



Democratic Services

Location: Phase II
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Ref: CMD 381

**To: COUNCILLOR EDDIE LAVERY
CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT,
HOUSING AND REGENERATION**

**COUNCILLOR MARTIN GODDARD
CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE**

c.c. All Members of the Environment, Housing & Regeneration Select Committee
c.c. Perry Scott, Corporate Director of Place
c.c. Peter Elliott-Smith, Place Directorate
c.c. Conservative and Labour Group Offices
(inspection copy)

Date: 7 February 2022

Non-Key Decision request

Form D

Environmental & Recreational Initiatives 2021/22: Pollution Screening Works Phase 6 - Public Spaces Release No: 2

Dear Cabinet Member

Attached is a report requesting that a decision be made by you as an individual Cabinet Member. Democratic Services confirm that this is not a key decision, as such the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 notice period does not apply.

You should take a decision **on or after Tuesday 15 February 2022** in order to meet Constitutional requirements about publication of decisions that are to be made. You may wish to discuss the report with the Corporate Director before it is made. Please indicate your decision on the duplicate memo supplied, and return it to me when you have made your decision. I will then arrange for the formal notice of decision to be published.

Liz Penny
Democratic Services Officer

Title of Report: Environmental & Recreational Initiatives 2021/22: Pollution Screening Works Phase 6 – Public Spaces – Release No: 2

Decision made:

Reasons for your decision: (e.g. as stated in report)

Alternatives considered and rejected: (e.g. as stated in report)

SignedDate.....

Cabinet Member for Environment, Housing & Regeneration / Cabinet Member for Finance

CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT (February 2022)

SERVICE AREA / PROGRAMME: Environmental & Recreational Initiatives 2021/22:

Pollution Screening Works Phase 6 – Public Spaces

RELEASE NO: 2

Cabinet Members	Councillor Eddie Lavery Councillor Martin Goddard
Cabinet Portfolios	Environment, Housing & Regeneration Finance
Officer Contact	Peter Elliott-Smith - Place Directorate
Papers with report	Appendix A with capital release requests for approval

HEADLINES

Summary	This report seeks the release of capital funds for the procurement of pollution screening works through Green Spaces in relation to anti-pollution measures at 13 roadside green space play areas across the Borough.
Putting our Residents First	This report supports the following Council objectives of: Our People; Our Natural Environment; Our Built Environment; and Strong financial management.
Financial Cost	This report seeks the release of £105k from the Environmental and Recreational Initiatives pollution screening capital budget for the construction works, fees and contingency costs. The Capital Programme Works Service will manage the project. The project will commence upon release of the capital funds and works are due to be completed before March 2022.
Relevant Select Committee	Environment, Housing and Regeneration Select Committee
Ward(s) affected	All

RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member for Environment, Housing & Regeneration and the Cabinet Member for Finance approve the release of funds of £105k from the Environmental and Recreational Initiatives 2021/22 capital budget to carry out the phase 6 construction works associated with pollution screening works at 13 roadside play areas across the Borough (Appendix A).

Reasons for recommendation

The proposed anti-pollution measures within public spaces relate to the Environmental Audit aim to reduce exposure of air pollution levels to children across the Borough for proven health benefits. A number of roadside play areas were targeted and works would positively impact the health of children using them.

Alternative options considered

Failure to proceed with these works will risk on going exposure to potential pollution levels.

Select Committee comments

None at this stage.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background Information

A number of recreational / play areas within the Borough have been highlighted as areas that can be improved upon in terms of roadside pollution. Adopting the existing strategy taking place within the pollution screening project these play areas would also benefit from the works and are deemed ideal locations that would capitalise on the project.

The selection process for the recreational areas took into consideration,

- Locality (M4, HS2, Heathrow, A40).
- Roadside Exposure and levels of traffic.
- Existing vegetation or lack of.
- Anti-social behaviour related line of sites to be catered for or maintained.

With the goal of the project to improve the health and air quality of roadside play areas the following locations are considered ideal sites:

Location	Action
Moorhall Recreation Grounds - Harefield	Trees to be planted
Field End Recreation Ground - Eastcote	Increased scope of hedging and new trees to be planted
New Pond Playing Fields – South Ruislip	Hedges to be planted
Park Green – Hayes	Augmentation to improve existing vegetation where possible
South Road Playground – West Drayton	Additional trees and bushes to be planted
Yiewsley Recreation Ground	Trees to be planted
Cowley Hall Recreation Ground – Cowley	Hedges and trees to be planted
Royal Lane Playground – Hillingdon Hospital	Augmentation without affecting vision
The Brambles Playground – West Drayton	Trees to be planted
Sipson Playground – Heathrow	Trees to be planted
Brickfield Lane Playing Field – Harlington	Trees to be planted

Each area has been reviewed with Green Spaces and the Planning Department. A contingency for 2 additional recreational areas if identified in the progression of works has been allowed for.

Programme

Target completion for the works will be throughout the winter months for completion in March 2022.

Costs

The capital release to undertake these works can be found in Table 1.

Table 1: Estimated costs for Phase 6 Pollution Screening Works

Description	Estimated Costs (£)
Works at 13 play areas	£85,000
Planning and Site Surveys	£3,000
Capital Programme Fees	£8,500
Contingency (10%)	£8,500
Total	£105,000

Financial Implications

Environmental & Recreational Initiatives Programme 2021/22 Revised Budget £906k, Previously Released £482k, Capital Release Requested £105k – Appendix A

The 2021/22 revised programme budget for the Environmental and Recreational Initiatives (ERI) programme totals £906k, including £248k rephasing from 2020/21 budget for schemes completing this year and £83k capital contingency virement, funded from a combination of Council resources, grants and S106. From the £906k ERI budget, an amount of £557k has been earmarked for Pollutions Screening, from which £57k was released in the previous financial year and a further £179k released this financial year.

The report requests the release of £105k from the Environmental & Recreational Initiatives budget earmarked for pollution screening, to enable the progress of the pollution screening works at 13 play areas.

The cost plan for the play areas pollution screening includes screen works which are based on quoted costs from the Council's term contractor Drayton Fencing, surveys and planning fees. Internal fees and project contingency are also included at 10% each of the construction costs.

RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION

The benefit or impact upon residents, service users and communities

Reducing exposure of pollution levels of in our parks and play areas for proven health benefits to children and residents.

Consultation carried out or required

Consultation and agreement of works with Green Spaces and Planning Air Quality Officer.

CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate finance concurs with the financial implications above, noting that the works will be funded from the 2021/22 Environmental and Recreational Initiatives capital budget that is earmarked for pollution screening.

Legal

The Borough Solicitor confirms that the Council is responsible for carrying out this function pursuant to Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, thus there

are no legal impediments to the capital release being authorised, although any contract that is entered into must comply with the Council's Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.

Capital Release Protocol

The release of all capital funds, and certain revenue funds, held by the Council is to be made by a formal democratic decision. No expenditure can be placed or committed by officers until this formal approval is given by Democratic Services. Release of funds must be for identified projects only and strictly not for the general release of funds for projects to be identified at a later date. No block releases of capital or funding will be allowed, except if authorised by the Leader of the Council in advance to Corporate Finance. The release of funds will only be made if previous Council, Cabinet or Cabinet Member agreement has been given to the project and only if there is an approved budget.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil.

APPENDIX A

Environmental & Recreational Initiatives Budget (2021/22)

Location	Project / Expenditure Title	Information	Funds Release Sought £000's	Approve	Hold	More Information Required
13 Play Areas as identified in report	Environmental & Recreational Initiatives 2021/22- Provision of Pollution Reduction Screening Phase 6	Construction costs, planning, site surveys, internal fees and project contingency	105			
Total seeking release			105			
Previously released			482			
Budget			906			
Remaining budget			319			