

**Environment Committee, item 7**

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Environment Committee</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>14 March 2006</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>LOCALLY DETERMINED BUDGET PROGRAMME 2005/06 TO 2008/09</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Essex County Council Highway and Transportation Area Manager – Paul Hardy (01279 642500</b>	Item for decision

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## Summary

- 1 This report is to seek approval for the schemes to be investigated and implemented as part of the Locally Determined Programme for 2008/09 and to inform members of progress on the schemes in the 2005/06 programme.

## Background

- 2 In the past at various meetings the members of Uttlesford District Council have discussed and approved a number of issues and processes relating to the Locally Determined Programme. These include:
  - a) A 3-year rolling programme will be developed and prepared and that an additional year will be added annually as approved by the relevant committee.
  - b) The schemes in the proposed additional year will be taken from the reserve list that will be scored, using the agreed formulae, and prioritised annually and will include all new requests.
  - c) That the Area Manager be able to make minor changes to the programme by bringing forward and putting back schemes only when problems arise which preclude a scheme from being completed in a particular year.
  - d) That the Area Manager be asked to write to all Parish Councils to inform them of the position of all their requests and the likely period of time before schemes on the reserve list will be funded.

Members were made aware of the process and the detail of the method used to prioritise the proposals in the report prepared by the Area Manager and sent to all members in March 2002.

## Finance

- 3 The budget allocation for 2005/06 was £220,000. The progress and position of schemes in the 2005/06 programme is shown at appendix 1.

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- 4 The allocation for the Locally Determined Budget will remain the same for the 2006/07 financial year.
- 5 It has been presumed that there is likely to be a similar amount available in subsequent years and the programme has been developed on this basis. In addition and where possible the budget element splits as previously agreed have also been used.

**Programme Assessment**

- 6 The approved method of ranking the schemes to give some priority within the budget available has been used to generate the proposed additional year of the programme for 2008/09. This ranking method is used to help Members agree the programme. They can of course change the proposal but for every scheme that they move or add then schemes of a corresponding estimated cost will also need to be moved or deleted.
- 7 The footway element of the programme is often delayed if there are land acquisition issues to resolve and the programme may need to change and be re-assessed once the process commences.
- 8 The approved programmes for 2005/06, 2006/07 and 2007/08 and the proposed programme for 2008/09 are shown at appendix 2. The list of outstanding scheme requests awaiting programming is also shown as part of appendix 2.

Members will note that the schemes shown at appendix 2 are annotated with a "C" or "L". This denotes whether the scheme is on a County or Local route as shown on the route hierarchy as agreed as part of the discussions associated with the Local Service Agreement. For the purpose of preparing this programme the hierarchy has not influenced the relative priority of the schemes. However, those schemes shown as being "Local" will be added to the programme if approved by this committee. Those schemes shown as "County" will need the additional approval of the relevant Cabinet Member at the County Council. All schemes will additionally require the agreement of the local County Member before funds are allocated.

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**Recommendations**

- 1 That the proposed schemes on the Local highway network in the additional years programme for 2008/09 be approved and that the Area Manager be asked to add them to the overall programme.
- 2 That the proposed schemes on the County highway network in the additional years programme for 2008/09 be agreed and that the Area Manager be asked to recommend approval to the County Council Cabinet Member.