

Policy & Resources Committee Meeting – 12th July 2023

Agenda Item 4. WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – CIL REQUEST

Wokingham Borough Council has stated that the contract for local bus services is out for tender and it is expecting that the same level of service will be provided but the cost will increase significantly. WBC has informed us that “whilst our Executive Committee have made provision for what we think will be sufficient funding to cover the increased costs, this funding does draw on finite S106 funding.”

WBC has therefore approached all parish and town councils with contracted bus services in their area to discuss the possibility of a financial contribution, the sum of which will be proportionate to the mileage operating in their area. WBC’s S106 team has indicated that towns and parishes would be permitted to use CIL funds for this purpose if they so wished.

As a guide, WBC has indicated the amount it would be looking for from Earley Town Council would be £1,293.21 per year for a 3 year period, with effect from September 2023.

For information, the forecast tender costs for Earley/Woodley local bus services are £1.1m over 3 years.

Rebecca Brooks, Community Transport Manager, Highways & Transport, WBC will explain the proposal in further detail and answer questions from the Policy & Resources Committee.

A second request has been received from WBC in relation to ETC’s CIL funds, this refers to local bus services in ‘Wokingham Town and surrounding villages’ (121/122/123/124/125/127/128/129). The forecast tender costs for these are £2.3m over 3 years and the request to ETC is for £1,293.21 per year for 3 years. It is hoped that Rebecca Brooks will be able to shed further light on this request.

Note for councillors: ETC’s current CIL funds stand at £58,116.93.