

## **INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING STATEMENT 2023/2024**

### **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 Under the Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) (England) (No2.) Regulations 2019, local planning authorities are required to publish an annual Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS). The statement must be published by 31<sup>st</sup> December each calendar year and contain the following information: -
- (a) a statement of the infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure which the charging authority intends will be, or may be, wholly or partly funded by CIL (other than CIL to which regulation 59E or 59F applies) (“the infrastructure list”);
  - (b) a report about CIL, in relation to the previous financial year (“the reported year”), which includes the matters specified in paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 (“CIL report”);
  - (c) a report about planning obligations, in relation to the reported year, which includes the matters specified in paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 and may include the matters specified in paragraph 4 of that Schedule (“section 106 report”).
- 1.2 A Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is in place within the Dartford Borough, there is no such levy covering Gravesham. However, where developments are liable to pay CIL within the EDC area (i.e. new applications falling within the Dartford Council area), Dartford Council is the charging and collecting authority. EDC monitors the CIL payments made to DBC and the Chief Planning Officer sits on the Leaders Advisory Group, which discusses priorities and projects. However, EDC is not required to publish data in relation to items (a) and (b) above.
- 1.3 This paper therefore relates to item (c) and the ‘Section 106 report’. Most planning permissions granted across the Ebbsfleet UDA are subject to a S106 agreement. This is primarily due to the more historic consents being granted before CIL was introduced in Dartford in 2014 or because the permissions lie within the Gravesham Borough Council area.
- 1.4 Section 106 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 provides that anyone with an interest in land may enter into a planning obligation, which is enforceable by a local planning authority. An obligation may be created by agreement or by the party with an interest in the land making a unilateral undertaking.
- 1.5 Obligations may:
- Restrict the development or use of land
  - Require operations to be carried out in, on, under or over the land
  - Require the land to be used in any specified way; or
  - Require payments to be made to the local planning authority, either in a single sum or periodically
- 1.7 A planning obligation may only constitute reason for granting planning permission if it is:
- Necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms.

- Directly related to the development; and
- Fairly and reasonable related in scale and kind to the development.

1.8 S106 agreements are used to mitigate the impacts of development and ensure that local policy requirements are fully met. S106 obligations include the following:

- Site specific financial contributions - these are secured and must be used for defined purposes: for instance, the provision of education facilities, traffic and transport/highways related works, open space provisions and affordable housing contributions (where accepted in lieu of on-site provision);
- Provision of on-site affordable housing;
- Non-financial obligations, including requirements such as employment and skills strategies, construction management plans and travel plans.

## 2 Information and analysis

2.1 This report is submitted for information and enables the Board to monitor the work regarding S106 contributions, and in addition provides a transparent view of current income, expenditure and projects S106 funds have been applied to, including those transferred to external bodies for spend. This report delivers financial information from April 2023 to March 2024.

2.2 Table 1 below outlines the income received by EDC between April 2023 and March 2024.

Contribution Type	Project/Purpose	Amount
Strategic Access Management and Mitigation Strategy	Bird Wise North Kent	£2,907.06
Fastrack Contribution	Provision of Fastrack Infrastructure in Northfleet	£284,703.57
Healthcare Contribution	Expansion of existing surgeries or provision of a new GP Medical Surgery in the local area	£371,914.80
Sports Facilities Contribution	Delivery of Playing Pitch Enhancements at the Primary School, or improvements to existing facilities	£442,444.63
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>£1,101,970.06</b>

It should be noted that invoices for Affordable Housing Contributions totalling a further £1,110,943.02 and Off Site Transport Contributions totalling a further £3,529,230.77 have been issued within this financial period, but have yet to be settled.

- 2.3 Table 2 below outlines the funding that has been spent by EDC between April 2023 and March 2024 including where funds have been passed to local authority partners.

Paid to/Spent by	Contribution Type	Project/Purpose	Amount
EDC	Off-Site Transport	Utilised in EDC accounts for A2 Bean and Ebbsfleet Junction Improvements project	£978,018.63
Medway Council	Strategic Access Management and Mitigation Strategy	Bird Wise North Kent <a href="#">Bird Wise North Kent   Wising Up to Bird Disturbance</a>	£88,727.46
Dartford Borough Council	Off-Site Affordable Housing	Supporting the delivery of affordable housing within the Dartford borough	£606,640.96
Gravesham Borough Council	Air Quality Monitoring	To mitigate local air quality impacts arising from development in Northfleet Embankment West	£8,189.84
<b>TOTAL:</b>			<b>£1,681,576.89</b>

- 2.4 Table 3 below outlines the current developer contributions held by EDC as of August 2024 and the projects they are intended to be used for.

Contribution Type	Project/Purpose	Amount
Strategic Access and Management Strategy	Bird Wise North Kent	£2907.06
Off-Site Signage	To support wayfinding to/from Ebbsfleet Green	£10,457.67
Fastrack	For fastrack infrastructure between Northfleet Riverside and Gravesend Town Centre	£727,996.12
Vertical Connection	To explore the feasibility of a vertical connection at Northfleet Embankment East	£25,394.60
Trees	Tree planting and landscaping in Ebbsfleet	£4,932.00

Healthcare	For healthcare facilities in the Ebbsfleet area such as the HEIQ	£504,797.91
Sports Facilities	Upgrade of playing pitch within new Primary School at Northfleet Embankment East	£613,915.31
Scout Hut Contribution	For capital cost of refurbishment of current premises of 1st Northfleet Scout Group	£8,829.06
Air Quality Monitoring	To mitigate local air quality impacts arising from development at Land North of Gally Hill Road in Northfleet	£11,260.35
Springhead Road Enhancements Signage Strategy Contribution	HGV signage across Ebbsfleet	£50,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>£1,960,490.08</b>

- 2.5 There were no developer contributions secured in new S106 agreements or unilateral undertakings between April 2023 and March 2024.
- 2.6 The majority of S106 contributions from Ebbsfleet sites is collected by EDC. However KCC invoices for certain contributions on some sites. These relate to county functions such as youth services, adult social care and libraries. KCC must spend these funds in the Ebbsfleet area to mitigate the impact of the development to which it relates.
- 2.7 Developer contributions is a standing item discussed at the Planning Liaison Group, attended by DBC, GBC and KCC. EDC will continue to work with Local Authority partners with regards unspent contributions held by any party to ensure infrastructure is delivered in timely manner.
- 2.8 S106 funding is only part of the way infrastructure is delivered within Ebbsfleet. Due to the size of many of the developments, infrastructure is being delivered by developers directly rather than via payments in lieu. In addition open spaces are also being delivered. Examples of this can be seen at Harbour Village with the large landscaped park and playspace at Chimney View Park, open space, pathways and bench seating areas on the Lake Edge Linear park including the bridge access within Eastern Quarry, and open space incorporating gym and play equipment within the Ashmere Leisure Loop, all of which opened during the period. In addition to this the provision of beautiful allotments and community gardens have been delivered within Springhead Park. Photographs of some of these completed projects are shown below.



## Chimney View Park – Harbour Village





## Springhead Park Allotments





## Ashmere Leisure Loop

