

## **COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY**

The Panel discussed the Community Infrastructure Levy Allocation Report at its meeting on 3rd April 2024.

Following a question from Councillor Corney regarding why so many applications had been unsuccessful in the funding round, the Panel were advised that applications need to demonstrate the need for growth within their community. It was observed that during previous funding rounds, the Parish Forum had provided the opportunity for preliminary discussions on applications and that work would be undertaken to ensure applicants were educated about the requirements for a successful application.

In response to an observation from Councillor Corney, the Panel were advised that applicants, upon submitting their application, should receive a confirmation confirming the submission.

Councillor Harvey enquired about the review of the CIL process which had been discussed at a previous meeting of the Panel and why funding was ongoing during that process. The Panel heard that the review was proving to be a lengthy process and having been appraised that several applications were ready for funding, it had been decided to progress with the current round.

Further to a question from Councillor Slade, the Panel were advised that the St Neots Fire Station application was due to the monetary amount being requested rather than the percentage of the project.

In response to a question from Councillor Jennings about further delays to the foot and cycleways within Riverside Park, St Neots, the Panel heard that more detailed information would be sought and relayed back to the Panel.

The Panel were reassured, following a question from Councillor Harvey, that funding could be offered subject to certain qualifications being met and that this applied to both smaller and larger projects.

Following the discussion, the Panel were informed that their comments would be added to the Cabinet report in order for an informed decision to be made on the report recommendations.