

**People and Places Delivery Group
21ST JANUARY 010**

Report of: Leicestershire County Council

Introduction: Report for the People and Places Delivery Group - 21st January 2010

Summary of issues/activities:

Strategic Green Infrastructure (SGI) projects

As part of the overall funding for the 6Cs New Growth Point, a specific budget has been established to support the development and implementation of Strategic Green Infrastructure (SGI) projects. The County Council has been working with partners on two SGI grant applications – one for the River Soar Valley and one for Charnwood Forest.

The River Soar Valley bid includes projects in Loughborough, the Watermead Country Park area and sites within Leicester City. The partners are Charnwood Borough Council, the Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust, British Waterways, the Stepping Stones Project and Leicester City Council. The value of the Soar project is £1,305,000 with £1,010,000 sought.

The Charnwood Forest bid includes projects on the Charnwood Lodge SSSI near Coalville and The Outwoods and Jubilee Wood near Loughborough. The partners are Charnwood Borough Council and the Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust. The value of the Charnwood Forest project is £135,700 total value with £113,200 sought.

It is very likely that elements of project(s) will be funded, according to Mike Thomson, Team Leader Community Development, at Leicestershire County Council. If successful formal grant offers will be made by the end of March and all works will have to be completed by December 2011.

Steve Boud, Locality Partnership Coordinator, Charnwood, has “nothing to report at this stage but has just done a report for the CT exec”.

The Performance and Improvement Manager at the Chief Executive's Department states that the Local Area Agreement 2 third quarter performance report will be available end Jan/early Feb. There is an Annual Review meeting on LAA2 with GOEM on 15th January but the outcome of this won't be known until early Feb.

The Comprehensive Area Assessment Implementation Plan is still being finalised. The plan is in draft and Anjana Bhatt is still working on it. A meeting with Mary Perry from the Audit Commission is taking place on 20th January to progress this.

Recommendations:

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