## **HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Title/Subject Matter: Community Infrastructure Levy Spend Allocation

Meeting/Date: Overview & Scrutiny (Performance and Growth)

3rd April 2025

Cabinet - 15th April 2025

**Executive Portfolio:** Executive Councillor for Planning (TS)

**Report by:** Chief Planning Officer (CK)

Ward(s) affected: All Ward(s)

## **Executive Summary:**

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a planning charge, introduced by the Planning Act 2008 as a tool for local authorities in England and Wales to help them deliver the infrastructure needed to support development in their area. Huntingdonshire District Council became a CIL charging authority in May 2012.

Local authorities must spend the levy on infrastructure needed to support the development of their area. The levy can be used to increase the capacity of existing infrastructure or to repair failing existing infrastructure, if that is necessary to support development. This helps to deliver across the priorities in the Council's Corporate Plan 2023 - 2028 specifically Creating a better Huntingdonshire for future generations by:

- Improved housing 24. Maintain the level of new housing delivery, which meets the needs of Huntingdonshire residents, including the type of home and tenure (open market and social housing).
- Forward-thinking economic growth 36. Influence delivery of infrastructure including East West Rail, A428, A141 Strategic Outline Business Case and future Transport Strategies.

A review of CIL governance is underway and the first stage was presented to Cabinet in June 2024. Following this an interim round of funding was opened at the request of Councillors, using the agreed Statement of Intent as a guide.

The latest funding round was launched on 4th November 2024 with a closing date of 19th January 2025, a window of 10 weeks for submission. Bids received within that round for CIL funding towards infrastructure projects have been assessed by officers to reach the recommendations within this report. The outcomes of this round do not preclude applicants from submitting future applications to future rounds, and they will be considered against the adopted criteria at the time of determination.

## Recommendation(s):

The Cabinet is

## RECOMMENDED

- a) Note the updates on delivery in relation to the projects previously allocated or in receipt of CIL funding commitments (see Appendix 1).
- b) Note the new allocated CIL projects for £100,000.00 or less approved by delegation on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025 (see Appendix 2).
- c) Agree officer recommendations at Paragraph 4.2 to **APPROVE** funding for Bury Guardroom community hub.
- d) Agree officer recommendations at Paragraph 4.3 to **DECLINE** funding for Kimbolton and Stonely two Community Playgrounds.
- e) Agree officer recommendations at Paragraph 4.4 to **APPROVE** funding for Leisure improvements, Sawtry
- f) Agree officer recommendations at Paragraph 4.6 to **APPROVE** funding for Community Fire Station modernisation and extension project, St Neots.

#### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to invite the Cabinet to consider recommendations relating to infrastructure projects seeking funding in whole or in part from an amount of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies received to date.

#### WHY IS THIS REPORT NECESSARY/BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The requirement for infrastructure to support new development is a high priority and CIL continues to be implemented across the country with government enabling and directing local authorities to obtain contributions by charging a Community Infrastructure Levy on new development, in addition to negotiating Section 106 planning obligations with a developer where applicable.
- 2.2 Up to 5% of CIL receipts each financial year may be retained for administration costs. 15% 25% of CIL receipts the 'meaningful proportion' are passed to parish/town councils in line with the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) and the Localism Act 2011. The remaining 70-80%, the strategic proportion, is available for Huntingdonshire District Council as the charging authority to spend on the provision, improvement, replacement, operation, or maintenance of infrastructure to support the growth/development of its area.
- 2.3 Prior to this funding round, circa £27.5m of CIL has been allocated to funding 57 projects throughout the district supporting the delivery of over £102m worth of infrastructure. This has contributed to delivering infrastructure across the priorities in the Council's Corporate Plan 2023 2028 to meet Local Plan growth.
- 2.4 An update on the projects allocated CIL funding previously can be found at Appendix 1.
- 2.5 Under the governance arrangements approved by Cabinet in June 2024, the Cabinet is to consider applications for CIL funding over £100,000.00. Any requests of £100,000.00 or less have been considered and approved in line with delegated authority and are detailed for information at Appendix 2. The total amount of funding to be considered for allocation in a financial year will not exceed £500,000 for allocations of £100,000.00 or less, including those for non-parished areas. This report relates to the funding round for the 2024/25 financial year.
- 2.6 The determination of CIL requests as set out in this paper have been considered in accordance with the Councils interim governance procedures for CIL, as well as ensuring compliance with the fundamentals as set out in the established legislation. This is important to ensure a fair, transparent and lawful process, which is robust to challenge and/or complaint. Officers have undertaken the assessments on this basis.
- 2.7 It is important to be able to demonstrate how a decision has been reached, with clear reasons, in order to uphold the integrity of the process, and ensure

that the decision can be understood even if it is not agreed with. If Members are minded to reach alternative conclusions to those as recommended by this report, reasons for this should be clearly articulated and evidenced where possible.

- 2.8 The Council is currently undertaking a review of the CIL process and its associated governance; once this work is completed, future rounds of CIL awards are likely to be judged against the updated process.
- 2.9 The first stage of this this review was presented to Cabinet in June 2024. As part of the communication strategy, a programme of engagement was implemented which included:
  - updated information on the HDC website including the new statement of intent, which was viewed over 100 times.
  - two presentations at the town/parish forum and a stall with further information
  - articles in the town/parish newsletter every month between August 2024 and January 2025
  - presentation at an all HDC Members briefing 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024
  - video on how to complete the form added to the website
  - one to one meetings with stakeholders CCC, Fire, police, NHS, Huntingdon Museum, St Neots Initiative
  - one to one sessions offered to all towns/parishes for extra support on 19<sup>th</sup> November attended by Kimbolton, Little Paxton, Wyton, St Neots initiative, Warboys and Yaxley.
- 2.10 The Planning and Infrastructure Bill was published on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025. The aim of the Bill is to accelerate the construction of homes and key infrastructure. It covers areas including:
  - Faster Planning Decisions
  - Boosting housebuilding, to support the construction of the national target of 1.5 million homes
  - Infrastructure Development, to facilitate development of vital infrastructure such as roads, railways, wind farms, enhancing connectivity and energy security as part of requirements for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs)
  - Economic Growth through the removal of unnecessary blockers to growth
  - Energy Security through provision for cheaper homegrown power
  - Community Benefits such as residents receiving financial benefits where living near certain infrastructure, such as new electricity transmission infrastructure.
- 2.11 As the Bill progresses through parliament, it will be important to keep abreast of matters and how it may, particularly in relation to strategic infrastructure, impact on future CIL governance considerations.

#### 3 OPTIONS CONSIDERED/ANALYSIS

- 3.1 In November 2024, stakeholders were invited to submit on-line proforma applications for funding from the Strategic Proportion of CIL, in line with Council Guidance on Allocation and Spending webpage. Communications were issued to infrastructure providers including the County Council, NHS, Police & Fire Services, Town & Parish Councils and HDC Members. The Council website was also updated to announce a new round, plus social media posts were issued. The projects submitted during this funding round have been reviewed to ensure they meet the criteria for CIL funding.
- 3.2 The levy is intended to focus on the provision of new infrastructure and should not be used to remedy pre-existing deficiencies in infrastructure provision unless those deficiencies will be made more severe by new development. It can be used to increase the capacity of existing infrastructure or to repair failing existing infrastructure if that is considered necessary to support new development.
- 3.3 In considering spend allocation, the potential support a number of strategic infrastructure projects may need in the near future should be noted i.e., if all the money received to date is allocated to other projects, it may not be possible to provide these strategic projects with the funding they may need over the next few years to be delivered. As required under legislation, the Council has stated in the Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) 2023-2024 that CIL funds could, if approved in line with the governance process, be allocated towards:
  - Strategic Transport including items such as A428, A141, A14, A1, and East West Rail; and
  - Supporting the delivery of growth in the District, as identified in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) and HDC's Corporate Plan
- 3.4 Governance arrangements highlight it is for the applicant to develop their business case. The role of HDC is to consider the applications as submitted. This ensures that all applicants are treated fairly and transparently. A template Business Plan is provided on the website if needed and officers are available to answer any questions applicants may have.
- 3.5 Applications are initially assessed on:
  - the need for the project based on local growth
  - the public benefit of the project including public support for it
  - the deliverability of the project including other funding, contingency amounts, risks and milestone timings
  - the links to the project and the Corporate Plan, Place Strategy and Local Plan.
- 3.6 Applications are then assessed further based on the Cabinet agreed Statement of Intent:

The key principles that form the 'statement of intent' for the council's new agreed governance and approach to CIL are:

the primary use of CIL is to fund infrastructure that is directly linked to

- supporting or mitigating the impact of growth and new development.
- CIL funded projects can also contribute towards achieving the outcomes identified in the council's Corporate Plan and Place Strategy
- CIL should be used in a way which leverages other sources of funding for greater impact.
- the use of CIL should be considered alongside other developer contributions to maximise site-specific benefits (for example: Affordable housing).
- a new approach to allocating CIL should follow a programme-led, evidence-based approach.
- a new approach to CIL should recognise the Importance of working with partners to deliver infrastructure.
- there should be greater alignment between local and district-wide priorities.
- 3.7 For this round an interim scoring was used based on how the project met evidential criteria such as growth, inclusion in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, CIL ask and match funding. The project also gained 2 points for each of the Statements on Intent it met fully, and these two scores added together gave an indicative score out of 61.
- 3.8 An update on CIL allocations previously approved is provided at Appendix 1 projects previously reported as completed at Cabinet are not referenced again in the update.
- 3.9 There is circa £36m of CIL receipts now currently available for allocation on further infrastructure projects including those listed in paragraph 3.3.

# 4. PROPOSALS FOR FUNDING FROM STRATEGIC CIL FOR MORE THAN £100,000.00

4.1 Detail on the bids submitted in response to the current round for over £100,000.00 CIL funding, which require Cabinet approval, as outlined in para 2.4 above, are stated below with the officer recommendations. Project bids for £100,000.00 or less were considered at a meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025, in accordance with delegated authority. Information on these bids can be found at Appendix 2 to this report, including the decisions reached, and is for Members to note.

## **Bury Guardroom community hub.**

**Proposal:** This initiative aims to transform the former RAF Guardroom building into a multifunctional including the Parish Council, hot desk space, and community space for sports and social activities. The hub will also include a commercial space and potentially space for NHS use.

**Applicant:** Bury Parish Council

Parish: Bury

**Total Project Cost:** £2,359,900.00

**CIL Ask:** £1,500,000.00

**CIL Ask %:** 63%

**Scoring:** 30 + 12 = 42/61 Overall

#### RECOMMENDATION - APPROVE

#### **DESCRIPTION OF SUBMISSION**

The application was of a high quality. The submission included a business plan, costing schedule, evidence of match funding, building purchase contract, details if the hall users, a design and access statement, an energy and sustainability statement, profit and loss details, ward Councillor comments, letters of support and details around the onsite memorial works.

### **PROPOSAL**

This proposal is for the renovation of the forger guardroom at RAF Upwood. This initiative will transform a historically significant building into a state-of-the-art community hub, balancing heritage preservation with modern functionality to serve as a focal point for social, economic, and environmental development.

## This project delivers:

• community Space: Accessible rooms for meetings, workshops, and cultural events.

- local Enterprise Support: Facilities for community-focused small businesses and entrepreneurs.
- café and Social Area: A space for social interaction and relaxation.
- sustainability: Green energy integration and environmentally friendly practices that will minimise the building's running costs into the future.

The project resolves the lack of a central community space that:

- accommodates growing community events and services.
- supports small community-focused businesses with affordable rental spaces.
- provides a venue for social integration in a rapidly expanding population.



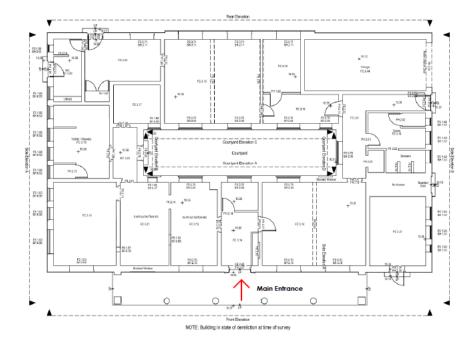
Aerial photo of the site



Current front elevation



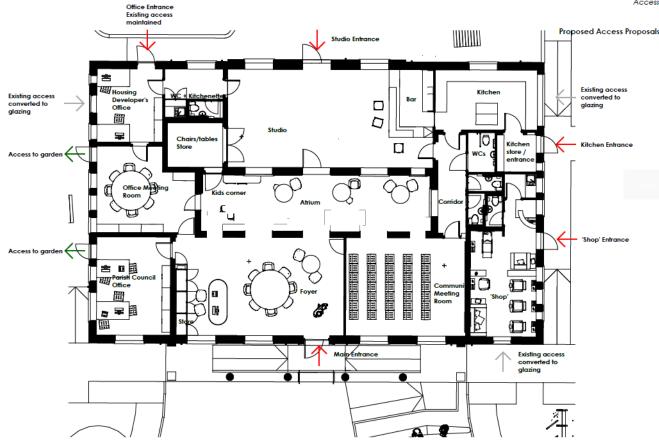
Proposed elevation



Floor plan as existing



Layout as proposed



#### Floor plan as proposed



## Elevations as proposed

By delivering a versatile, inclusive facility, the Guardroom Community Hub will provide spaces for community activities, healthcare services, community-focused small business opportunities, and leisure pursuits. The project will also promote environmental sustainability by incorporating green building practices and energy-efficient systems, resulting in extremely low running costs that will provide for longer term financial sustainability by side-stepping spiraling energy costs.

There have been high levels of community engagement and consideration to existing facilities. This engagement led to a high focus on the guardroom being

net zero going forward, and with a nearly 20% Biodiversity net gain. They are awaiting decisions from the Combined Authority, National Lotter Heritage Fund, Ramsey Wind Farm and Mick George and so the allocation is pending the full funding of the project.

The Parish have also consulted with the NHS about integrating health provision at the location. They have applied for multiple funding sources including a successful bid for Cambridgeshire County Council for the green energy supply.

The submission showed high levels of understanding of the deliverability and risks of the project. A lot of thought has gone into making this project sustainable, whilst respecting the heritage of the location and re-using as much of the original features as possible.

#### SUBMISSION HISTORY

This project was previously submitted in 23/24 and declined due to:

- the full community facility is not a priority in the Neighbourhood Plan
- the building is not yet owned by the Parish.
- the project does not have Planning Permission
- applications have not been made for other funding, apart from CCC, which does not have a decision yet. (This was updated pre-Cabinet April 2024 to confirm CCC funding had been agreed)
- this project was not mentioned in Parish comments on recent Planning Applications until this year, or in S106 discussions.
- it would appear this site would also be used by commercial operators, developers and may have a museum but this is not clear. Some of the costs seem to include parts of the building to be used by private business and developers, with no mention of leases/rent. Resident involvement in this project seems low, despite many attempts to engage them, with only 79 residents views counted through the presentations locally. (This was updated pre-April 2024 Cabinet to confirm following the May 2023 engagement event a total of 131 residents offered a view on the designs. There was residents feedback about the outside use of the area, with community gardens being suggested, but this is not reflected in the submission.)
- the residents themselves seem concerned that footfall would be low, and as this facility would be in addition to the existing village hall, there is no evidence to clarify this position.
- there is no clear evidence of current village hall footfall, prospective users, and any income from this.

Given the high cost of this project with high level of funding ask and lack of evidence of the need or sustainability of the building, the project is not considered suitable for CIL Strategic funding at this time, based on the submission as part of this round.

Following high levels of engagement with the Parish Clerk many of the issues above were addressed in the new submission; Planning permission has been submitted, a copy of the purchase agreement to be used is in place, details of the commercial uses have been confirmed, budgets are fully detailed including profit and loss.

#### CONSULTATIONS MADE BY OFFICER ON THIS PROJECT

The HDC Economic Development team were consulted on this proposal who have said:

From an Economic Development perspective, we are pleased to offer our support for this funding application. The proposed development aligns with key objectives of the

Huntingdonshire Economic Growth Strategy, which emphasises fostering economic prosperity, supporting local businesses, and creating employment opportunities.

#### **Economic Benefits**

This development promises to create a range of business opportunities for existing and startup businesses within the local community and providing economic benefits for Bury's expanding population. Generating employment opportunities, the project will not only support local businesses but also local residents of the area.

#### Office and Class E and F Uses

We also recognise the demand for both office and B8 (storage and distribution) spaces in Bury.

- office spaces: The addition of office facilities will attract a diverse range of businesses and professionals, contributing to a dynamic and thriving local economy.
- class E and F: Commercial Business and Service and Local Community and Learning

## **ASSESSMENT**

The main issues to consider in the assessment of this application are found in the Statement of Intent:

Principles of Statement of intent	Met?
The primary use of CIL is to fund infrastructure that is directly linked to supporting or mitigating the impact of growth and new development.	Yes - there has been large local growth without community space increases
CIL funded projects can also contribute towards achieving the outcomes identified in the Council's Corporate Plan and Place Strategy	Yes - these fully supports the key principles with links to growth, community, health and wellbeing and environment policies.
CIL should be used in a way which leverages other sources of funding for greater impact.	Yes - several funding applications to other funders also made. This is a 65% CIL funded project.
The use of CIL should be considered alongside other developer contributions to maximise sitespecific benefits (e.g. Affordable housing).	Yes - this project supports in the increased affordable housing in Phase 1 of the RAF Upwood development, which was 100% Affordable
A new approach to allocating CIL should follow a programme-led, evidence-based approach.	Yes – high quality evidence provided
A new approach to CIL should recognise the Importance of working with partners to deliver infrastructure.	Yes - there has been a lot of local engagement and with other partners like NHS
There should be greater alignment between local and district-wide priorities.	Yes -this project sits well with the interim statement of intent strategic priorities.

Using the interim scoring system this project scored 42, the minimum for approval is 40.

RECOMMENDATION - APPROVE

Subject to:

- 1. full funding for the project being confirmed
- 2. all relevant approvals e.g. Planning and Building Control being in place
- 3. confirmation of ownership of the building and land

This project aligns with the Local Plan to 2036, Corporate Plan and Place Strategy as it is key infrastructure which supports local growth as shown by:

- the supporting evidence showing a clear understanding of the risks of the project, the mitigation for them and contingency in the financial proposal.
- the very good levels of community engagement and support for the project and a need shown through the already stretched existing community space.
- the scoring of this application as 42, which shows it aligns with the new governance.
- the new building that will be net zero, supporting HDC environmental aims.
- local feedback which has been taken on board in terms of accessibility both physically and in terms of price.
- this project also supporting local economic growth through the onsite retail
  provision and the hot desk option. HDC Economic Development team are
  supportive of the project noting the links to the Huntingdonshire Economic
  Growth Strategy and the benefits to local businesses and residents.
- the review of local community buildings and this building will be complimentary to them and be priced to reflect this.

Overall, the information provided was of a high standard and this project has been well considered and thought through with clear benefits to the community.

## 4.3 Kimbolton and Stonely two Community Playgrounds.

**Proposal:** This project aims to deliver two play parks in Kimbolton and

Stoneley. One is a replacement, and one is a new park.

**Applicant:** Kimbolton and Stonely Parish Council

Parish: Kimbolton and Stonely

Total Project Cost: £146,239.41

**CIL Ask:** £106,239.41

**CIL Ask %:** 73%

**Scoring:** 9 + 2 = 11/61 Overall

#### RECOMMENDATION - DECLINE

#### **DESCRIPTION OF SUBMISSION**

The application had a lot of supporting information. The submission included a business plan, plans, quotes from a couple of playground providers, a Facebook poll, drawings from local children of ideas for the parks, detailed information on the play equipment, support letters and minutes from PC meetings.

#### **PROPOSAL**

The Kimbolton and Stonely Community Playground project aims to deliver two thoughtfully designed parks that provide safe, inspiring, and inclusive play spaces for children of all ages and abilities. This initiative seeks to rejuvenate underused spaces in the village and address the current lack of modern recreational facilities that meet the diverse needs of our growing population.

The current park, which is over 20 years old, is stated by the applicant to be so outdated and uninspiring that many children refuse to play on it.

This Project would deliver:

Park 1: Located in the heart of the village, will feature:

- a wooden castle structure.
- a wooden locomotive play structure.
- a Nest whirl, log swing and an inclusive swing.
- a 4M Pavilion.
- interactive boards.
- picnic benches and planter pots.
- Durabond surfaces for safety and durability.

Park 2: Situated in a currently unused area, will cater to older children and include:

- a 20m steel cable zip line.
- a climbing forest installation.
- a wooden adventure trail.
- benches for rest and socializing.
- grass mat surfacing to blend seamlessly with the natural surroundings.

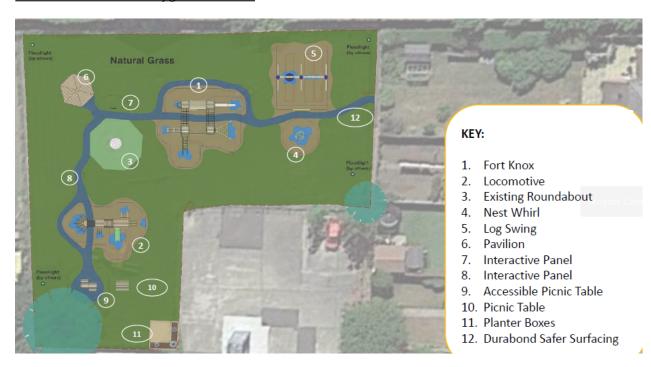
Kimbolton is a rural village. By introducing these parks, they aim to:

- reduce the need for families to travel to other towns.
- offer inclusive play areas.
- promote physical activity and outdoor play to improve the health and well-being of children and families.
- enhance the village's appeal as a family-friendly community and strengthen community ties.

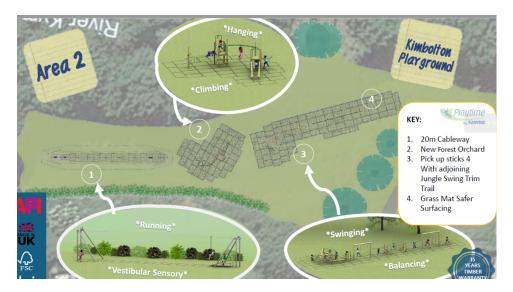


Aerial photo of the current playground

Park 1: Mandeville Playground Plans



## Playground 2 Plans



## **SUBMISSION HISTORY**

This is the first submission for this project

## **CONSULTATIONS MADE BY OFFICER ON THIS PROJECT**

No consultations were held for this project:

## **ASSESSMENT**

The main issues to consider in the assessment of this application are found in the Statement of Intent:

Principles of Statement of intent	Met?
The primary use of CIL is to fund infrastructure that is directly linked to supporting or mitigating the impact of growth and new development.	No – little growth locally in the last 10 years, or in the future 5
CIL funded projects can also contribute towards achieving the outcomes identified in the Council's Corporate Plan and Place Strategy	Yes – links to general themes of being a good place to live and work, and health and wellbeing
CIL should be used in a way which leverages other sources of funding for greater impact.	Partial - One other funding source applied to, no explanation of why they have not applied for more.
The use of CIL should be considered alongside other developer contributions to maximise sitespecific benefits (e.g. Affordable housing).	N/A
A new approach to allocating CIL should follow a programme-led, evidence-based approach.	No - There is some supporting evidence of local support, but other key evidence is missing.
A new approach to CIL should recognise the Importance of working with partners to deliver infrastructure.	No - school, businesses contacted with the idea of

Principles of Statement of intent	Met?
	a park but no-one else
	mentioned.
There should be greater alignment between	No -this is a local project.
local and district-wide priorities.	

Using the interim scoring system this project scored 11/61, the minimum for approval is 40.

#### RECOMMENDATION - DECLINE

This project came out as low scoring due in the main to the amount of match funding and the information missing from the pack. There was a lot of evidence of community support from local businesses and the school for improved local facilities. The Facebook poll was a little leading in the questions and the comments below reflected that, although it was positive to see 148 participants, of which 141 approved. There are clear benefits to better play equipment in a location, especially inclusive play equipment. This project:

- has a lack of links to recent and future growth in the next 5 years. It does not seem that the infrastructure is needed due to growth but more due to age, and strategic CIL should not be used for this type of maintenance.
- has information in the submission that is unclear. It has been ticked to say there is no contribution from the Parish Council, although later is says they are contributing.
- provides no timescales for the Sports England decision.
- references a contingency from reserves, local businesses and fundraising but there is no indication of how much and how this would be achieved specifically.
- provided no photos of the current equipment, and only one aerial plan of the park.
- provided no evidence of support from the ward member.
- provided no evidence of future maintenance and a sinking fund in place.

## 4.4 Leisure improvements, Sawtry.

**Proposal:** Replacement and reinstatement of the pool plant and reconnecting the

heating, air handling and water, replacement of the pool cover and disabled

hoist.

**Applicant:** Huntingdonshire District Council (One Leisure)

Parish: Sawtry

Total Project Cost: £600,000.00

**CIL Ask:** £360,000.00

**CIL Ask %:** 60%

**Scoring:** 28 + 12= 40 /61 Overall

#### RECOMMENDATION - APPROVE

#### **DESCRIPTION OF SUBMISSION**

The application was of a very good quality. The submission included a business plan, and documents showing projected use and full details of the project.

#### **PROPOSAL**

Based upon recent quotations received, it has been submitted that capital funding of £600,000 would be required to replace specialist pool plant equipment, re-connect the air handling and hot water systems, replace the pool cover and the pool hoist that provides access to the pool for people with a mobility disability.

A CIL funding contribution of £360,000 is sought to match fund against £180,000 (HDC) and £60,000 (SAT) which would enable the pool to be repaired and reopened for the benefit of the local community, which has not had locally accessible public swimming facilities for over 2 years. Without the CIL funding the pool will remain closed.

It is estimated that on an annual basis swim school attendances will be 15,600 per annum and compound across the 5-year period this will equate to a wider impact of 78,000 attendances enabling young children to have an opportunity to learn a key life skill. In addition to this, it is forecast that by re-opening the swimming pool 14,000 additional casual swims per annum equating to 70,000 attendances over a 5-year period.

Sawtry does have a small commercial swim school offer located in the nearby Oakwood Business Park with a smaller pool with 1.2 pool depth. However, this offers dedicated swim tuition on a 1:1 or 2:1 ratio for baby and pre-school only. It is not considered to be a direct competitor as it does not offer group learn to swim sessions and the price point may exclude some members of the community whereas the One Leisure price point is more accessible and supports health and wellbeing objectives for all. In addition, One Leisure as a larger operator, is likely to be more resilient and can respond to unplanned resourcing issues.

The re-opening of the Sawtry swimming pool will enable greater access to swimming facilities and swimming lessons, increased physical activity opportunities and supports each priority within the HDC corporate plan and provides a place that local residents are proud to live and is in line with the HDC Place Strategy.

The investment to reinstate swimming provision in Sawtry which has c. 14,000 adults (+15 years) within a 15-minute drive time, and with the planned residential developments in the

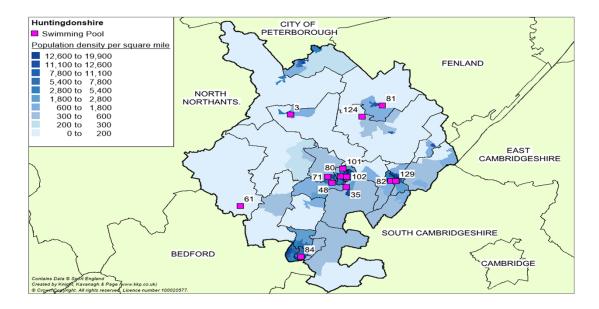
area this would number is set to increase.

Across the district there is a shortfall in swimming provision of c. 13 lanes x 23m identified in the 2022 Built Facilities Strategy and confirmed by Swim England, this shortfall has subsequently increased with the closure of Sawtry.

Learning how to swim can be a lifesaver. Drowning continues to be a serious concern re: the safety of children. Water safety is a genuine concern hence swimming and water safety is a statutory Key Stage 2 requirement. Providing swimming lessons to children close to home provides a life skill and can save lives.

Within this proposal there are robust plans to re-introduce a learn to swim programme which will allow between 400 - 500) children per week to learn a key life skill which is essential to their upbringing and every child's right to ensure their safety particularly as Cambridgeshire has a high percentage of lakes and rivers.

The map below (from the 2022-2043 Built Facility Strategy (BFS), illustrates the location of Sawtry (location 3) and the significant distance from other pools of a broadly comparable scale in the district.





#### **SUBMISSION HISTORY**

This is the first submission for this project.

## CONSULTATIONS MADE BY OFFICER ON THIS PROJECT

No consultations were held for this project.

#### ASSESSMENT

The main issues to consider in the assessment of this application are found in the Statement of Intent:

Principles of Statement of intent	Met?
The primary use of CIL is to fund infrastructure that is directly linked to supporting or mitigating the impact of growth and new development.	Yes - there has been significant growth and this facility has been lost.
CIL funded projects can also contribute towards achieving the outcomes identified in the Council's Corporate Plan and Place Strategy	Yes - it aligns with both
CIL should be used in a way which leverages other sources of funding for greater impact.	Yes - there is also HDC capital funding and funding from the Academy
The use of CIL should be considered alongside other developer contributions to maximise sitespecific benefits (e.g. Affordable housing).	N/A
A new approach to allocating CIL should follow a programme-led, evidence-based approach.	Yes - good evidence of strategic growth for project along with the necessary costs, future use, and a solid engagement plan
A new approach to CIL should recognise the Importance of working with partners to deliver infrastructure.	Yes - this is working with the Academy
There should be greater alignment between local and district-wide priorities.	Yes - due to links to One Leisure this benefits the district as any card holder will be able to use it. It is also the only facility of this scale covering that NW part of the district as clearly shown on the supporting map.

Using the interim scoring system this project scored 41/61, the minimum for approval is 40.

## RECOMMENDATION - APPROVE

This project resolves an infrastructure issue in an area of large growth. The need for more swimming pools was part of the IDP, and that was before this facility closed. It also shows:

o there are district wide benefits to this project and it aligns with the

statement of intent, corporate strategy and place strategy.

- o the need for the project features in the Sawtry Neighbourhood Plan
- this project has health and social benefits and also supports the safety of the community.
- the project has detailed evidence of the benefits of the swimming facility, who will use it, profit and loss figures and shows it to have been well researched.

## 4.5 MUGA, Ramsey.

**Proposal:** Installation of a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

Parish: Ramsey

**Total Project Cost:** £3,800,000.00 (as per application)

**CIL Ask:** £365,000.00

**CIL Ask %:** 10%

Scoring: N/A

## RECOMMENDATION - Declined due to ineligibility

### **DESCRIPTION OF SUBMISSION**

This application was declined for assessment due to ineligibility. The application consisted of an application form and planning application and was not from an applicant that could enter the necessary legal agreement with HDC.

## 4.6 Community Fire Station modernisation and extension project

**Proposal:** Extend and modernise the Fire Station. The modernisation and

extension of the existing property will provide further capacity to help

address the additional demands on Fire & Rescue Service infrastructure/facilities that have arisen as a result of the

housing/population growth linked to the strategic expansion of St

Neots.

**Applicant**: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority

Parish: St Neots

**Total Project Cost:** £1,845,559.00

**CIL Ask:** £700,000.00

CIL Ask %: 38%

**Scoring:** 28 + 12 = 40/61 Overall

#### RECOMMENDATION - APPROVE

#### **DESCRIPTION OF SUBMISSION**

This submission included a business case, tender analysis, costs breakdown, a response to the declines in the last submission, plans, ward member support and internal fire service papers.

#### **PROPOSAL**

The Project includes enhancements to the station to provide a modern facility which is currently not available - the changing role of the Fire and Rescue Service includes a statutory obligation for Community Safety Work therefore requiring a modern building to meet the need.

The current St Neots Fire Station was built in the 1960s and whilst it has served the community well until this time it is now outdated and is not currently suitable (or fit for purpose) for delivering the engagement activities within communities as outlined by the Fire Service within their Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP).

As part of their sustainability strategy the Fire Authority aims to be at net zero emissions by 2030. The planned modernisation/ extension project at St Neots will result in Cambridgeshire's first net zero fire station. This will reduce ongoing cost to the Fire Authority and allow funding to be allocated to a more effective operational response and community prevention activities.

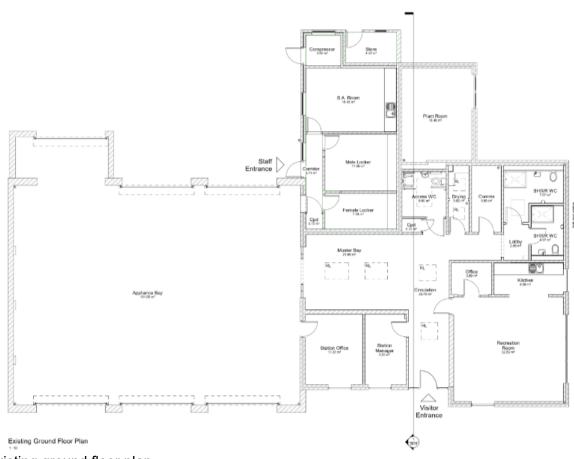
By increasing the capacity and enhancing the community fire station, the Fire and Rescue Service will be able to increase the number of engagement activities delivered in the area whilst also providing and efficient and effective service and modern communal areas to the residents and businesses of St Neots and its local communities. There are also proposals to increase staffing from 5 day to 7 day crewing which

will in turn further increase community safety activities in St Neots.

Provision has been made for an emergency response for East of England Ambulance Service (EEAST) with an EV charger and shared welfare facilities



**Current front elevation** 



Existing ground floor plan



## SUBMISSION HISTORY

This is the second submission for this project. The first submission was declined due to:

- insufficient evidence of links to growth and the need for this provide a bigger gym and community space.
- the quote provided excludes items like furniture, IT, gym equipment and a Canopy, and is also based on drawings that do not have Planning permission and so may change. As such the total cost may differ, especially as this is the pre-tender cost. Insufficient evidence of this being a priority for the Fire Service within the District given the small changes proposed for the works.
- no support sought from the Town Council.
- no funding sought from the Town Council or other funding sources.
- lack of evidence that this has links to community use beyond there being a Community Officer based there. Evidence supplied only confirms its use for the Fire Service. Also, no links or analysis of potential impact on community space availability currently in the town.
- given the reasonably high level of CIL ask, the lack of supporting evidence of need and unclear cost of project due to conflicting figures given, the project is not considered suitable for CIL Strategic funding at this time, based on the submission as part of this round.

Similar to Bury there were high levels of engagement after the original decline. HDC and the Fire Service discussed the project, the previous Local Plan response and this project. Also discussed was the new initiative from the Fire Service to support local communities, which drives the need for the additional

community space.

The Fire service also provided the Town Council response. Whilst the Town Council unanimously supported the project and this application for strategic CIL funding, it declined an application for funding support from their CIL 'meaningful proportion' due to their current procedures which do not permit funding to non-charity groups.

#### CONSULTATIONS MADE BY OFFICER ON THIS PROJECT

No consultations were held for this project:

#### **ASSESSMENT**

The main issues to consider in the assessment of this application are found in the Statement of Intent:

Principles of Statement of intent	Met?
The primary use of CIL is to fund infrastructure that	Yes – this is clearly
is directly linked to supporting or mitigating the	demonstrated in the
impact of growth and new development.	supporting information
CIL funded projects can also contribute towards	Yes – clear links
achieving the outcomes identified in the Council's	demonstrated
Corporate Plan and Place Strategy	
CIL should be used in a way which leverages other	Yes – this is a 38% CIL
sources of funding for greater impact.	ask
The use of CIL should be considered alongside	N/A
other developer contributions to maximise site-	
specific benefits (e.g. Affordable housing).	
A new approach to allocating CIL should follow a	Yes – good supporting
programme-led, evidence-based approach.	evidence
A new approach to CIL should recognise the	Yes – good supporting
Importance of working with partners to deliver	evidence
infrastructure.	
There should be greater alignment between	Yes- this is a project that
local and district-wide priorities.	will benefit the wider
	district

Using the interim scoring system this project scored 40/61, the minimum for approval is 40.

#### RECOMMENDATION - APPROVE

This project has strong links to local growth and the need to increase community engagement in this area in a growing population. Although historically the local fire service has not considered they were affected by growth in terms of needing new additional fire stations, this position with current and future growth has changed with regards the design, layout and use of their fire stations for the benefit of the community. The project:

- provides a supporting statement that clearly demonstrates how a growing population means growing demand for support for the new communities, and that prevention is key.
- feeds into their local plan response which they included. This also shows their understanding of the need to work with the local authority to ensure that they are included in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)

- going forward.
- shows there is good match funding in place making this a 38% CIL ask, although £700,000 is a significant project amount.
- provides supporting information of a high standard and shows a good understanding of the risks involved and mitigation for this project.

## 5. Interim Governance

- 5.1 This funding round was the first round to have been undertaken since the first stage of the latest governance review was approved by Cabinet in June 2024.
- 5.2 As referenced in para 2.9 of this report, as part of the communication strategy for this revised governance, a programme of engagement was implemented which included:
  - updated information on the HDC website including the new statement of intent
  - two presentations at the town/parish forum and a stall with further information
  - articles in the town/parish newsletter every month between August 2024 and January 2025
  - presentation at an all HDC Members briefing 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024
  - video on how to complete the form added to the website
  - one to one meetings with stakeholders CCC, Fire, police, NHS
  - one to one sessions offered to all towns/parishes for extra support on 19<sup>th</sup> November attended by Kimbolton, Little Paxton, Wyton, St Neots initiative, Warboys and Yaxley.
  - 5.3 The response received to date on the engagement has been positive. The Town and Parish Forum feedback was very positive on the day and the feedback forms noted or how helpful and informative was the days Forum included specific references such as "CIL presentation was very helpful and informative", "Very helpful, especially re CIL" and "Particularly for CIL".
- 5.4 The Council website was updated. The dedicated CIL Funding webpage provided details of the funding round. A video was also created to provide assistance on how to complete the online application form along with helpful hints and tips and a business case template if need. The Guidance document was updated in line with the approved Statement of Intent and the online application form was updated. The new funding round was promoted via email communications and meetings with partners and social media posts were issued.
- 5.5 The Town and Parish Council monthly newsletter was utilised each month providing updates and details of timing.
- 5.6 For this interim round engagement was a key element as indicated above at para 5.2. Key to this included the Town and Parish Forum, one to one surgeries for those who wanted one and additional meetings/calls with partners.
- 5.7 With the Statement of Intent rightly necessitating an update of guidance and

application form, time was taken to review the assessment of applications. An indicative scoring system was created to provide an indication of whether the officer assessment and scoring aligned. The scoring considered:

- Ownership of the land / building
- Contingency funding
- The level of the growth in past and future 5 years
- Infrastructure category -critical, essential, desirable
- If noted in the Neighbourhood Plan as a priority
- Match funding from the Town/Parish Council
- CCC support (if transport)
- CIL ask as a percentage of total cost
- · Each of the elements of the Statement of Intent
- 5.8 This performed well as a guide and, whilst not considered an official element of the assessment, it helps to ensure applications are being considered in a consistent and fair and appropriate way. It was tested against past applications first to see how the scoring worked. All applications are considered by an officer in the Implementation team and then the assessment is reviewed by the Team Leader and discussed with the Head of Planning, Infrastructure and Public Protection.
- 5.9 Details of applications this round and last are shown below.

	Round Nov 23 – Jan 24	Round Nov 24 – Jan 25
Number of eligible applications received for Cabinet consideration	11	4
Number of applications approved/recommended for approval by Cabinet	2 (18%)	3 (75%)
Number of eligible applications received for consideration under delegated authority	7	6
Number of applications approved under delegated authority	1 (14%)	0 (0%)

- 5.10 The table above shows that whilst the number of applications this round has decreased, the level of recommended approvals has significantly increased suggesting the quality and type of the applications to be considered by Cabinet has improved as a result of the refocused engagement and collaboration programme working with the new Statement of Intent.
- 5.11 Overall in the previous round in 23/24 only 16% of applications were approved with those roughly split across the two funding categories. In addition, one of the applications was later withdrawn due to a risk on land ownership that was raised in the assessment. In the latest round 24/25 30% of applications have been approved or recommended for approval. Whilst this is still not high it is approximately double from the previous year. In addition, two of the applications to be considered in this report at 4.2 and 4.6 are resubmissions and, following support and engagement with the applicants, the information now submitted is now considered of the appropriate detail and quality to

recommend approval of CIL funding. In total £3,374,821.14 of CIL funding was requested through all the submitted applications, of which £2,560,000 has been recommended for approval.

- 5.12 It appears that further work is required with regards the applications for £100k and under. These applications tend to fall in the following categories:
  - Community building improvements
  - Play areas/refurbishments
  - Notice boards
  - Car parking
  - Traffic initiatives
- 5.13 These are usually not acceptable as not linked to growth/future growth; not considered strategic infrastructure need to support the Local Plan and associated Corporate Plan / Place Strategy objectives; looking to address existing deficiencies; required for elements that should be addressed via general maintenance or a replacement sinking fund; already considered as part of legal agreements associated with planned growth and general improvements for consideration by the Town/Parish Council using their CIL 'meaningful proportion' allocation, precept funding or other external funding opportunities.
- 5.14 Further clarity will look to be given in guidance as part of the next round and an Enquiry Application introduced to enable applicants to put project ideas forward that can be considered if suitable before a formal CIL application is submitted, where timing permits. In addition, a second surgery day will be provided to enable more engagement opportunities for applicants to enable the Implementation Team to provide support and guidance.
- 5.15 An engagement plan will be taken forward again for the next round to capture all of the above and other opportunities, including it is hoped a presence at the Town and Parish Forum in the coming months.

#### 6. COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

- 6.1 The Overview and Scrutiny (Performance and Growth) Panel discussed the report at its meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025.
- 6.2 Following a question from Councillor Chapman relating to the funding of the project in St Neots to improve walkways within Regatta Meadows and cycleways in the Riverside Park, the Panel heard that the project had been deemed complete in regards of the CIL funding as this part of the project had been fulfilled. It was noted that there may be other park improvements ongoing outside of the CIL funded project using other funding streams and that the team would feedback an update on this following the meeting.
- 6.3 Councillor Martin was pleased to see the Bury Guardroom project had been recommended for approval during the round and noted that the resulting economic development for the area would be good news. He also noted the good quality report and the application for the Sawtry swimming pool which provided a great opportunity to buck the national trend on closures of pools.
- 6.4 It was observed by Councillor Catmur, that none of the applications under £100,000 had been recommended for approval. The Panel heard that the team

works closely with parishes to assist in their application process and does this through a variety of channels to maximise engagement It was referenced the team work closely with the parishes and there is Town and Parish Forum coming up which will provide further opportunity for discussions. It was noted that the team were building on past successes and would be introducing an enquiry form for parishes to get initial feedback prior to application submission, this would be made live prior to the next funding round to provide further support and a second surgery would be held.

- 6.5 Councillor Pitt expressed his appreciation for the development of the reports over the past years, including the lessons learned from the past round, and the Panel were advised, following a question, that unsuccessful applicants did receive feedback on their applications directly from the team. In response to a further question from Councillor Pitt, the Panel heard that the report included part of the indicative scoring mechanism and that this could be developed for future reports. It was also noted that the report was presenting the technical and professional opinions in relation to the applications and that the Panel were not expected to debate the decisions themselves. It was agreed that the team would pick up Councillor Pitt's queries around the scoring mechanism outside of the meeting.
- 6.6 In response to an enquiry from Councillor Martin asking both the Executive and Officers to reflect on the new interim governance process, the Panel heard from the Executive Councillor, that in general the quality of applications submitted were excellent and that the process would be fine tuned prior to the next funding round which was anticipated later in the year. The Panel also heard that officers would look to develop the work engaging with parishes in supporting smaller applications and would look to continue the collaborative work already underway. It was noted that the governance had worked particularly well with the larger applications and that the key factor missing in the small projects was the link to growth.
- 6.7 Councillor Gleadow and Councillor Chapman questioned what risk management would be in place to manage the CIL process alongside Local Government Reform, following which, the Panel heard that the team were monitoring the risk and were continuing with business as usual until otherwise advised.
- 6.8 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.

#### 7. KEY IMPACTS / RISKS

7.1 The key impact from not considering the CIL spend will be the potential for certain infrastructure projects not being delivered and match funding lost.

## 8. WHAT ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN/TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- 8.1 Project bids submitted will be notified of the outcome of the decision made by Cabinet. Next steps as appropriate are noted below:
  - Notify applicants of outcome of Cabinet meeting and provide feedback.

- Prepare and initiate contracts for approved projects once any additional requirements have been met.
- Issue funds in accordance with agreed milestones set out in the contract.
- Commence quarterly monitoring of projects approved.
- Provide an update for members at next funding round.

## 9. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

(See Corporate Plan)

- 9.1 This helps to deliver across the Council's Corporate Plan priorities for 2023/24 specifically Creating a better Huntingdonshire for future generations by:
  - Improved housing 24. Maintain the level of new housing delivery, which meets the needs of Huntingdonshire residents, including the type of home and tenure (open market and social housing).
  - Forward-thinking economic growth 36. Influence delivery of infrastructure including East West Rail, A428, A141 Strategic Outline Business Case and future Transport Strategies.

#### **10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 Regulation 59 (1) of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) requires a charging authority to apply CIL to funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure to support the development of its area. It may also, under Regulation 59 (3), support infrastructure outside its area where to do so would support the development of its area.
- 10.2 Passing CIL to another person for that person to apply to funding the provision, improvement, replace, operation and maintenance of infrastructure is also permitted under Regulation 59 (4).
- 10.3 Section 216 (2) of the Planning Act 2008 as amended by Regulation 63 of the Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010 (as amended) stated that infrastructure 'includes [and is therefore not limited to]:
  - (a) roads and other transport facilities,
  - (b) flood defenses,
  - (c) schools and other educational facilities.
  - (d) medical facilities,
  - (e) sporting and recreational facilities,
  - (f) open spaces.'
- 10.4 The levy may not be used to fund affordable housing.

## 11. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 CIL money can only be spent to deliver infrastructure, in accordance with the

legal restrictions on the spending of CIL receipts.

- 10.2 Staff resource to administer and monitor the allocation of the CIL. This is funded, in part, by the administration costs permitted from the CIL receipts.
- 10.3 Staff resource from elsewhere in the Council will be used in preparing funding bids and implementing successful cases.

#### 12. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

- 12.1 The recommendations for individual funding awards for projects (as stated in section 4) have been considered in accordance with the Council's interim governance framework for CIL, as well as the wider legislative context as set out in the report. For each project award, or decline, a reason has been provided which would be communicated to the applicant.
- 12.2 An update on 'live projects' is provided at Appendix 1. A summary of each application request for £100,000.00 or less CIL funding is provided separately in Appendix 2 which has been approved in line with delegated authority these are for information only.

#### LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 – Update on 'live' Projects previously approved CIL funding todate.

Appendix 2 - Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Project Bids submitted for consideration in 2024/25 round for £100,000.00 or less – Decisions.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Section 216 of Planning Act 2008

Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Delivery Plan

http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2694/infrastructure-delivery-plan.pdf
Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Delivery Plan – Infrastructure Schedule

http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2693/infrastructure-schedule.pdf

Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Delivery Plan Addendum

http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2861/infrastructure-delivery-planaddendum.pdf

Community Infrastructure Levy Governance Review June 2024

https://democracy.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s134148/7.% 20Community%20Infrastructure%20Levy%20Governance%20Review%20Report.pdf

Community Infrastructure Levy Governance Review June 2024 Appendix 1 <a href="https://democracy.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s134149/7.%/">https://democracy.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s134149/7.%//
20Community%20Infrastructure%20Levy%20Governance%20Review%20Appendix%201.pdf</a>

Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Funding Statement 2023/4

https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/q1gejgem/infrastructure-funding-statement-2023-2024.pdf

## **CONTACT OFFICER**

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APPENDIX 1 - Update on 'live' Projects previously approved to-date.

Project Name	Description	Project cost at allocation	CIL funding offered	Update
St Ives Park Extension  Approved by Cabinet - 18th July 2019	The provision of Benches/Interpretation and a feasibility study on the commercial opportunities through the park when fully available plus first year's maintenance due to early release	£80,000.00	£80,000.00	COMPLETED
Improvements to path/cycle route at Riverside Park, St Neots Approved by Cabinet - 18th July 2019	Improvements to the path and cycle route at Riverside Park, originated from a pedestrian audit.	£600,000.00	£445,000.00	COMPLETED
Alconbury Weald SEND school to serve Huntingdonshire, located at Alconbury Weald  Approved by Cabinet – 11th February 2020 and confirmed 18th November 2021	Alconbury Weald Special school	£20,000,000.00	£4,000,000.00	COMPLETED
Hinchingbrooke Hospital Approved at Cabinet 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	Redevelopment Phase 2 – Main Theatres	£25,506,600.00	£271,000.00	COMPLETED

Project Name	Description	Project cost at allocation	CIL funding offered	Update
Sawtry Village Academy	New community 3G Artificial Grass Pitch	£775,000.00	£150,000.00	COMPLETED
Approved at Cabinet 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2022				
Ramsey Pavilion  Agreed by delegation 21st July 2022	To fund remaining infrastructure including the car park and access.	£585,000.00	£33,000.00	COMPLETED
Sawtry Pavilion Works  Approved at Cabinet 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	The development of the Greenfield sports pavilion at Sawtry, extending the social area including installing a new kitchen, installing economy 7 storage heating throughout the building as currently no heating and renovating the 3 changing rooms.	£330,000.00	£66,000.00	COMPLETED
Warboys Village Hall  Approved by Cabinet - 18th July 2019	Funding towards a new facility	£1,000,000.00 at allocation 2019  Updated 2024 to now £1,600,000.00	£200,000.00	Works have started and the building is watertight. Build in on track to complete by 31st December 2025.

Project Name	Description	Project cost at allocation	CIL funding offered	Update
Fenstanton Village Hall  Approved by Cabinet - 16th July 2020	Funding towards a new village hall in Fenstanton	£880,000.00	£75,000.00	Land acquired and works have started. Project due to complete by January 2026.
B1040 Wheatsheaf Road/Somersham Road Accident Reduction Scheme Approved by Cabinet - 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Junction safety improvements	£1,200,000.00	£500,000.00	There is a continued delay to the land purchase. Until the land has been purchased by CCC, as the Highway Authority, the work to divert utilities for construction of the new junction cannot happen. Officers continue working with legal teams and land agents to seek to complete the purchase at the earliest opportunity. CCC are looking at a speed reduction scheme to be implemented ahead of the main works with a new 50mph speed limit introduced. The dates for this are to be confirmed.
Ramsey Skate Park	A plaza style concrete skate park, enabling	£130,000.00	£50,000.00	Due to delays with construction, it has been
Delegated Approval 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2021	inclusive and disabled sports access.			agreed by the Town Council that siting the skate park be moved onto QEII Playing Field, off Mill Lane, Ramsey PE26 1EF.

Project Name	Description	Project cost at allocation	CIL funding offered	Update
St Neots Future High Street Fund	A comprehensive programme of schemes designed to enable the redevelopment of several strategically chosen areas of St Neots town centre and bring change to strengthen the economy of St Neots, attracting visitors, residents and businesses, while retaining the features that make it a strong and vibrant market town	£15,422,033.00 (funding envelope as project details developed)	£4,830,000.00	The updated position in relation to the Future High Street Fund is set out in the Market Towns Programme  https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/people-communities/market-towns-programme/investment-in-st-neots/latest-updates/
Hinchingbrooke Country Park Improvement Project  Approved at Cabinet 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	Part of larger project, the bid seeks funding for: •Pathway improvements and associated lighting and signage. • Upgrading existing car park. • 5 new play zones Associated management costs	£2,995,184.00	£1,495,184.00	Project team to submit a planning application in Spring 2025, following extensive Ecological assessments and liaison with experts to ensure that the scheme provides an improvement to biodiversity across the whole park and providing an expansion of facilities for visitors
Glatton Village Hall  Agreed by delegation 3rd October 2022	Replacement of an asbestos roof for the Glatton Village Hall.	£64,750.00	£49,750.00	National Lottery funding secured and works have started
Alconbury Weald Health Facility  Approved at	New primary health care facility at Alconbury Weald.	£7,888,400.00	£6,013,388.00	A Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) has been appointed to lead on the delivery of the project,

Project Name	Description	Project cost at allocation	CIL funding offered	Update
Cabinet 18 <sup>th</sup> October 2022				who has been working on a project timeline The new facility is expected to be delivered in 2030 - subject to 3rd party housing and infrastructure delivery.
Godmanchester Astro turf football pitch  Approved at Cabinet 18 <sup>th</sup>	Installation of a full-sized football pitch all weather (Astro turf) football pitch	£800,000.00	£150,000.00	S106 funds have been received.
October 2022				
Somersham Car Park Extension Approved by delegation 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Community car park extension	£20,480.90	£15,480.90	The PC's architect is waiting for a traffic survey to come back as part of the resubmitted planning application. They hope to submit the application soon.
Monks Wood Police Training Site Approved at Cabinet 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	New facility to meet the statutory requirements to train police across Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire.	£12,300,900.00	£641,492.00	The project is still on target for a start on site in Spring 2025 with the completion August 2026.
St Neots (Longsands) Computer Suite  Approved at Cabinet 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Dedicated Computer Science suite through refurbishment of existing building	£650,104.00	£325,052.00	Match funding not in place, the Academy has been contacted to provide further update. A response is awaited.
Community Centre Extension, Ramsey  Approved at Cabinet 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Extend and re-configure the layout of the Ramsey Community Centre including a commercial sized kitchen. The re-	£260,000.00	£100,000.00	Works have started and are on track to complete imminently.

Project Name	Description	Project cost at allocation	CIL funding offered	Update
	configuration from one to three rooms will allow more groups access to an oversubscribed building.			

Non-Parished area new projects							
Project	Non-Parished area	Non-Parished CIL allocated	Expected completion date				
Solar power upgrade to MVAS unit	Winwick	£570.00	COMPLETED				

For more information on CIL in Non-Parished Areas please see <a href="https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/planning/community-infrastructure-levy-cil/cil-funding/guidance-on-allocation-and-spending/">https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/planning/community-infrastructure-levy-cil/cil-funding/guidance-on-allocation-and-spending/</a>

# APPENDIX 2 - Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Project Bids submitted for consideration in Funding Round 2024/25 for £100,000.00 or less – Decisions.

Further detail on the reason for decline has been provided to the applicants.

Project proposed	Location	CIL funding requested	Total project cost without VAT	CIL as a % of total EXCL VAT	Score	Decision
Car park works	Great Gransden	£37,565.00	£77,565.00	48%	28	Declined – The project has localised benefits which do not match the aims in the statement of intent. There has been some growth locally. The rest of the principles of the statement of intent do not fit with this project.
Pavillion renovation	Hilton	£87,590.34	£99,603.21	88%	18	Declined - This project does not meet the statement of Intent and does not fit the Strategic need for CIL.
33 Solar streetlights	Little Paxton	£56,650.39	£112,737.39	50%	28	Declined - In summary there are clear environmental and community benefits to having solar/replacement lighting but given the local nature of the project and lack of links to growth this is not a suitable strategic project.
Zip wire & Kick wall	Sawtry	£23,575.00	£26,195.00	90%	28	Declined - In summary this is a local project and does not align with the Statement of Intent or the aims of Strategic CIL.
Wet pour in playground	Spaldwick	£7,092.00	£7,092.00	100%	14	Declined - The project does not meet the statement of Intent and does not fit the Strategic need for CIL.
Zebra Crossing Landsdowne Road	Yaxley	£48,000.00	£48,000.00	100%	13	Declined - The project does not meet the statement of Intent and does not fit the Strategic need for CIL.