

# Chichester District Council

THE CABINET

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## Business Rates Pool Grant Award

### Contacts

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### 1. Recommendation

**That the Cabinet authorises the spend of a Business Rates Pool grant award of £70,000 on three cycling projects as identified in the Appendix.**

### 2. Background

- 2.1 Under Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 all English local authorities have statutory air quality duties known as Local Air Quality Management (LAQM). Under LAQM the Council declared, by Order, three Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) where air quality failed a UK health based air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) related to vehicle emissions. The three AQMAs are at Orchard Street, St Pancras and Stockbridge A27 roundabout.
- 2.2 Where AQMAs are declared then authorities are statutorily obliged to produce an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) detailing how they will tackle the air quality issues. Priorities 2 and 4 of the Council's AQAP are that we will 'strengthen partnerships', 'seek funds' and 'encourage and foster behavioural change/modal shift'. As such the Council was a successful party to a recent joint authority bid to the West Sussex Business Rate Pool for grant funding to be spent on cycling related projects. Arun District Council (ADC) is the lead authority for the bid.
- 2.3 The Council proposed three projects which successfully secured £70,000 of this grant. Details of the three projects and related costs are included in the Appendix.

### 3. Outcomes to be Achieved

- 3.1 The three identified projects will help to increase cycling in Chichester District and encourage modal-shift so reducing emissions and helping to improve air quality.

3.2 Success will be measured through project completion and through increased rates of cycling. The grant terms require that the Council reports progress to Arun District Council (ADC) at six monthly intervals.

#### **4. Proposal**

4.1 The proposal is to spend the secured grant funding of £70,000.

4.2 The proposed spend is associated with three projects; to develop the Council's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP), to carry out a feasibility study for the conversion of the footway on the north side of Oaklands Way, Chichester to shared use and to support the development of the Selsey to Chichester cycleway through necessary ecological surveys. Details are in the Appendix.

4.3 Two of the projects will be delivered in partnership with West Sussex County Council (WSSCC) and the third with a community group, Selsey Community Forum (SCF).

#### **5. Alternatives Considered**

5.1 The alternative would be not to spend the monies and so not realise the benefits inherent in the proposed projects. No other alternatives have been considered.

#### **6. Resource and Legal Implications**

6.1 The work will be delivered within existing staffing resources utilising the agreed project funding.

#### **7. Consultation**

7.1 No consultation has been carried out for this work. The Chichester and District Cycle Forum will be consulted in due course regarding the draft LCWIP.

#### **8. Community Impact and Corporate Risks**

8.1 The grant monies to be spent in partnership with WSSCC and SCF will be subject to agreements binding the recipients to spending the monies on the intended projects only. Regular updates and final project out-turn reports will be required such that the Council has oversight of the spend.

8.2 The monies to be spent directly by the Council on consultancy for the delivery of the LCWIP will be subject to contract terms which will include periodic updates on progress towards delivery.

## 9. Other Implications

	Yes	No
<b>Crime and Disorder</b>		✓
<b>Climate Change and Biodiversity:</b> Encouraging cycling helps to foster a low carbon form of transport so contributing to tackling climate change.	✓	
<b>Human Rights and Equality Impact</b>		✓
<b>Safeguarding and Early Help</b>		✓
<b>General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)</b>		✓
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b> Encouraging cycling also helps to foster active travel, and active lifestyle with multiple health benefits.	✓	

## 10. Appendices

10.1 Project descriptions and costs.

## 11. Background Papers

None.