

SOUTH ESSEX PARKING PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 31 AUGUST 2023

AGENDA ITEM 13

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| Subject | Basildon proposal for the allocation of the agreed share of operational fund |
| Report by | Nick Binder, South Essex Parking Partnership Manager |

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Purpose

- This report provides the Joint Committee with the proposal from Basildon Borough Council on how they intend to use the agreed £186,000 allocation from the SEPP (South Essex Parking Partnership) operational fund in accordance with Section 55 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (RTRA 1984).
- The Full £186,000 has been allocated over 3 projects.

Options

The Joint Committee can approve, amend, or reject the proposal

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that the Joint Committee;

- Agree that the proposed schemes totalling £186,000 are in accordance with Section 55 of the RTRA 1984 and;

Authorise the South Essex Parking Partnership Manager to release these funds to Basildon Borough Council from the SEPP parking account.

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| Consultees | Lead Officers from each of the Partner Authorities as set out in Appendix B of the Joint Committee Agreement 2022. |
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 At its meeting on 28 July 2022 the Joint Committee was presented with a report with a recommendation that the Joint Committee approves the allocation of £1,302,000 from the operational fund between the seven Partnership authorities for schemes and projects which are in accordance with Section 55 of the RTRA 1984.

The Joint Committee agreed to equally share the £1,302,000 surplus (the amount remaining at the end of the previous Joint Committee Agreement) between the seven Partner Authorities (£186,000 each). It was also agreed that the funding will be released to the Partnership Authorities subject to the following criteria:

- Each partner authority will need to present a report for approval by the Joint Committee providing details of the proposed scheme(s) which will demonstrate that the funding will be fully used as per the requirements of Section 55 of the RTRA 1984.

This report provides the Joint Committee with information for the Basildon Borough Council proposals.

2 **Basildon Borough Council proposals**

2.1 **First Project – Car Park Improvements**

Summary:

To improve the car parking machines across all Council owned and operated car parks, this project will include replacing the current car parking machines with more modern, reliable ones and improve signage and accessibility to the car parks. £81,000 is requested for these works.

Reason:

Current machines are often damaged and there have been several attempted or successful acts of vandalism in recent years. It is proposed that these are upgraded and replaced. Additionally, it is proposed that the signage and accessibility to each of the Council's car parks is reviewed and improved to ensure that the locations remain up to date.

Proposed:

Purchase and installation of replacement car park machines

Review and refresh of all signage within Council car parks

Review and improvement of all access points and supporting infrastructure to ensure car parks are accessible to all car park users, including wheelchair and pram users, and that all access walkways are safe to pedestrians.

Costs:

| | £ | £ |
|--|--------|---------------|
| Purchase and installation of new car park machines | 50,000 | |
| Review/Improve Signage within car parks | 15,000 | |
| Review/Improve accessibility within car parks | 16,000 | |
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| Total | | 81,000 |

2.2

Second Project – Trial of Formalising/Restricting Informal Parking Areas

Summary:

Undertake works to create formal parking where appropriate and informal parking is currently taking place within residential areas and to restrict formal parking where informal parking is currently taking place.

This is likely to result in the creation of additional, on-street car parking in trial areas and the installation of measures to restrict parking and reinstate surfaces where parking is not appropriate. £55,000 is requested for these works.

Reason:

Nuisance and anti-social behaviour has been an area of concern across Basildon in previous years. A nuisance parking strategy was commissioned within Basildon which highlighted the impact that additional informal parking can have on the Borough. This includes accessibility issues, difficulties in landscape maintenance and impact on highways infrastructure.

Proposed:

It is proposed that there are key sites identified against which parking can be formalised or restricted as appropriate, subject to reference to the Council's Nuisance Parking Plan and engagement with key landowners.

Costs:

| | £ |
|--|---------------|
| Formalising/Restricting Informal Parking Areas | 55,000 |
| Total | 55,000 |

2.3

Third Project – Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

Summary:

Implement additional Electric Vehicle charge points in car parks across the borough, at a rate proportionate to demand identified through regular parking surveys and stakeholder consultation. £50,000 is identified for this project.

Reason:

In order to improve the availability of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, it is proposed that additional electric vehicle charging infrastructure is explored and installed across the Council's car parks and within Council owned land.

This will help meet the Borough's ambitions of reaching Carbon net zero by 2050.

Proposed:

A survey will be undertaken and appropriate locations will be identified to ensure adequate provision of Electric Charging infrastructure at key locations within the Borough.

Costs:

| | £ |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Planning | 5,000 |
| Purchase and installation | 45,000 |
| Total | 50,000 |

3 How these proposals meet the requirements of the RTRA 1984 (s55)

The above proposals meet the criteria of subsection 4 (b) meeting all or part of the cost of the provision and maintenance by the local authority of off-street parking accommodation whether in the open or under cover.

- 4 If the Joint Committee approve these schemes totalling £186,000, Basildon Borough Council will have no monies remaining from their allocation.

Conclusion

Basildon Borough Council has provided a list of proposed schemes which meet the criteria of Section 55 of the RTRA 1984 to be approved by the Joint Committee.

It is recommended that the Joint Committee:

- Agree that the proposed schemes totalling £186,000 are in accordance with Section 55 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1985 and.

Authorise the South Essex Parking Partnership Manager to release these funds to Basildon Borough Council from the SEPP parking account.

Appendices

None

Background Papers

The South Essex Parking Partnership Joint Committee Agreement 2011.
The South Essex Parking Partnership Joint Committee Agreement 2022.