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## **PREPARATION OF THE LOCALLY DETERMINED PROGRAMME**

### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1. This report demonstrates to the Committee how the preparation of the Locally Determined Programme is carried out. It also clarifies how consultation with Parish, District and County Councillors is carried out, demonstrating best value in terms of schemes and funding available.

### **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 For a number of years Essex County Council has set aside some of its transportation budget for allocation by District Councils to deal with local priorities.
- 2.2 Generally, the money allocated for the Rochford District Locally Determined Budget is between £70 - £90,000.
- 2.3 The Locally Determined Programme is prepared by Rochford Officers and presented to the Transportation and Environmental Services Committee to be approved by Members in order that funding can be spent within the new financial year.

### **3 CONSULTATION**

- 3.1 Parish, District and County Councillors are sent a letter and a Category List in December/January prior to the following financial year, with a request that they consider and rank scheme headings according to local priorities. The [Category List](#) is attached for information.
- 3.2 Also enclosed with the letter is a list of the schemes for the parishes in each ward that have been included in the programme in previous years, including new suggestions which are brought to Officers' attention during the year.
- 3.3 We also request that each Parish look at these schemes in conjunction with the District and County Councillors of each Parish to decide whether support is still being given for schemes to be included in the programme and to suggest any new schemes or items having local support.
- 3.4 Relatively, there are only sufficient funds to implement a small amount of schemes, therefore it is vital that only relevant and financially realistic schemes should be put forward for this method of funding.

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**4 ASSESSMENT OF CATEGORIES**

- 4.1 All new schemes are looked at and their feasibility assessed and then added to the existing list in the particular category. Should a particular scheme not meet Essex County policy for whatever reason this is then discussed with the Parish concerned.
- 4.2 Schemes such as zebra crossing and footway requests are assessed through the County method for such proposals, ranked and added into the existing appropriate category. With regard to areas such as pram crossings (dropped kerbs to assist mobility impaired road users) and Kill Your Speed campaigns, sites are added to the rolling programme.
- 4.3 The opportunity for Parish, District and County Councillors to liaise produces a ranked list of priorities that are returned by the parishes. We are able to then combine the categories in order of priority throughout the District with due regard to the funding available. For example, should 8 of the 14 parishes rank pedestrian crossings as a priority the crossing ranked at the top of the Pedestrian Crossing List would be recommended to this Committee.
- 4.4 The list of schemes for implementation is considered very carefully in order that the funds available are used efficiently and ensure best value and benefit to the community and to match the parishes' needs.
- 4.5 These recommendations are brought to Members before the beginning of the new financial year for their decision or amendment in order that works can proceed as early into the new financial year as possible.
- 4.6 Should a scheme need more than one financial year to complete due to the need to acquire land (Stambridge Post Office footway is an example) or some other complexity, it is recommended for the inclusion in the following year's programme. This enables the scheme to be progressed to eventual completion in stages.

**5 RECOMMENDATION**

It is **RECOMMENDED:-**

That the Committee notes the format for the preparation of the Locally Determined Programme.

N McCullagh

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**Background Papers:**

None.

For further information please contact Trudy Tite on (01268) 771458