

SUBJECT:	GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSALS FOR CALDICOT
MEETING:	CABINET
DATE TO BE CONSIDERED:	5th SEPTEMBER 2018
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL CALDICOT WARDS

1. PURPOSE

To seek member approval to utilise Section 106 off-site balances from the Asda (Caldicot) development and to include this funding plus additional grant funding in the capital budget for 2018/19.

2. RECOMMENDATION that:

- 2.1 that a capital budget of £57,000 be created in 2018/19 under the existing Capital budget project code 97370 to fund the Caldicot Green Infrastructure Corridors Project and that this is funded in part by a contribution of £27,000 from the Section 106 balances held by the County Council in respect of the Asda supermarket development in Caldicot (Local Walking and Cycling element) and a further contribution of £30,000 from the Welsh Government's Green Infrastructure Capital Fund.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 This report relates to an important green infrastructure and environmental improvement project known as the Caldicot Green Infrastructure Corridors Project.
- 3.2 The green corridor improvements will be carried out along entrances/exits to Caldicot as part of a wider scheme of town centre improvements. This will focus specifically on two gateway improvements (of tree planting, wildflower planting and active travel improvements) that will improve first impressions and set a quality standard for green infrastructure that will form part of future continuity projects, supporting and helping to deliver the Council's green infrastructure (GI) plan for pollinators.
- 3.3 The aim of the project is to work with local groups and volunteers to engender ownership and sustainability for the areas enhanced.
- 3.4 It is intended that these GI improvements will lead to:
- an enhanced perception of Caldicot town centre as a place to live, work and visit;
 - investment from the private sector in the town centre fabric and offer as a result of the environmental improvements;
 - a shift from local residents visiting the town centre by car to more access by walking and cycling;

- a greater sense of belonging and well-being through social interaction on streets and in public spaces;
- an improved sense of connection and flow between the town centre and the area's wider local environmental assets.

3.5 A plan of the proposals is attached to this report at **Appendix A**.

4. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

This project is proposed to take account of and benefit from the opportunity costs offered by the Welsh Government grant funding scheme.

5. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Please see evaluation criteria set out in **Appendix B**.

6. REASONS

- 6.1 To enable the green infrastructure improvements to be carried out in Caldicot and to make sure that the Welsh Government grant and the Section 106 balances available can be spent before the respective deadline dates.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The total cost of the Caldicot GI Corridors project is £57,000, of which £30,000 will be met by a grant from the Welsh Government's Green Infrastructure Capital Fund, with the remaining balance met from Section 106 balances received from the Asda development in Caldicot to improve walking and cycling routes in the local area. This funding has already been received and the "spend by" date for the use of these balances is 25th July 2019.

8. WELL BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING & CORPORATE PARENTING)

See attached at **Appendix C**

9. CONSULTEES

Cabinet Members	Local Members
Caldicot Town Council	Senior Leadership Team
Assistant Head of Finance/Deputy S151 Officer	

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Section 106 Agreement dated 20th February 2014 between Asda Stores Ltd, McLagan Investments Ltd and Monmouthshire County Council

11. AUTHOR

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