

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Policy

The town council may determine how its CIL receipts are spent; however, any expenditure must meet the following criteria as set out by CIL regulations:

- The provision, improvement, replacement, operation, or maintenance of infrastructure; or
- Anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.

CIL spending decision process

The town council welcomes input from local groups/organisations or individuals for projects on which to spend CIL money. If the proposed projects are within the CIL regulations and are items on which the town council may lawfully spend, then a prioritisation process will be carried out and the criteria outlined in this policy will be used as a ranking mechanism. A prioritised "CIL Project List" will be maintained and will be referenced when CIL funding becomes available. Organisations proposing their own projects may be requested to put forward costed and deliverable projects with multiple quotes and supporting information, such as financial accounts belonging to the beneficiary.

The Council will discuss proposed projects during town council meetings of the Finance & Projects Committee to resolve whether to include the application on its future CIL Projects List and its level of priority in respect to other projects. This will be recommended to Council. Full council meetings are open to the public; however, the Council may move into private session if commercial sensitivity is required to achieve best value for public money.

Criteria used by the Town Council to rank projects for CIL expenditure.

The CIL Project List is expected to cover projects providing, but not be limited to, the following **benefit categories**:

- Crime reduction
- Traffic/Road safety
- Community engagement
- Leisure/Sport/Amenity
- Communication
- Public services/Public Safety
- Heritage protection
- Environmental/Climate change

In general, the council will use the following **primary criteria** to rank CIL projects against each other:

- **Community Benefit** – how wide an impact will the project have for South Woodham Ferrers and how many people might benefit.
- **Costs and Funding** – The overall cost of the project and any future expenditure it may generate, such as ongoing maintenance. Projects part-

funded by the benefitting organisation or from grant funding may increase the ranking as it means more projects can be financed.

- **Deliverability** – how practical is the project and are there likely to be barriers around the planning or legal aspects.
- **Environmental Benefits** – does the project offer benefits to the environment of the town and show no negative impact.

Secondary criteria under consideration may include:

- Projects that have a lifespan more than 15 years
- Projects that demonstrate the benefit will be sustained with revenue expenditure.
- Projects that reduce running costs or increase revenue generation.
- Projects that mitigate the detrimental effects of development, such as those delivering infrastructure identified as being required in the community.
- Projects that connect developments to parish services and assets

Points to note.

Inclusion on the CIL Projects List or meeting some or all the criteria for CIL ranking, does not commit the council to fund the project; all council spending decisions are made by a majority council vote. The council will periodically review the CIL Projects List following receipt of CIL funds and may resolve to award funding based on current priorities and available funds. The council may ask for supporting information to be provided, such as group financial accounts, or multiple quotes for the work; this list is not exhaustive.

Responsible Officer	Town Clerk	Date effective from	November 2025	Review date	November 2026
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Reviewed Council 18/11/2025 minute ref C25-223