

Report to 20's Plenty Working Group
Potential Funding for Future 20mph Proposals

Introduction

This report looks at potential funding streams for any future 20mph proposals.

Budget

2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years have seen an annual figure of £28,000 for 20's Plenty.

@ 31st May 2021 balance is £23,611.62

@ 31st March 2021 balance of unallocated funds is £47,000

Our General Reserves are only £110,000 and I would therefore strongly advise against using the unallocated funds for a planned project and I would recommend the funds remain for one-off, emergency projects.

As previously agreed, my recommendation would be for the Highways Fund EMR of £22,444 be vired to 20's Plenty.

Public Works Loan

Part of the criteria, when applying for a loan, is to show that the precept will not be increased to make the repayments. Therefore, the repayment figure would be better kept within the figure already budgeted, ie £28,000.

Community engagement will also need to be undertaken, but the loan does not depend on positive support, particularly if we keep within the budgeted figure.

The interest rates are currently quite low and below are examples of loan amounts with a repayment of £28,000pa.

| Period (years) | Rate % | Annuity ½ Yearly Cost (£) | Total Cost (£) |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Amount of Advance: 250,000.00 | | | |
| Over 9 not over 9½ | 1.41 | 14,105.07 | 267,996.33 |
| Over 9½ not over 10 | 1.43 | 13,459.60 | 269,192.00 |
| Amount of Advance: 200,000.00 | | | |
| Over 6½ not over 7 | 1.29 | 14,986.41 | 209,809.74 |
| Over 7 not over 7½ | 1.31 | 14,042.64 | 210,639.60 |

Amount of Advance: 100,000.00

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|-----------|------------|
| Over 3 not over 3½ | 1.13 | 14,610.39 | 102,272.73 |
| Over 3½ not over 4 | 1.15 | 12,825.60 | 102,604.80 |

Other Funding Sources

Other funding opportunities to consider are Swale Borough Council, Kent County Council and further government grants.

The 20mph project is unlikely to be supported by local charity funds.

Other funding streams or one-off national grants may become available, but are likely to have strong competition and niche requirements.

Recent Announcement of DfT 2021/22 Active Travel Fund

On 14 June DfT wrote to Highway Authorities about the £239 million funding it is making available for active travel schemes this year. Schemes will need to comply with the cycling design standards in LTN 1/20, be planned through LCWIPs or similar strategies, developed in conjunction with local communities and supported by local political leaders. Expressions of interest can also be made to develop mini Hollands and GP prescribing pilots. Funding can be used to support making experimental schemes permanent. The designs that we have commissioned for slowing traffic and encouraging walking seem to fit well within this framework and Faversham is probably as well placed as anywhere in Kent to be a mini Holland Pilot.

In the short term our County Councillor and the leader of Swale Borough Council have written to the relevant KCC cabinet member asking that KCC make a bid and identifying that Faversham is well placed to benefit from this money. It is recommended that this meeting propose that the Town Council also write formally to KCC asking that its plans for developing the 20mph scheme be included in any KCC bid and that it be considered as an area for a mini Holland pilot.

Louise Bareham
Town Clerk
18th June 2021