

Partnership Committee

Date: 12 December 2013

Title: TOWN CENTRE DELIVERY PLAN

Purpose of the Report: To agree sources of funding for the projects outlined in the Town Centre Delivery Plan

Contact Officer: Jo Martindale, Partnership Officer

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 To agree sources of funding for the projects outlined in the Town Centre Delivery Plan (agenda item 7a) as outlined below:

	Project	Budget Code	Amount	Comments
1	High Street Environmental Improvements	965-9027 (ERM – Town Centre Mgmt)	£15,000	
2	Signage: brown tourist information signs	965-9018 (ERM – Economic Development)	Up to £10,000	Traffic management costs to be finalised
3	Town Centre Lighting	503-4505 (TCM – Street Lighting) + 965-9027 (ERM – Town Centre Mgmt)	£6,000 + £4,000	Project costs to be confirmed depending on scale
4	Mews & Alleys Environmental Improvements	965-9018 (ERM – Economic Development)	Up to £20,000	From 2012-13 unspent Ec Dev budget – previously agreed with CBC that this could be spent on signage projects incl. Mews (permission may need to be sought from CBC for any change)

2. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the meeting held on 8 August 2013, the Partnership Committee agreed that a Town Centre Delivery Plan should be created, based on four key deliverable projects (see agenda item 7a).
- 2.2 It was proposed that this would be a “working document” and that projects would be updated on a regular basis to ensure progress.
- 2.3 A summary of work to date was presented to the Committee on 31 October 2013, with a final plan presented on 12 December 2013.
- 2.4 The report details four initial projects with estimated costs of £55,000.

3. BUDGET SOURCES

- 3.1 The Delivery Plan outlines costs for each project as follows:
 - a) High Street Environmental improvements £15,000
 - b) Signage – brown tourist information signs £10,000
 - c) Alleyways and Mews Environmental improvements £20,000
 - d) Town Centre lighting £10,000
- 3.2 **Signage:** currently £29,451 is available in Earmarked Reserves – Economic Development (965-9018) for signage projects. These are unspent monies from the 2012-2013 Economic Development budget, which Central Bedfordshire Council agreed could be earmarked for signage projects.
- 3.3 **Town Centre lighting:** it is suggested that £6,000 be funded from the 2013-2014 budget (Town Centre Management – Street Furniture 503-4505) and the remaining £4,000 be funded from Earmarked Reserves – Town Centre Management (965-9027)
- 3.4 **High Street Environmental Improvements:** it is suggested that £15,000 be funded from Earmarked Reserves – Town Centre Management (965-9027)
- 3.5 The funds currently available in this earmarked reserve total £25,839. It is suggested that in addition to the £19,000 detailed in 3.3 and 3.4, the £5,000 cost for the Parking Review be taken from these funds.
- 3.6 **Alleyways and Mews:** it is suggested that the Committee considers use of the £19,451 remaining in Earmarked Reserves – Economic Development. It was previously agreed with Central Bedfordshire Council that these funds be used towards Signage projects including improvements to signage in the Mews and Alleyways. Consent may need to be sought from the Town Council and CBC for any change in use of these earmarked reserves.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to consider sources of funding for each element of the Delivery Plan, as specified in points 3.2-3.6 inclusive.**

Report Author:
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