
Title: Central Bedfordshire Local Transport Plan
Date: 12th October 2018
Subject: Request for schemes - LTP Integrated Programme 2019/20 (Rural Match Funding).

Summary: Town and parish councils are invited to submit two small-scale highways improvement proposals for consideration by CBC.

Each proposal will be reviewed and ranked by CBC. The highest scoring proposals will be included for design within the 2019-20 Integrated Schemes Programme of Works.

For this year, CBC is not requesting a parish contribution towards the cost of designing locally-promoted schemes. However, CBC will require a matching contribution towards a scheme's construction cost. Available S106 monies will count as a local contribution.

Once a scheme has been designed and costed, it may be 'banked' and referenced in future S106 negotiations, as opportunities arise.

Funding for the design of schemes will draw on the monies allocated within the Highways Programme for Rural Match Funded schemes.

CBC may decide to fund a parish-promoted scheme in full where there is a clear justification, such as on road safety grounds.

Overview	
1.	<p>This note forms a guide to Town and Parish Councils seeking to secure funding from Central Bedfordshire Council for small-scale highway improvement schemes.</p> <p>Completed application forms should be returned to Central Bedfordshire Council by Thursday 31st January 2019.</p>
What is the Local Transport Plan?	
2.	<p>The Local Transport Plan (LTP) sets out a long-term framework for investment in transport across Central Bedfordshire. It establishes a strategic approach through which to deal with key transport issues, a series of objectives, and broad areas of intervention through which schemes will be identified and improvements made to the transport network.</p>
What is the “Rural Match Fund”?	
3.	<p>The Rural Match Fund is a mechanism through which local Town and Parish Councils can request improvements to the highway in their area.</p>
4.	<p>Towns and Parishes may submit up to two scheme requests. For the 2019-20 round, there is no requirement for a contribution towards the scheme design cost.</p>
5.	<p>All schemes requests will be assessed on a matrix scoring-based approach, taking into account available evidence on traffic speeds, flows and collisions.</p>
6.	<p>Requests for changes related to parking matters <u>will not</u> be considered as a separate process is in place for this (ref: http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/transport/request/parking-restriction.aspx).</p>
What are the benefits of the fund?	
5.	<p>The ring-fenced funding for small improvement schemes operated by Central Bedfordshire Council benefits town and parish councils by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offering the opportunity to secure funding for local schemes that may not otherwise have been prioritised • Bringing local concerns and priorities to the attention of Central Bedfordshire Council.

How much is in the fund?	
6.	<p>The Rural Match Fund forms a significant percentage of Central Bedfordshire Council's allocation of the Integrated Transport Budget for the 2019/20 financial year. This is the budget which underpins the Local Transport Plan of which circa £200,000 is being made available to match fund local schemes¹.</p> <p>A small-scale scheme would involve a spend of no more than £25,000.</p>
How does the scheme work?	
7.	<p>Schemes are typically designed in one year and constructed in the subsequent year. The £200,000 budget in any one year includes both the cost of schemes in design and those in construction. Typically, 10-15 new schemes can be accommodated in any one year.</p>
8.	<p>We ask towns and parishes to state the issue they wish to address (e.g. excessive speeds) rather than specifying a solution (e.g. speed activated electronic sign) as the appropriate design solution will be determined by the consulting engineer.</p>
How will schemes be assessed and prioritised?	
9.	<p>Requests will be assessed in respect of policy compliance, deliverability and value for money. All evidence provided by the parish will also be taken into consideration. Those projects which most clearly demonstrate a local need will be prioritised.</p>
9.	<p>All scheme requests will be recorded on a long list in ranking order, to be reviewed in subsequent years.</p>
10.	<p>It is possible for a town or parish to be successful with both of their requests.</p>
How much do different schemes cost?	
11.	<p>It is not possible to give precise costs of individual schemes prior to their design.</p>
Which authorities can submit a request?	
12.	<p>The match funding programme is open to all towns and parishes though priority will be given to rural areas. This is because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of Local Transport Plan funding flows to urban areas. • The small-scale nature of requirements in rural areas often means the schemes do not score highly through existing scheme prioritisation processes and so are unlikely to secure funding through the typical

¹ Subject to member approval at Executive Committee

	mainstream allocations.
Closing date for applications	
13.	The authority will welcome requests from town and parishes up until 31st January 2019. Requests should be made using the application form available in <i>Appendix B</i> and emailed to: HighwayImprovementSchemes@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
Is there assistance to help authorities understand what schemes are likely to be successful?	
14.	Advice will be provided to town and parish councils on request and prior to submitting a request.
Notification of Successful Requests	
15.	Every town or parish council will be notified of the outcome of their application by May 2019. The decision of Central Bedfordshire Council will be final.

LTP Rural Match Fund & Guidelines, 2018/19
Appendix A: Integrated Transport Team – Contact Details

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Charlotte Dunham

Senior Highways Officer
Integrated Transport Team
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Central Bedfordshire Council

Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, Bedfordshire, SG17 5TQ

Council:	Insert name of town or parish
Scheme location:	Insert location of scheme proposals
Priority 1:	Describe the issue that requires addressing <i>e.g. excessive vehicle speeds on the stretch of xxxxx Road between xxxxx and xxxxx ,difficulties crossing the Road a xxxx location, poor visibility for drivers when entering xxxx Road from xxxxx road.</i>
Priority 2:	Describe the issue that requires addressing .
Supporting statement	In 300 words, explain why you feel addressing the above issues is important
Contact:	Insert name Email address Contact phone number