

**SOUTH EAST ENGLAND  
REGIONAL TRANSPORT BOARD**

Date: 16 May 2008

Subject: **Community Infrastructure Fund - Round 2**

Report of: Director of Development  
South East England Regional Assembly

**Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the Board advise the Department for Transport and Communities and Local Government as follows:

- i) the schemes listed in Annex 1 are supported by the Board as priorities for receiving funding from the Community Infrastructure Fund in the period 2008/09 – 2010/11;
- ii) the schemes listed in Annex 2 should be considered as part of any future round of Community Infrastructure Fund;
- iii) the schemes listed in Annex 3 are currently not ready/eligible for consideration for funding from the Community Infrastructure Fund

**Purpose of Report:**

To seek a regional view on the schemes put forward for consideration for funding from the Community Infrastructure Fund in the period 2008/09 – 2010/11.

**Key Issues:**

The 2007 Housing Green Paper set out a programme of transport investment worth £300m nationally to support delivery of growth. This funding is to be delivered through a second round of the Community Infrastructure Fund.

In October 2007 this Board provided advice to the Government on the priority projects in the Thames Gateway for funding through CIF. The Board was thus able to secure £33.5m out of a total of £100m of CIF funding allocated to the Gateway. The current funding round seeks to allocate the remaining £200m. Proposals for funding have now been invited from Growth Areas (excluding the Thames Gateway), New Growth Points and, potentially, eco towns. As before the allocation of funds is subject to regional advice and this Board has been asked to provide that advice.

A list of 14 schemes has been identified as priorities for consideration. This list has been derived having considered the bids submitted, their contribution towards delivery of the regional policy framework set out in the South East Plan and the RES, and their ability to be delivered by the end of 2010/11.

## **1. Context**

- 1.1 The Community Infrastructure Fund (CIF) supports delivery of planned growth in existing national Growth Areas, New Growth Points and, potentially, eco-towns. It complements existing mainstream transport funding to enable early delivery of housing in particular. The 2007 Housing Green Paper identified £300m of funding for CIF for the period 2008/09 to 2010/11. A key focus for this funding is the delivery of transport infrastructure that will unlock planned growth, and in particular the delivery of housing.

## **2. Expressions of Interest**

- 2.1 On 5 March 2008 the Government (through the DfT and CLG) invited 'Expressions of Interest' to be submitted in respect of the remaining £200m of unallocated CIF for the period to 2010/11. Projects in the Thames Gateway were specifically excluded from submitting further schemes for consideration.
- 2.2 In all, 27 "Expressions of Interest" have been submitted. These cover schemes in the two remaining Growth Areas in the South East (Ashford and the Milton Keynes South Midlands Growth Areas) and a number of the region's New Growth Points (South Hampshire, Reigate and Banstead, Oxford, Didcot and Reading). No schemes have been submitted in relation to the three potential eco-town proposals in the region.
- 2.3 The Government is seeking a regional view on the submissions as part of its decision making process. In keeping with the previous round of CIF the Regional Assembly and SEEDA are looking to this Board to provide that regional view.

## **3. Identifying Regional Priorities**

- 3.1 Deliverability of proposed schemes is the key consideration in assessing the merits of the proposals put forward given the requirement to have schemes delivered by the end of 2010/11. However, there are also other factors that need to be taken into account for this process.
- 3.2 The first factor to be taken into account is the Board's previous advice to Government on regional priorities. Two of the 27 projects that have been submitted, namely the Milton Keynes Busway, and the Bletchley Area Public Transport Improvements in Milton Keynes have already secured the support of the Board as part of its work on the RFA. Indeed both schemes were recommended at that stage as suitable for CIF funding; both schemes are therefore included in the list of priority schemes set out in Annex I.
- 3.3 A second factor to be taken into account is the advice of the Milton Keynes South Midlands Strategic Transport Board (MKSM STB). The Board has undertaken a review of all the bids submitted in the Growth Area as a result of which it has categorised schemes as being either "gold", "silver" or "bronze". This categorisation is indicative of the relative priority ascribed to each scheme. In identifying an overall

regional perspective it has been possible to include all of the 'gold' schemes within the list of priority schemes set out in Annex 1.

- 3.4 Our analysis of the deliverability and policy compatibility of the 27 projects that have been submitted for consideration has resulted in the identification of three groupings:
- a) schemes that should be supported as priorities for receiving funding from the Community Infrastructure Fund in the period 2008/09 to 2010/11 (Annex 1);
  - b) schemes that should be considered as part of any future round of Community Infrastructure Fund (Annex 2); and
  - c) schemes that are currently not ready/eligible for funding from the Community Infrastructure Fund (Annex 3).

**Martin Tugwell**  
**Director of Development**  
6 May 2008

Contact: Andy Mak, Planning Manager  
T: 01483 555215 E: [andymak@southeast-ra.gov.uk](mailto:andymak@southeast-ra.gov.uk)

## Annex I

**Recommendation: The following schemes are supported by the Regional Transport Board as priorities for receiving funding from the Community Infrastructure Fund in the period 2008/09 – 2010/11**

Scheme	CIF Bid (£m)	Comments
<b>Ashford (Growth Area)</b>		
Victoria Way	£16.460	
<b>Aylesbury Vale (Growth Area)</b>		
Aston Clinton Road Primary Public Transport Corridor, Park and Ride and Broughton Bridge Signals	£2.950	Identified by Milton Keynes South Midlands Transport Board as a 'gold list' scheme
A41 Bicester Road Primary Public Transport Corridor	£4.581	Identified by Milton Keynes South Midlands Transport Board as a 'gold list' scheme
Urban Traffic Management and Control System for Aylesbury	£4.177	Identified by Milton Keynes South Midlands Transport Board as a 'gold list' scheme
<b>Didcot (New Growth Point)</b>		
Didcot Bus Priority A4130 Great Western Park to Town Centre	£5.880	
<b>Milton Keynes (Growth Area)</b>		
Milton Keynes Busway	£5.300	Identified by Milton Keynes South Midlands Transport Board as a 'gold list' scheme
Bletchley Area Public Transport Access Improvements	£7.000	Identified by Milton Keynes South Midlands Transport Board as a 'gold list' scheme
A422 Corridor Improvements	£5.000	Identified by Milton Keynes South Midlands Transport Board as a 'gold list' scheme
A4146 to VII Corridor Improvements	£2.000	Identified by Milton Keynes South Midlands Transport Board as a 'gold list' scheme
<b>Oxford (New Growth Point)</b>		
Oxford to Aylesbury Express Bus Route	£0.955	Also provides linkage with Aylesbury Vale Growth Area
Oxford West End: Network Management and Frideswide	£8.000	

Square Improvements		
<b>South Hampshire (New Growth Point)</b>		
New Junction on M275 to support regeneration of Tipner	£35.000	
Bus Rapid Transit – South Hampshire Harbour Link	£20.000	
<b>Reading (New Growth Point)</b>		
Reading Station interchange	£4.250	
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>£121.553</b>	

## Annex 2

**Recommendation: The following schemes should be considered as part of any future round of Community Infrastructure Fund post 2010/11**

Scheme	CIF Bid (£m)	Comments
<b>Aylesbury Vale (Growth Area)</b>		
Stoke Road Bridge and Gyratory Improvements	£5.060	Identified by Milton Keynes South Midlands Transport Board as a 'silver list' scheme
Grand Union Towpath Walking and Cycling Improvements	£1.146	Identified by Milton Keynes South Midlands Transport Board as a 'silver list' scheme
<b>Didcot (New Growth Point)</b>		
Didcot Parkway Interchange Pedestrian Link	£1.681	
<b>Milton Keynes (Growth Area)</b>		
Milton Keynes Cycle Strategic Route Improvements	£3.500	Identified by Milton Keynes South Midlands Transport Board as a 'silver list' scheme
Milton Keynes Access for All Waterside Canalway	£8.000	Identified by Milton Keynes South Midlands Transport Board as a 'bronze list' scheme
<b>Oxford (New Growth Point)</b>		
Oxpens to Osney Mead Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge	£2.500	
<b>Reading (New Growth Point)</b>		
Gas Works Road Bridge (Kenavon Drive Redevelopment)	£2.100	
Pedestrian/Cycle Bridge, River Thames	£2.750	
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>£26.737</b>	

## Annex 3

**Recommendation: The following schemes are currently not ready/eligible for consideration for funding from the Community Infrastructure Fund**

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>CIF Bid (£m)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Reigate and Banstead: Package 1: Sustainable Regeneration – Accessibility and Quality Public Realm Package 2: A23 decongestion: north extension	£7.550	Project needs further development; funds already identified through the Regional Funding Allocation to support Redhill/Reigate role as a regional hub.
High Wycombe Coachway	£24.000	Identified by Milton Keynes South Midlands Transport Board as a 'bronze list' scheme. Scheme is already identified through the Regional Funding Allocation as a regional priority with funds to deliver.
Reading: Bus Rapid Transit	£44.900	Project currently not sufficiently well developed to be deliverable within the timescale of current round of CIF.
Milton Keynes: Milton Keynes Multi Modal Transport Model Upgrade	£0.558	Project is not within the scope of CIF
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>£77.008</b>	