

Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED
All Wards

Highways and Transportation Scrutiny Committee
Cabinet

10th May 2006
15th May 2006

**LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL WORKS AND BRIDGE REFURBISHMENT
PROGRAMMES**

Report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Culture

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To seek comments of the Highways and Transportation Scrutiny Committee on the proposed Local Environmental Works and Bridge Refurbishment programmes 2006/7 and to seek Cabinet approval to implement the programmes.

2. Summary

- 2.1 Cabinet recommended at their meeting on the 16th May 2005 that, before committing expenditure to the 2006/7 Local Environmental Works and Bridge Refurbishment programmes, a further report be brought to the Highways and Transportation Scrutiny Committee for consideration and then to Cabinet for approval.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Highways and Transportation Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider this report on the Local Environmental Works and Bridge Refurbishment programmes 2006/7 and make comments to report to Cabinet.
- 3.2 Cabinet is asked to approve the Corporate Capital Programmes 2006/7 for Local Environmental Works (detailed in paragraphs 1.2 of the report) and Bridge Refurbishment (detailed in paragraph 1.3 of the report).

4. Financial & Legal Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 There is an approved budget in the Corporate Capital Programme 2006/7 to 2007/8 of £265,000 for Local Environmental Works (2006/7) and £125,000 for Bridge Refurbishment (2006/7).

Paresh Radia, Finance, Regeneration and Culture, Ext 6507.

Legal Implications

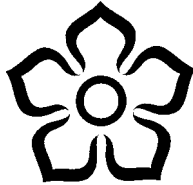
- 4.2 There are no direct legal implications of this report.
Anthony Cross, Head of Litigation, Ext 6362.

5. Report Author

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DECISION STATUS

Key Decision	No
Reason	N/A
Appeared in Forward Plan	No
Executive or Council Decision	Executive (Cabinet)



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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. Report

1.1 The Corporate Capital Programme 2006/7 to 2007/8 provides capital funding for additional important works that the Council wish to be constructed/maintained in the City. These works will be in addition to works currently funded from other programmes such as the Highway Maintenance revenue programme and the Local Transport Plan capital programme. These proposed additional works are detailed in the following paragraphs 1.2 and 1.3 and will produce significant improvements for City residents and contribute to regeneration. The original approved funding for Local Environmental Works (2006/7) and Bridge Refurbishment (2006/7) was £330,000 and £175,000 respectively but this has been now reduced to £265,000 and £125,000 respectively and approved by Cabinet.

1.2 Local Environmental Works

a) The budget for Local Environmental Works (LEW) is designed to cover a wide range of environmental works around the City, addressing a number of problems, needs and opportunities. These have in previous years included provision of a broad range of works such as:

- Lay bys,
- Untidy land,
- Environmental Improvements,
- Bus shelters,
- Improved Signing,
- Verge Hardening
- Minor Lighting Improvements

b) The LEW programme was started in 2000 with part of the budget targeted on a particular inter-war housing area so as to make significant improvements to the local environment, by, for example providing parking areas where narrow roads and increasing numbers of cars cause problems. This approach has now been completed successfully in the New Parks, Eyres Monsell, Mowmacre and the former Saffron housing

estates. In addition, match funding with the Braunstone Community Association in 2004/5 and 2005/6 has targeted the Braunstone housing estates.

- c) This targeted approach has been supported and endorsed by local Members and residents and officers are continuing this approach in the period 2005/6 to 2007/8. Officers have targeted the Thurncourt ward in 2005/6 and will be targeting the Humberstone and Hamilton ward in 2006/7 as it suffers from narrow residential streets with grass verges that were not constructed to deal with the number of vehicles using them. Parking on street is a particular problem for the residents as well as access for emergency vehicles.
- d) Members agreed in the Cabinet report of the 26th September 2005 that the LEW programme would concentrate on the Humberstone and Hamilton ward in 2006/7. A list of possible schemes for this ward is included in Appendix 1 but there may be additional schemes proposed during the consultations. A programme will be prepared following discussions with ward Members, Area Committees, residents and other stakeholders as appropriate before a final decision is made. Officers recommend that the remainder of the LEW funding continues to be allocated citywide as detailed below. This will fund the most requested work by residents ie laybys and verge hardening. It will also continue to complement the regeneration within the City Centre.
- e) The proposed 2006/7 LEW programme is:

	£
General Environmental Improvements in the Humberstone and Hamilton ward including lay bys, verge hardening etc. (See Appendix 1)	125,000
Lay bys Citywide (Matts Close, Dominion Road, Redhouse Rise)	90,000
Verge Hardening City Wide (North Braunstone, Kemp Road, Sturdee Road, Knowles Road)	25,000
City Centre Environmental improvements to complement regeneration projects (Halford Street, Horsefair Street)	25,000
Total	265,000

- f) Officers therefore recommend that Cabinet approve the 2006/7 Local Environmental Works programmes detailed in para 1.2e) above.
- g) Officers do not propose to submit a ward to be targeted for 2007/8 at this time as there is insufficient information at present to ensure that the right choice of ward would be made. A further report to Cabinet in early 2007/8 will identify the targeted ward.

1.3 Bridge Refurbishment –Braunstone Lane Bridge

- a) Braunstone Lane Bridge is in the worst condition of a number of bridges on the Great Central Way footpath and therefore is in need of essential refurbishment to ensure its longevity and therefore the integrity of the footpath that it carries. The remedial works started on the 27th February 2006 and are estimated to take 29 weeks. They consist of excavation of

the existing ballast footways and replacement with concrete slab to enable application of membrane sprayed waterproofing system. This will be done in two stages in order to facilitate the movement of pedestrians. Some metalwork is in need of urgent replacement and repair and following these repairs the structure will be grit blasted and painted to give it a protective coating. Additionally, there will be some minor masonry repairs to the brick abutments, repair and re-pointing.

- b) The estimated total cost of the works is £400,000. Officers therefore recommend that the work is funded from the £175,000 committed allocation in 2005/6, the £125,000 allocation from 2006/7 and the carry forward of £49,000 from the 2004/5 Corporate Capital Programme. This will leave a shortfall of £50,000 that will be funded by bringing forward £50,000 from the 2007/8 allocation. £40,000 has been spent in 2005/6 with the remainder to be spent in 2006/7.
- c) Officers therefore recommend that Cabinet approve the 2006/7 Bridge Refurbishment programme detailed in para 1.3b) above.

2. Financial and Legal Implications

2.1 *Financial Implications*

There is an approved budget in the Corporate Capital Programme 2006/7 to 2007/8 of £265,000 for Local Environmental Works (2006/7) and £125,000 for Bridge Refurbishment (2006/7). *Paresh Radia, Finance, Regeneration and Culture, Ext 6507.*

2.2. *Legal implications*

There are no direct legal implications of this report.
Anthony Cross, Head of Litigation, Ext 6362.

3. Other Implications

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph References Within Supporting information
Equal Opportunities	No	
Policy	No	
Sustainable and Environmental	Yes	The proposal forms on improving the quality of life in both the outer areas and the City Centre.
Crime and Disorder	No	
Human Rights Act	No	
Elderly/People on Low Income	No	

4. Background Papers

- Report to Cabinet 16/5/05 entitled 'Corporate Capital Programme (2005/6 to 2007/8)'.
- Report to Highways and Transportation Scrutiny Committee 7/9/05 and Cabinet 26/9/05 entitled 'Corporate Capital Programme 2005/6 to 2007/8 – Local Environmental Works'.

- Report to Highways and Transportation Scrutiny Committee 11/1/06 entitled 'Petition concerning the Widening of Highway, Matts Close'.
- Report to Cabinet 13/3/06 entitled 'Corporate Capital programme 2006/7 to 2007/8'.

5. Consultations

- Legal Services
- Staff in Regeneration and Culture Dept
- Residents Association
- Housing Officers

6. Risk Assessment Matrix

	Risk	Likelihood L/M/H	Severity Impact L/M/H	Control Actions (if necessary/or appropriate)
1	Weather Conditions	L	L	Plan works at appropriate times
2	Adverse results from consultation with Local Residents and Pressure Groups	M	M	Project planning
3	Conflict with other works eg Statutory Undertakers	L	L	Attend Coordination Meeting

L - Low
M - Medium
H - High

L - Low
M - Medium
H - High

7. Report Author

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APPENDIX 1.

LIST OF POSSIBLE LOCATIONS FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL WORKS IN HAMILTON AND HUMBERSTONE WARD (in alphabetical order).

Armadale Drive	Outside number 23
Armadale Drive	Outside numbers 67 to 99
Elstree Avenue	Outside numbers 44 to 55
Heybridge Road	Outside number 15
Keyham Lane	Opposite the school
Keyham Lane	Outside numbers 83 to 99
Keyham Lane West	Outside numbers 17 to 27
Keyham Lane West	Outside numbers 49 to 55
Keyham Lane West	Outside numbers 105 to 131
Laburnum Road	Outside numbers 30 to 42
New Romney Crescent	Outside numbers 53 to 71
New Romney Crescent	Outside numbers 70 to 80
Thurmaston Lane	Adjacent to number 1 Hill Top Cottage