

## **Delegated Officer Report**

**Decision Maker:** Nasir Dad, Director of Environment

**Date of Decision:** 21 September 2023

**Subject:** Proposal to allocate Section 106 resources from DB 434 - Mayfield Primary School, Mayfield Road, Oldham (PA/343870) for tree planting in Stoneleigh Park and then maintain until established in the landscape.

**Report Author:** Nik Anderson

**Ward (s):** St James

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**Reason for the decision:** To seek approval for the allocation of resources secured through the planning process to fund tree planting in Stoneleigh Park and then maintain until established in the landscape.

**Summary:** Planning permission for the development at Mayfield Primary School (PA/343870) was granted subject to the developer, The Cranmer Trust making a financial contribution towards replacement tree planting in Stoneleigh Park, Derker.

There is currently £9,257.16 available (including interest accrued from 2022/23). It is proposed to allocate this full amount to planting 15 new trees in Stoneleigh Park.

All trees will be 14-16 standards with double stake and tie – weldmesh cage, irrigation piping, mulching and costs include 3 years watering and maintenance and in the third year - remove stake and tie once established.

**Year 1** - £6750 – Supply and plant trees – water through first summer.

**Year 2** - £800 – Water through second summer.

**Year 3** - £1530 – Water through third summer, remove stake and tie, mulch and formative prune.

Good supply networks and competitive labour rates mean that each tree will cost far less than the Landscape Institute indicative costs.

***What are the alternative option(s) to be considered? Please give the reason(s) for recommendation(s):***

The reason the contribution was paid is very specific and is for the planting of replacement trees in Stoneleigh Park in lieu of the tree lost during the development of the school extension at Mayfield Primary School. If the replacement trees are not planted, then the developer could request the return of the financial contribution.

***Consultation: including any conflict of interest declared by relevant Cabinet Member consulted.***

Consultation took place as part of the planning process to determine the planning application for the extension. This is tree replacement as required by the planning permission.

***Recommendation(s):***

To approve the allocation of £ 9,257.16 from DB 434 -Mayfield Primary School (PA/343870) to Environmental Services for the purposes of planting 15 new trees in Stoneleigh Park and their maintenance for three years until established in the landscape.

## Implications:

What are the **financial** implications?

### Capital Implications

The cost to supply, plant and water 15 trees for the first Summer is expected to cost £6.75k and will be charged to the Environmental Services Capital Programme.

This will be financed from the following Section 106 resource:

| S106 Description                        | Available funding £k | Utilised on this scheme £k | Balance remaining £k |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| DB 434<br>Mayfield<br>Primary<br>School | 6.75                 | (6.75)                     | 0                    |

### Revenue implications

A further two year maintenance programme is expected to cost £2.5k and will be charged to the Environmental Services revenue budget.

This will be financed from the following Section 106 resource and transferred to the Service on an annual basis.

| S106 Description                        | Current available funding £k | 2024/25 Maintenance £k | 2025/26 Maintenance £k |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| DB 434<br>Mayfield<br>Primary<br>School | 2.5                          | (0.8)                  | (1.7)                  |

After the two years of S-106 contributions have ceased, maintenance costs if required are expected to be absorbed using existing resources within the Environmental Management Service.

*(John Edisbury)*

What are the **legal** implications?

The proposals are an appropriate use of the section 106 funding (A Evans)

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| What are the <b>procurement</b> implications?   | The allocation of section 106 has no procurement implications however the manner in which it is spent does. As the costs indicated in the body of the report are under 10k in line with the council's contract procedure rules, one written quote is required. (Emily Molden)  |
| What are the <b>Human Resources</b> implications?   | N/A  |
| <b>Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment</b> attached or not required because (please give reason) | Not required as the project does not affect a vulnerable group.  |
| What are the <b>property</b> implications   | None – these are tree replacements going in a park under the control of Environmental Services.  |
| <b>Risks:</b>   | Loss or vandalism to trees - this risk is mitigated by protecting the trees with weldmesh cages and watering through dry spells. Less than 2% of trees are lost. (Mark Stenson)  |
| <b>Co-operative agenda</b>  | Planting trees in Stoneleigh Park will visibly improve the aesthetic and the environment of the park which will encourage residents to visit the park, enjoy their local area and increase their physical activity. Ensuring residents are healthy, safe and well supported is a key corporate priority for the council. Additionally, planting trees will address climate emergency, it will address the commitment to increase tree cover from 11.9% to 15% within a generation and it addresses the commitment to become the greenest borough in GM (Mahmuda Khanom). |

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| Has the relevant Legal Officer confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council's Constitution? | Yes |
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| Has the relevant Finance Officer confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council's budget? | Yes |
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| Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council? | No |
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| <b>Reason(s) for exemption from</b> | N/A |
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publication:

There are no background papers for this report

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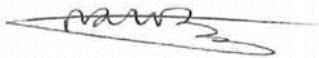
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| <b>Report Author Sign-off:</b> |  |
| Nik Anderson                   |  |
| <b>Date:</b>                   |  |

Please list and attach any appendices:-

| <b>Appendix number or letter</b> | <b>Description</b> |
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In consultation with Director

Signed :



Date: 21.09.2023