

Have your say - Community Infrastructure Levy, Neighbourhood Improvement Strand.

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge which can be levied by local authorities on new development in their area. It is an important tool for local authorities to use to help them towards delivery of the infrastructure needed to take account of the growth generated by new development in their area.

The CIL Regulations 2010 as amended, part 7 state that 15 per cent of the total CIL contributions collected are to be allocated for spending in agreement with local communities – the Neighbourhood Improvement Strand.

In 2018 the council created a new community fund called the Neighbourhood Improvement Fund and used the [Crowdfund Crawley](#) website to distribute the fund with a focus on community-led projects. To date the total amount raised by these projects using the site is £124,501 from 397 backers (including a £25,395 contribution from the Neighbourhood Improvement Fund).

In addition to retaining £75,000 to continue the Neighbourhood Improvement Fund for a further three years, the council is intending to increase the impact that funds collected from new development can have at a neighbourhood level.

The council's Local Plan has identified required infrastructure needs for the town through its accompanying Infrastructure Delivery Schedule. The flexibility within the CIL regulations regarding the Neighbourhood Improvement Strand (NIS) would allow Crawley Borough Council to utilise some of the NIS funding collected to contribute to the delivery of neighbourhood level projects which are also part of the essential infrastructure of the town.

The following two projects have been identified that would fulfil these criteria:

- Unsupervised Play Investment Programme 2023/24 to 2030/31, for the provision and improvements to play areas (types A, B and C) at multiple locations across the Borough.
- Programme to improve drainage on playing fields and football pitches at multiple locations across the Borough.

The council is consulting residents and stakeholders on your views on its intention to fund the above two programmes from the CIL Neighbourhood Improvement Strand and also to continue the Neighbourhood Improvement Fund to support community-led projects.

In line with standard council procedures, as projects come forward in the future from the above programmes, the public will then be notified, through the Crawley consultation page, and asked for feedback on those.

To have your say on the above outline proposals for the use of the Neighbourhood Improvement Strand, please contact us via email at haveyoursay@crawley.gov.uk, or write to, Communications Team, Crawley Town Hall, The Boulevard, Crawley, RH10 1UZ. or by Friday 30 December 2022