

Committee: Council

Date: 18 November 2020

Wards:

Subject: Approval of Street Lighting to the Approved Capital Programme

Lead officer: Caroline Holland, Director Corporate Services

Lead member: Mark Allison, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance

Contact officer: Roger Kershaw, Assistant Director Resources

Urgent report:

Reason for urgency: The chair has approved the submission of this report as a matter of urgency as it relates to the latest available monitoring information for 2020/21. This requires consideration as it has implications for current and future years' budget monitoring and management.

Recommendations:

1. That Council approve items in the Table below are added to the approved and indicative Capital Programme:

Narrative	Budget 2020-21	Budget 2021-22	Indicative Budget 2026/27	Indicative Budget 2028/29	Total
Street Lighting Wimbledon	150,000	670,000	0	0	820,000

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report is being progressed in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations which requires that new Schemes for £500,000 and above require Council approval prior to being formally added to the approved Capital Programme.
- 1.2. This report seeks formal approval to add Street Lighting Wimbledon to the approved capital programme.

1. DETAILS OF THE STREET LIGHTING WIMBLEDON SCHEME

- 1.1 No budgetary provision currently exists within the capital programme to cover the costs of Street Lighting Wimbledon.
- 1.2 Greater demand is being placed on the existing Wimbledon Town Centre Lamp Columns to support a wider range of attachments – hanging baskets, banners, CCTV cameras, Wi-Fi equipment, 4G small cells etc. The columns were not originally designed to support a significant number of attachments and as the columns age and lose steel wall thickness due to rusting, they become less able to carry the load that the additional attachments place on the columns.

- 1.3 Many of the electronic attachments require separate control gear which needs to be installed in the base compartment of the column. The existing columns do not have sufficient capacity in their base compartment to store the controls of this additional equipment. The proposed scheme would see approximately 135 columns in Wimbledon Town Centre and in Wimbledon Village replaced with new medium duty columns with double door compartments which will support both the additional weight and wind load of the many future attachments which are proposed for the columns as part of Smart Cities and Internet of Things roll-out, as well as provide the internal capacity within the column for the electronic controls of this equipment.
- 1.4 The scheme would also see the existing SON lanterns (lamps which use high pressure sodium gases to cause illumination) replaced with new "white light" LED lanterns which have greater energy efficiency, longer life and provide better colour rendering and better overall lighting levels than the existing lanterns.
- 1.5 This scheme is being funded by Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (SCIL). The Council has been collecting SCIL funding since April 2014 when the Merton CIL Charging Schedule came into effect. The Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) restricts expenditure of SCIL by a local authority to funding infrastructure to support the development (such as new homes and commercial buildings) of its area. As part of new amendment Regulations and Government guidance that came into effect on 1st September 2019 introducing transparency requirements a formal bidding process has been introduced for SCIL bids which is overseen by the Capital Programme Board. Although, SCIL allows greater flexibility than Section 106 in order to address demands of development (such as demands of new housing developments) it must deliver a component of infrastructure designed to provide new or better infrastructure/functionality/service or service new customers. SCIL funding can be used on both capital and revenue items
- 1.6 Up to 30th September 2020 £8.5 million of Strategic CIL funding is available for schemes in 2020 and future years. Twenty bids were received during the summer 2020 only this scheme is above the threshold for Cabinet approval. Cabinet approval is being requested on 9 November 2020 Cabinet.
- 1.7 The Table below summarises the bid for SCIL Funding:

Narrative	Budget 2020-21	Budget 2021-22	Indicative Budget 2026/27	Indicative Budget 2028/29	Total
Street Lighting Wimbledon	150,000	670,000	0	0	820,000

2.8 This item was approved at Cabinet on 9 November 2020, given the size of the required budget the scheme it also requires Council Approval

2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

2.1. Not Applicable

3 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

3.1. All relevant bodies have been consulted.

4 TIMETABLE

4.1. Not applicable

5 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

5.1. All relevant implications have been addressed in the report.

6 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

6.1. All relevant implications have been addressed in the report.

7 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

7.1. Not applicable

8 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

8.1. Not applicable

9 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

9.1. Not applicable

10 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

11 BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1. Budgetary Control files held in the Corporate Services department.

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