

SUBJECT:	USE OF SECTION 106 FROM N584 LAND AT FORENSIC SCIENCE CHEPSTOW
MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	11 September 2024
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL CHEPSTOW

1. PURPOSE:

To agree the inclusion of section 106 funding in the 2024/25 capital budget

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

To top-up the existing Local Transport Fund capital budget by £26,000 to deliver further real-time information for bus services in Chepstow, and that this is funded by a corresponding contribution from the section 106 balance held by MCC from the section 106 agreements in relation to the development of land at Forensic Science Service, Usk Road, Chepstow

3. KEY ISSUES:

The development of land at The Forensic Science Service, Usk Road, Chepstow (DC/2013/00648) was subject to a section 106 agreement. Under the terms of the agreement MCC will receive a “Sustainable Transport Contribution” to be used for ‘the improvement of public transport infrastructure in the vicinity of the site’. The overall contribution was £48,000 (i.e £1,500 per unit), and of this £22,000 has been spend, and £26,000 is left in the balance. There is no spend-by date.

In 2024/25 MCC receives Local Transport Fund from Welsh Government for “bus infrastructure”, which is a programme that includes a series of smaller projects including the provision of real-time information at various locations across Monmouthshire.

The funding available for is insufficient to supply all the earmarked locations with real-time information units of a sufficient quality. The development at Forensic Science, Usk Road, is served by bus route 63, which connects it to Chepstow, Usk, Pontypool & Cwmbran. Chepstow Bus Station is the key boarding stop for passengers travelling to the development, and the proposal is to erect a 55” short double-sided totem at this location, so that the information can be seen by all waiting passengers. As part of the RTI programme a quote has been obtained for £31,817, and using the s106 would enable this totem to be delivered this financial year.



4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

Improving real-time information for public transport services is a key action in the Local Transport Strategy adopted by cabinet on 15 May 2024. The asummary of the Equalities and Future Generations evaluation of the Local Transport Strategy states:

The LTS identifies a series of interventions designed to transition the existing model of transport, which is largely dependent of car journeys to a more sustainable integrated public transport approach. The success of the proposals will largely be dependent on behavioural change and financial investment to upgrade the existing public transport networks and infrastructure. It is recognized that the bus industry is undergoing a series of changes including proposed new franchising legislation to give Welsh Government more control over the operation of subsidized bus networks. The strategy cannot be delivered in isolation by Monmouthshire and will be dependent on collaborative working with key partners such as Network Rail and Transport for Wales. The proposed strategy aligns with prevailing local and national policies and actively promotes the development of integrated land use and transport decision making to negate the need for journeys wherever possible and underpinning sustainable transport in all planning decisions. There are no corporate parenting or safeguarding implications

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

The options considered are:

- I. Take no action and return the money to the developers with no additional or improved real-time information provision;
- II. Allocate the funding to the project as set out in this report;

- III. allocate the funding to an alternative project

There is currently no other live passenger transport capital project that would benefit the residents of the development in need of funding.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

It is expected that the proposal will help to contribute to increased passenger numbers on bus route 63.

7. REASONS:

- 7.1 To ensure the funding is available in the MCC capital budget in the 2024/25 financial year
- 7.2 To ensure the section 106 funding received from the developer is used effectively to enhance passenger transport services to/from the development.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There is no additional resource implication, the project will be delivered in conjunction with the wider real-time information scheme.

CONSULTEES:

- Cabinet member for transport
- Section 106 working group
- Senior Leadership Team

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

- [MCC Local Transport Strategy](#)
- [Section 106 agreement](#)

10. AUTHOR:

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