

Community Council Briefing Note – January 2018

The Cabinet approved on 17 March 2015 the adoption in April 2015 of the Section 106 Planning Obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

Under the Localism Act the council were obliged to identify a “meaningful proportion” of Southwark CIL that will be spent in the local area to ensure that people affected by development see some of the benefit. At cabinet it was agreed that Southwark would aim to spend at least 25% in all areas of the borough. The funds would be allocated to projects on the Community Infrastructure Project Lists (CIPL) which would be updated annually with the community councils to ensure it reflects local needs.

The SPD explains that the CIPLs have been developed as a mechanism by which local communities will inform priorities for spending the local CIL. The project ideas suggested by the local community are approved by the relevant community council. Inclusion will require that projects are publically accessible, physical infrastructure in the locality supporting growth.

Depending on the location of the development, the council will use the following sequence of areas to identify relevant projects:

- Areas with an adopted neighbourhood plan
- Opportunity areas
- Action areas
- SPD areas (other than individual sites/buildings)
- Community council areas (for those areas not covered by the above)

The SPD explains that if an area has a neighbourhood plan, the local CIL funds from a development will be invested within the boundary of the plan area and formally approved by the local community council.

Community Infrastructure Project Lists

CIPL is a list of ideas generated by the community for publically accessible physical improvements that could be funded local Southwark Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The projects are approved to be included on the CIPL by councillors at the relevant community council.

The list of community infrastructure projects is updated yearly and ideas can be submitted at anytime. To submit any ideas for the local community infrastructure projects please email planning.cil@southwark.gov.uk.

Who can suggest projects

- Anyone who lives; works or studies in Southwark.
- local groups - for example: tenants and residents groups, youth groups, faith groups, community groups or sports clubs

Once funding for a suitable local development is secured an officer will develop and manage the project in consultation with the applicant and the local community. Ideas on the list will not automatically receive funding and are dependent on funding from new developments.

Decisions being requested by the community council

There are two decisions being requested of the community councils.

- The first is that the current CIPL is reviewed to ensure that all the projects are still required and that the new projects suggested in the last year be added to the list.
- That a number of projects are prioritised by the community council in order for officers to take forward a report to cabinet for approval.

Proposed Delivery

The project delivery mechanism would be identified when the funding is allocated. It is proposed in order to avoid duplication of resources that the council's Regeneration and CGS teams are used as:

- The teams already have the necessary management and monitoring systems in place;
- The teams have a proven track record of working with the community councils and local communities and;
- In the case of the CGS teams, they have since 2003, successfully delivered a capital programme of over £30,393,000 which has led to the implementation of about 1600 projects.