

S106 Monitoring Progress Report

VALE OF WHITE HORSE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Update July 2013

This paper provides an update on current work to address the recommendations of the planning obligations (S106) audit review undertaken in 2011. The main aims are to improve the recording, monitoring and spending of contributions secured under S106 legal agreements by the Council/County Council and ensure transparency of process.

For September committee;

We will explain the purpose of S106 planning obligations as set out in planning law, including the legal tests to be applied.

We will report on our current work with regard to existing S106 agreements and set out:

- the balance of contributions held
- monies passed to providers and the infrastructure provided
- monies due and what they are expected to provide
- contributions in kind that have been provided, and that are due and set out a regular monitoring program and an annual report.

the report to Committee will advise on the processes (standard operating procedures) that are being developed for recording, monitoring and spending S106 contributions and how such information is available to view online for councillors and eventually (web) for town and parishes.

we will set out new protocols for the release of funds to third parties, such as town and parish councils, community groups and the police. The protocols will include how to seek funds that may be available through S106 and how we ensure such funds are spent. The use of template letters or legal agreements, triggered by an agreed financial threshold will help speed up the process and secure expenditure. The aim is to make the process as simple as possible for all parties while being robust and transparent.

the report will set out the priorities the council will take when officers negotiate S106 heads of terms

and lastly, the next steps in terms of securing infrastructure funding from development, a high level strategy for delivering infrastructure and how we want to work closer with local communities about their infrastructure needs.

For further information please contact:

David Burson, Community Infrastructure Officer.

E-mail: David.burson@southandvale.gov.uk Direct dial: 01491 823272