p> <p>Control - Either: Reduce / Accept / Transfer to 3rd party / Close</p>											

Guidance

Types of risks could include the following:

- Potential reputation risks from the decision in terms of bad publicity, impact on the community or on partners;
- Financial risks associated with the decision;
- Political risks that the decision might not have cross-party support;
- Environmental risks associated with the decision;
- Potential adverse equality impacts from the decision;
- Capacity risks in terms of the ability of the organisation to ensure the effective delivery of the decision
- Legal risks arising from the decision

Remember to highlight risks which may impact on the strategy and actions which are being followed to deliver the objectives, so that members can identify the need to review objectives, options and decisions on a timely basis should these risks arise.

Risk ref

If the risk is already recorded, note either the corporate risk register or TEN reference

Risk Description

Please use “If xx happens then xx will be the consequence” (cause and effect). For example “If the council’s business continuity planning does not deliver effective responses to the predicted flu pandemic then council services will be significantly impacted.”

Risk owner

Please identify the lead officer who has identified the risk and will be responsible for it.

Risk score

Impact on a scale from 1 to 5 multiplied by likelihood on a scale from 1 to 6. Please see risk [scorecard](#) for more information on how to score a risk

Control

Either: Reduce / Accept / Transfer to 3rd party / Close

Action

There are usually things the council can do to reduce either the likelihood or impact of the risk. Controls may already be in place, such as budget monitoring or new controls or actions may also be needed.

Responsible officer

Please identify the lead officer who will be responsible for the action to control the risk.

For further guidance, please refer to the [risk management policy](#)

Transferred to risk register

Please ensure that the risk is transferred to a live risk register. This could be a team, divisional or corporate risk register depending on the nature of the risk and what level of objective it is impacting on