

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	3 NOVEMBER 2015	AGENDA ITEM:	17
TITLE:	LSTF REVENUE 2015/16		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORTATION AND STREETCARE	WARDS:	BOROUGHWIDE
LEAD OFFICERS:	CHRIS MADDOCKS	TEL:	0118 937 4950
JOB TITLE:	TRANSPORT PLANNING MANAGER	E-MAIL:	chris.maddocks@reading.gov.uk

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Sub-Committee of the revised LSTF Revenue 2015/16 programme, for which a grant of £996,000 has been awarded by the Department for Transport.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 The Sub-Committee is asked to approve scheme and spend approval for the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) Revenue 2015/16 project.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The proposal is in line with current transport policies, including the overriding objective to secure the most effective use of resources in the delivery of high quality, best value public service.

4. THE PROPOSAL

- 4.1 The Department for Transport announced in July 2014 that the Council had been awarded £996,000 from the LSTF Revenue 2015/16 fund. The programme of works has subsequently been updated to take account of the latest developments with related workstreams and this revised project proposal has now been approved by the DfT.

4.2 Building on the previous significant LSTF programme, the updated LSTF Revenue 2015/16 programme includes a range of projects to promote the use of sustainable transport in Reading, including:

- Cycling Development Programme - including a series of community cycle clubs, engagement events, cycle training, led-rides and bicycle maintenance sessions.
- Healthy Walks Coordinator - supporting a programme of led-walks to promote healthy living.
- Enhanced Travel Information - including website enhancements and updated cycle maps.
- Enhanced Open Data - provision of new transport data streams for the open data service.

4.3 In addition, the programme includes revenue funding support to progress the following sustainable transport schemes which have been allocated indicative capital funding from the Thames Valley Berkshire Local Growth Deal:

- South Reading Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) - proposed series of bus priority measures on the A33 corridor between MereOak Park & Ride and Reading town centre.
- East Reading MRT - proposed new public transport link between Reading Station and the A3290.
- NCN Cycle Route 422 - proposed cross-Berkshire cycle route between Newbury and Windsor.
- Reading Green Park Station - proposed railway station on the Reading to Basingstoke line.
- Reading Transport Model Update - to support the business case development work for the schemes listed above.

4.4 The Sub-Committee is asked to approve scheme and spend approval for the LSTF Revenue 2015/16 project as set out in this report.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 The delivery of the projects outlined in this report help to deliver the following Corporate Plan Service Priorities:

- Keeping the town clean, safe, green and active.
- Providing infrastructure to support the economy.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

6.1 The projects have been communicated to the local community through Council meetings.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no legal implications resulting from this proposal.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 In addition to the Human Rights Act 1998 the Council is required to comply with the Equalities Act 2010. Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 requires the Council to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

8.2 The Council has carried out an equality impact assessment scoping exercise on all projects, and considers that the proposals do not have a direct impact on any groups with protected characteristics.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 A local contribution of £155,000 has been identified from existing transport budgets to match the DfT grant of £996,000.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 LSTF Update Report - Traffic Management Sub-Committee March 2015