

## Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Annual Update

### 1. Introduction

In March 2025, Council approved a Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) prioritisation framework for the period 2025/26 to 2029/30.

The approved framework identified approximately £29.3 million of Strategic CIL funding capacity over the five-year period against estimated infrastructure requirements of approximately £121.8 million. As a result, Council agreed a prioritised approach to directing available funding towards infrastructure necessary to support growth, housing delivery and wider infrastructure requirements across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole.

This update provides a summary of Strategic CIL income, approved commitments and programme delivery as at 30 June 2026.

### 2. Strategic CIL Programme Position

Since approval of the Strategic CIL framework, significant progress has been made in delivering the infrastructure priorities approved by Council. Major funding commitments have been approved towards flood defence, transport infrastructure, habitat mitigation and wider community infrastructure projects, whilst funding continues to be retained for future education infrastructure requirements associated with planned growth.

#### Position Against March 2025 Priorities

| Priority                     | March 2025 Allocation (£m) | % of Strategic CIL Programme | Approved / Committed at 30 June 2026 (£m) | % Committed | Position at 30 June 2026                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Habitat Mitigation           | 6.6                        | 22.5%                        | 5.5                                       | 83.3        | Funding identified through the Heathlands CIL/BARI programme to support habitat mitigation projects required to enable planned growth and housing delivery. |
| Flood Defence Infrastructure | 7.3                        | 24.9%                        | 7.3                                       | 100%        | Funding approved for the Poole Bridge to Hunger Hill Flood Defence Scheme and incorporated into the Council's infrastructure programme.                     |

| <b>Priority</b>                       | <b>March 2025 Allocation (£m)</b> | <b>% of Strategic CIL Programme</b> | <b>Approved / Committed at 30 June 2026 (£m)</b> | <b>% Committed</b> | <b>Position at 30 June 2026</b>                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Education Infrastructure              | 4.2                               | 14.3%                               | 0                                                | 0%                 | Funding retained within the programme to support future education infrastructure requirements associated with planned growth. |
| Strategic Transport Infrastructure    | 6.0                               | 20.5%                               | 6.0                                              | 100%               | Allocation approved through the Port of Poole Bridges Programme and associated transport infrastructure priorities.           |
| Discretionary Infrastructure Projects | 5.2                               | 17.8%                               | 0                                                | 0%                 | Allocation remains available for future priorities pending further approvals.                                                 |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>29.3</b>                       | <b>100%</b>                         | <b>18.8</b>                                      | <b>64.2%</b>       |                                                                                                                               |

### 3. Financial Position and Key Findings

The Strategic CIL framework approved by Council in March 2025 was based on forecast Strategic CIL income of approximately £4 million per annum over the five-year programme period.

As at 30 June 2026, the balance of strategic CIL received to date available for future investment is approximately £18.2 million. This funding forms the primary source of Strategic CIL investment and is used to support the delivery of infrastructure required to accommodate growth across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole<sup>1</sup>. The Strategic CIL programme is managed over a number of years, with commitments made against both available funding and forecast future CIL receipts.

The current position demonstrates that significant progress has been made in implementing the priorities approved by Council. Based on approved allocations and commitments, approximately £18.8 million has been committed or identified against the priorities approved in March 2025, representing 64.2% of the £29.3 million Strategic CIL programme.

<sup>1</sup> As at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026, the Council had also received approximately £4.2 million of Neighbourhood CIL, £72,000 of administrative CIL funding, £4.2 million of Heathlands CIL / BARI funding, and £312,000 of Nitrogen Mitigation CIL. These funding streams are subject to separate governance arrangements and are used for specific purposes in accordance with the relevant regulations and mitigation requirements.

The largest commitments relate to:

- £7.3 million for the Poole Bridge to Hunger Hill Flood Defence Scheme.
- £6.0 million for the Port of Poole Bridges Programme.
- £5.5 million towards habitat mitigation projects.

To date, the majority of committed funding has been directed towards flood defence, strategic transport infrastructure and habitat mitigation, which together account for approximately £18.8 million of approved commitments. The allocation approved for the Poole Bridge to Hunger Hill Flood Defence Scheme has been fully committed, all of the funding identified for strategic transport infrastructure has been allocated through the Port of Poole Bridges Programme.

Habitat mitigation also continues to represent a significant infrastructure priority, with approximately £5.5 million identified through the Heathlands CIL/BARI and Nitrogen Mitigation programmes supporting the Council's statutory environmental obligations and enabling housing delivery across the BCP area.

By contrast, the education allocation remains a future commitment. The funding identified by Council continues to be retained within the programme to support future school expansion requirements associated with planned growth where developer contributions alone are insufficient to meet infrastructure needs.

The discretionary infrastructure allocation also remains available for future priorities, allowing flexibility to respond to emerging infrastructure requirements over the remainder of the programme period.

Overall, approximately 64.2% of the Strategic CIL programme approved by Council has now been committed or identified against the priority areas approved in March 2025, with investment focused primarily on flood defence, strategic transport and habitat mitigation infrastructure.

#### **4. Conclusion**

The Strategic CIL priorities approved by Council in March 2025 remain broadly unchanged and continue to provide an appropriate framework for directing infrastructure investment.

Since approval of the framework, significant commitments have been approved towards flood defence infrastructure, strategic transport improvements and habitat mitigation projects. In particular, the Poole Bridge to Hunger Hill Flood Defence Scheme, the Port of Poole Bridges Programme and habitat mitigation projects account for the majority of commitments approved to date. Funding also continues to be retained for future education infrastructure requirements associated with planned growth, whilst discretionary funding remains available to support emerging infrastructure priorities.

The Strategic CIL programme remains on course to deliver the priorities approved by Council. However, infrastructure requirements continue to exceed available funding resources and careful prioritisation will continue to be required to ensure future Strategic CIL funding is directed towards projects that provide the greatest benefit in supporting sustainable growth across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole.