

CPCA MARKET TOWNS PROGRAMME FUNDING APPLICATION FORM

APPLICANT DETAILS			
Project Title	SOHAM TO WICKEN FEN CYCLE WAY		
Market Town	SOHAM		
Lead Authority	SOHAM TOWN COUNCIL		
UK Registered Address	PO BOX 21 THE PAVILLION FOUNTAIN LANE, SOHAM, CAMBS CB7 5PL		
Contact Person <small>(please include job title and project role)</small>	DIANNE MARSHALL SOHAM TOWN COUNCIL CLERK		
Contact Telephone	01353 723472		
Contact Email	clerk@soham-tc.gov.uk		
VAT Registration Number	214 2590 90	Companies House Registration Number	
Number of Employees	<5		
Key Documents in Place	Equal Opportunities/Diversity Policy	Yes	
	Modern Slavery Policy		No
	Health & Safety Policy	Yes	
We do not require copies of these policies at this stage, please circle as appropriate			

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Description – please provide details of the project and what specifically will be delivered (please refer to the Investment Prospectus and Guidance)

SOHAM TO WICKEN FEN CYCLE WAY

REQUEST FOR MARKET TOWN PROGRAMME FUNDING - £330,000

Soham Town Council is pursuing support for projects and initiatives which it has undertaken extensive due diligence, research and works that will promote 'events, experiences and activities. This to draw footfall to the town and which will underpin and enhance the introduction of the new railway station: **Foremost of these projects** is the introduction of a cycle-way between Soham and Wicken Fen.

With the support of East Cambridgeshire District Council, Soham Town Council has been encouraged to make a direct bid to the Combined Authority's Market Town Programme fund. This follows work also carried out by independent consultants Metro Dynamics. Their review, as part of an evidence-based study for the town, ranked this as the top medium-term investment (extract attached).

Linking Soham's new Station to Wicken Fen and the national cycle network. With Soham being the nearest public transport hub (2.6 miles from Soham station to Wicken Fen) and an area promoted by the National Trust in its literature; it is estimated that a minimum of 15% of visitors will use the station, a footfall of circa 10,000 visitors a year. This may be a low estimate bearing in mind the nature of the destination and the attraction of visitors that will be environmentally aware and prefer to use public transport. Soham has a number of attractions including its unique commons, habitat and SSI's which would appeal to the same travellers. With proposals for the greening of Soham High Street, its history being promoted by the active Heritage and Tourist group; Soham itself will become a destination in its own right

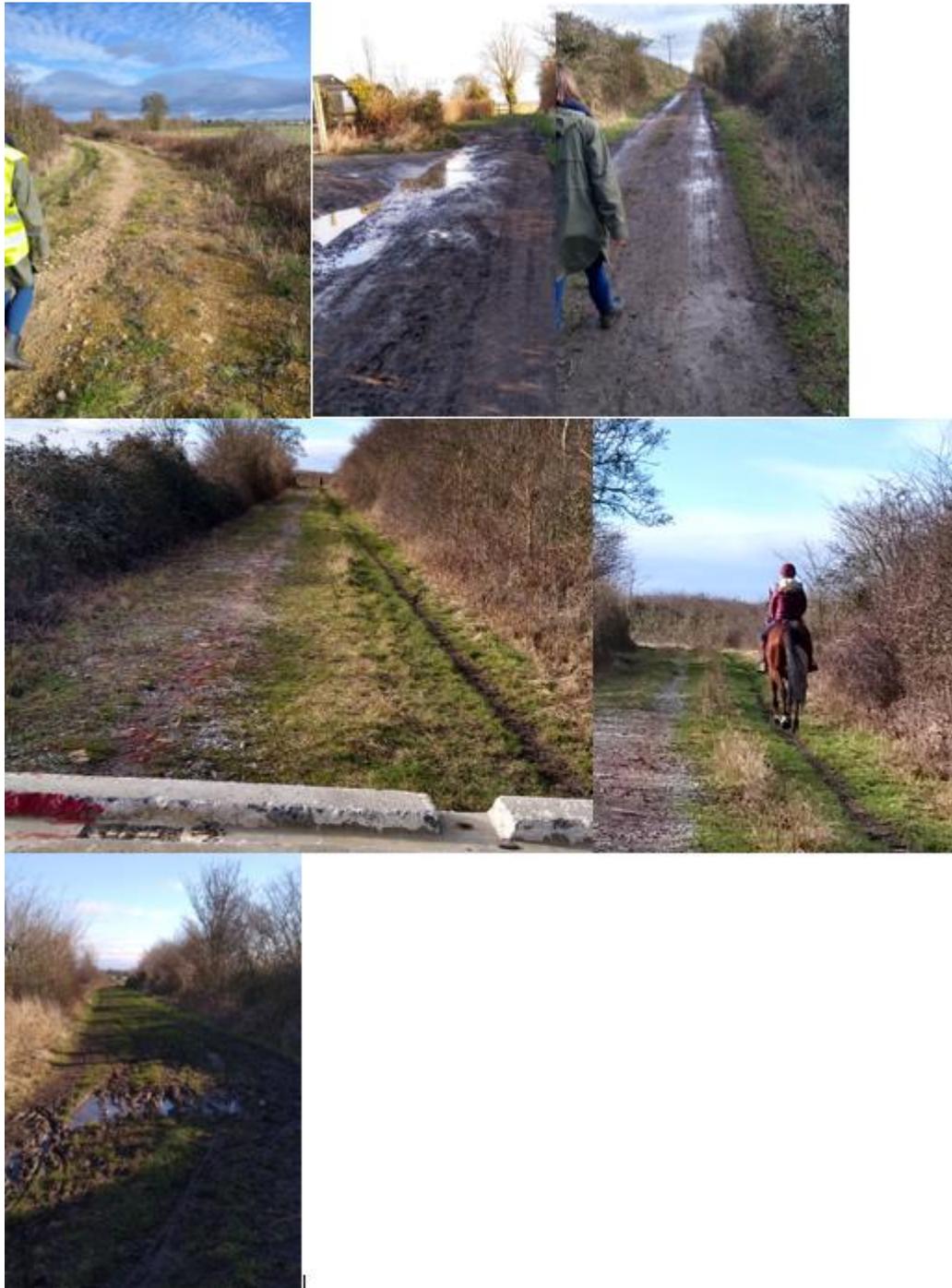
With the station now fully operational, a developed cycleway as part of a link between Wicken and a vibrant Soham High Street, is also expected to encourage visitor footfall. With associated GVA increase driven within the local economy, a conservative estimate of £100,000 of extra high street spend per year is forecast.

The community added value of such a project will come from a reduced need for cars to travel to and from the site. It will also encourage students from Wicken to cycle to school, away from the busy A1123 road with all associated health benefits. In addition, workers and visitors will also benefit from a shorter, safer new route between destinations.

About Wicken Fen. The area is one of Europe's most important wetlands and supports an abundance of wildlife. There are more than 9,000 species, including a spectacular array of plants, birds and dragonflies. Wicken Fen is part of the National Trust and currently has some 65,000 visitors a year. As there is no public transport to the village it is estimated that 90% of all visitors arrive by car.

The Project

There is a 2.4Km byway along the proposed cycleway route that needs upgrading with a compliant sub-base and paving. These pictures were taken in February 2022 and illustrate the uneven, often sodden/impassable winter route. This is informally used by walkers, horses and some vehicles. Soham Town Council have improved parts of the route with hardcore type surfacing over the past five years. The entire route now needs completing with a hard (paved) surface.



A cycleway along the byway route has been subject to a detailed study by Sustran's in 2013. This was updated with some changed recommendations/costings in October 2021. Both reports are attached for the detail.

In summary, the route considered is illustrated on this map.



The basis of this application is the construction of the cycle-way, in line with the Sustran's independent report and subsequent 2021 update, where possible. This to deliver a year-round connection between Soham's station and town centre to the village of Wicken and its outstanding nature reserve.

Costs and Funding

The 2021 Sustran's report provides as follows;

Table 1. Summary of costs

Item	Length	Unit Cost	Cost
3m wide sealed path	2400m	£170- 230/m	£410,000 - £550,000
2m sealed path	2400m	£140 - 200/m	£340,000- £480,000
Pothole repairs Mill Drove			£20,000
Prelims			£25,000

For the entire project, the maximum cost above, of £595,000+ a 10% contingency to offset uncertain labour and material costs has been allowed. This brings the total budget cost to £655,000.

Soham Town Council's bid to the Market Town Fund of £330,000, therefore represents circa 50% of this total project costs.

The balance of funding (matched) will be in the form of a separate application for funding with East Cambs District Council, who could, subject to the CPCA granting this bid, bridge the gap up to £325,000 with a separate grant to support completion of the project.

As the authority with best understanding of the project, Soham Town Council will lead the bid process and onward project management.

Upon confirmation of the grant awards, work could start on the project in Q2 2022 with anticipated completion before end of Q2 2024 (subject to weather conditions).

Project Partners - please list any key partners in the project and the engagement on the project to date

Soham Town council
 CPCA
 East Cambridgeshire District Council
 County Rights of Way team

Proposed project Start date

Q2 2022

Proposed project Completion date

Q2 2024

(Please note: CPCA Market Towns funding must be spent by the project delivery body by 31 March 2022)

Key Milestones – please detail project phasing to delivery

This detail needs to be agreed with contractors and third parties. The offer of this grant should be conditional upon information being provided before commencement of procurement and within the project completion deadline of Q2 2024 being achievable.

PROJECT DELIVERABLES

Project Outcomes - please indicate how the project will deliver against job outputs and wider economic outcomes, including any increases in productivity and volumes of trade exports (please refer to the Investment Prospectus and Guidance)

As outlined above

- Project has been researched and independently verified to deliver an important cycle link between Soham and Wicken.
- Provision of paved cycleway with year around usability
- Delivers against objectives in ECDC’s Soham Market town plan and completes considerable work already carried out by Soham Town Council over the past few years
- Increased visitor numbers to the town with positive indirect impact on GVA
- Encourages visitors and commuters to utilise the train and cycle instead of the car
- Allows further promotion of linked tourism and access to the important National Trust Area
- Promotes linkage of communities and safe cycle access to Soham’s schooling shops, leisure and business.
- Further enables usage of community greenspace
- Further encourages cycle usage and associated health benefits
- Delivers strong community benefit
- Consistent with the CPCA’s 3 C’s approach.



Which key sector(s) does this project intend to support?	Community benefit, tourism and leisure, town centre retail and green transportation
Is the project part of a wider development/programme/project? If so, please provide details	Yes part of the wider joined up Market town programme in the station/town area
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What is the current status of your project (or key elements)?	
E.g. In development, Outline design, Planning approved, Ready to start or Project underway?	
Sustrans report outlines measures necessary. The byway will need final design and approval. Project is therefore near ready to commence.	
Is Planning Permission required? If so, by when is this anticipated?	
County Rights of Way agreement.	
If the project includes development or redevelopment of land or premises, please indicate whether your organisation has control of the site or when you expect to have control or ownership	Registered Byway
In 2015, Soham Town Council obtained County Council permission to harden the byway surface, over the proposed length of the cycle way, with project completion by 2022. An element of this new project will be a further application to extend this timescale to 2024 and provide an upgraded top surface specification.	

SITE DETAILS (FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS)	
Location	N/A
Site Ownership	
Current Use	
Proposed Use	
Site Area (ha)	
Existing Built Floorspace (sqm)	
Planning Permissions?	
Section 106 Agreements?	
Existing Land Charges or	



Restrictions?	
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SITE DETAILS (FOR REFURBISHMENT PROJECTS)	
Location	Soham Byway as described in Map above
Site Ownership	The registered Byway sits on land owned by abutting landowners (see additional comments below and attached email)
Current Use	Registered Byway
Proposed Use	Byway and cycle route
Site Area (ha)	N/A
Existing Built Floorspace (sqm)	N/A
Planning Permissions?	
Section 106 Agreements?	N/A
Existing Land Charges or Restrictions?	N/A

PROJECT OUTPUTS 2020/21					
Project Outputs - please indicate how the project will deliver against the outputs below – complete only those that apply to your project.					
Employment & Skills					
Number of permanent jobs to be created	Number of temp jobs to be created	Number of indirect jobs to be created	Number of apprenticeships to be established – Level 1	Number of apprenticeships to be established – Level 2	Number of apprenticeships to be established – Level 3
Area of learning/training space improved (m2)	Area of learning/training floorspace rationalised (m2)	New learners assisted (on courses to full qualification)			
Business & Enterprise					
Number of businesses receiving grant support (high street/town centres)	Number of businesses receiving grant support (wider town)	Number of businesses receiving non-financial support			
Commercial					
Area of commercial floorspace to be created (m2)	Area of commercial floorspace to be refurbished (m2)	Area of public realm / outside space improved or enhanced (m2)	Area of commercial land / floorspace rationalised (m2)	Number of commercial premises with improved broadband access	
Transport					
Length of new cycleway to be created (m)	Length of new footpaths to be created (m)	Number of new public transport services			



Development Sites & Housing					
Area of land to be developed (hectares)	Number of new housing units/dwellings to be created	Number of new housing units/dwellings to be refurbished			
Community					
Area of new community floorspace to be created (m2)	Area of community floorspace to be refurbished (m2)	Area of community floorspace rationalised (m2)	Number of community groups receiving grant support		

PROJECT OUTPUTS 2021/22					
Project Outputs - please indicate how the project will deliver against the outputs below – complete only those that apply to your project.					
Employment & Skills					
Number of permanent jobs to be created	Number of temp jobs to be created	Number of indirect jobs to be created	Number of apprenticeships to be established – Level 1	Number of apprenticeships to be established – Level 2	Number of apprenticeships to be established – Level 3
Area of learning/training space improved (m2)	Area of learning/training floorspace rationalised (m2)	New learners assisted (on courses to full qualification)			
Business & Enterprise					
Number of businesses receiving grant support (high street/town centres)	Number of businesses receiving grant support (wider town)	Number of businesses receiving non-financial support			
Commercial					
Area of commercial floorspace to be created (m2)	Area of commercial floorspace to be refurbished (m2)	Area of public realm / outside space improved or enhanced (m2)	Area of commercial land / floorspace rationalised (m2)	Number of commercial premises with improved broadband access	
Transport					
Length of new cycleway to be created (m)	Length of new footpaths to be created (m)	Number of new or improved public transport services			



Development Sites & Housing					
Area of land to be developed (hectares)	Number of new housing units/dwellings to be created	Number of new housing units/dwellings to be refurbished			
Community					
Area of new community floorspace to be created (m2)	Area of community floorspace to be refurbished (m2)	Area of community floorspace rationalised (m2)	Number of community groups receiving grant support		

PROJECT OUTPUTS 2022/23 (Onwards)

Project Outputs - please indicate how the project will deliver against the outputs below – complete only those that apply to your project.

Employment & Skills

Number of permanent jobs to be created	Number of temp jobs to be created	Number of indirect jobs to be created	Number of apprenticeships to be established – Level 1	Number of apprenticeships to be established – Level 2	Number of apprenticeships to be established – Level 3
Area of learning/training space improved (m2)	Area of learning/training floorspace rationalised (m2)	New learners assisted (on courses to full qualification)			

Business & Enterprise

Number of businesses receiving grant support (high street/town centres)	Number of businesses receiving grant support (wider town)	Number of businesses receiving non-financial support			

Commercial

Area of commercial floorspace to be created (m2)	Area of commercial floorspace to be refurbished (m2)	Area of public realm / outside space improved or enhanced (m2)	Area of commercial land / floorspace rationalised (m2)	Number of commercial premises with improved broadband access	

Transport

Length of new cycleway to be created (m)	Length of new footpaths to be created (m)	Number of new or improved public transport services			
2,400 m					



Development Sites & Housing					
Area of land to be developed (hectares)	Number of new housing units/dwellings to be created	Number of new housing units/dwellings to be refurbished			
Community					
Area of new community floorspace to be created (m2)	Area of community floorspace to be refurbished (m2)	Area of community floorspace rationalised (m2)	Number of community groups receiving grant support		



FINANCIAL DETAILS				
Total Capital		£655,000		
Total Revenue				
Total Market Town Funds requested		£330,000		
Please provide a financial summary for the project. All information should relate to the project for which Growth Funds are being sought				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 onwards	TOTAL COSTS
COSTS (£)				
Contribution to capital cost of delivery			£330,000	
TOTALS				
Please submit any information which substantiates these values and costs				

PROJECT FUNDING			
Please provide details of the funding already secured and/ or any being sought in addition to Market Town Funds, including, where appropriate any funding certificates			
SOURCE	VALUE (£)	TYPE (CAP/REV)	STATUS
ECDC grant application ????		£325,000	Awaiting confirmation of this ward
Please confirm the projected expenditure profile for the Market Town Funding requested			
MILESTONE	AMOUNT (£)	DATE	
50/50 split (start/completion)	£163,000	Q2 2022	
TBA WITH CPCA	£162,000	2022/23	
Please describe any other options (including funding options) that have been considered and explain why the amount being requested is the minimum necessary in order for the project to proceed			
N/A			

STATE AIDS
<p>Please confirm the Project is State Aid compliant: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/325465/bis-14-943-state-aid-general-block-exemption-guidance.pdf</p>
<p>(Please provide a copy of any legal advice received in this respect)</p>
<p>Yes. ECDC & STC's policy objective behind the subsidy is to ensure there is an environmentally sustainable means of public access for the benefit of the local community and wider society.</p>

PROJECT RISKS
<p>What are the key risks associated with the project and identified mitigation measures?</p>
<p>See attached.</p>
<p>Do you have any additional comments/information to support your application?</p>
<p>The registered Byway sits on land owned by abutting landowners. The only Body that has a Statutory duty in regards to public highways including public rights of ways such as footpaths and byways are Cambridgeshire County Council. Therefore, with agreement of CCC/landowner, (TBA), there is no preclusion for the town/parish councils to provide, under s137 or some other power, some contribution in funding on an annual basis to Cambridgeshire County Council to ensure that the surfaces of both for byway 113 and footpath 126 are maintained and remain fit for their intended purpose. (also see attached CCC email)</p>

DECLARATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I/We certify that to the best of our knowledge the information provided is a true and accurate reflection of our business circumstances. If this is found not to be the case the application will be declined without any further reference to us. • I/We authorise Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) undertake any searches or other investigations deemed necessary in the assessment of my/our application. CPCA is under no obligation to notify me/us of the nature of these searches. • I/We authorise CPCA to notify HM Government Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) and any of its subsidiaries of our application, where, in the opinion of CPCA, alternative and more appropriate sources of funding may be available. • I/We confirm that CPCA may make enquiries of any person who may have access to information relevant to my/our application without prior reference to me/us. • I/We agree that CPCA may use our company name in conjunction with their marketing activities. • I/We agree that CPCA's decision is final. • I/We have read and understood the features and eligibility criteria of the Programme.
<p>Signature</p>



Name	
Position	
Date	

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please check you have included copies the following with your completed application:

- ~~A completed and signed application form~~
- ~~A spreadsheet setting out the timeline for drawing down funds against key project milestones~~
- ~~A project cashflow spreadsheet (setting out all project costs and Market Towns funding)~~
- ~~A completed Risk Log (template provided)~~
- ~~Lead organisation Health & Safety Policy~~
- ~~Lead organisation Anti Slavery Policy~~
- ~~Lead organisation Equal Opportunity Policy~~

Please note

- Submissions must be electronic
- Applicants agree to the information contained in this form being processed by Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority for the express use of statistical analysis

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS

Please return completed Application forms to:

Domenico.Cirillo@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk

If you have any queries, please contact the CPCA on 01480 277180