
Agenda Item: Infrastructure Funding Statement

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 6 October 2026

Contact Officer: Deputy Town Clerk

The purpose of this report is to present a draft developer contribution list to the Committee for adoption, subject to further information.

Background

At its meeting on 18 November 2025, this Committee resolved that the Council should develop and adopt a Developer Contribution List or *Infrastructure Funding Statement* (Minute No. P670 refers).

During the meeting, Members noted that none of the current strategic planning development areas were located within the Witney parish area. It was therefore considered that the Council may not receive financial contributions from these developments to address potential impacts on local services and infrastructure.

The proposed Developer Contribution List would provide a framework for identifying potential projects and priorities in relation to Section 106 and Section 278 contributions.

Current Situation

Project Priorities

Officers have prepared a draft list of potential infrastructure projects, organised by Council committee and service area. The list identifies potential investment priorities across Witney, including improvements to community facilities, public spaces, and local infrastructure, as well as projects relating to sport and recreation, biodiversity, climate resilience, cultural and heritage assets. The proposed projects have been developed regarding the needs of both current and future residents.

The list is intended to support delivery of the Council's Corporate Strategy 2025–2029.

Development of the Project List

Through this list, the Town Council seeks to reflect the views of residents and stakeholders when identifying infrastructure priorities. The initial project list has therefore been informed by:

- The Town Council's Strategic Plan.
- Findings from the Residents' Annual Survey (2023–2026).
- Engagement with community, voluntary and sporting organisations.
- Feedback from residents and other stakeholders.

The Council also works with partner organisations, including West Oxfordshire District Council, Oxfordshire County Council, community groups, and sporting organisations, to share expertise, coordinate activity and identify funding opportunities.

The project list is intended to provide a framework for identifying infrastructure needs and potential investment priorities. Inclusion on the list does not constitute project approval. All proposals remain subject to the Council's established governance and decision-making processes, ensuring appropriate democratic oversight and consideration of priorities, resources, and funding requirements.

Member Input

Members are invited to review the draft project list and suggest additional projects for consideration. Councillors are also encouraged to identify infrastructure priorities within their wards and discuss potential projects with colleagues and residents so the working document may be updated.

Corporate Strategy

The Council's Strategic Plan 2025–29 sets out the Council's long-term priorities and direction, supporting its mission to 'make Witney a great place to live, work and visit.' This report contributes to the delivery of the following strategic pillar of the plan:

1. A Forward Looking Town Council

Impact Assessments

The Town Council has a duty to consider the effects of its decisions, functions and activities on equality, biodiversity, and crime & disorder. Consideration should also be given to effects on the environment, given the Council's Climate Emergency declaration in 2019.

- a) Equality – The list will help the Council plan and prioritise infrastructure investment that benefits residents across the community, including improvements to accessibility, community facilities, public spaces, and local services.
- b) Biodiversity – The list will help the Council identify and prioritise projects that support biodiversity, green infrastructure, and environmental sustainability.
- c) Crime & Disorder – The list will help the Council identify and prioritise infrastructure projects that support safe, accessible, and well-maintained public spaces.
- d) Environment & Climate Emergency – The list will help the Council identify and prioritise projects that support sustainability, biodiversity, active travel, and climate resilience

Risk

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

Adopting an Infrastructure Funding Statement can reduce risk by providing a clear framework for identifying and prioritising future infrastructure investment and potential funding opportunities.

Social Value

Social value is the positive change the Council creates in the local community within which it operates.

The projects will increase opportunities for sport, recreation, and physical activity; improve community and youth facilities; protect and enhance biodiversity; improve climate resilience and energy efficiency; strengthen transport and street infrastructure; and protect the town's arts, heritage, and cultural assets.

Financial implications

The financial implications are set out within the report, including indicative project costs and details of any funding already secured.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and,

1. Consider the attached infrastructure funding list and recommend its approval as a basis for further refinement, prior to referral to Council for wider Member consideration and input.