



Lichfield City Council

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Town Clerk: **Anthony Briggs** B.A. (Hons), CILCA

7 September 2026

To: Members of the Grants Advisory Committee

Councillor C Ball (Chair) and Cllrs H Ashton, D Baker, J Christie, A Hughes, P Knight, J Marshall, C Pinder-Smith, B Watkins and R Yardley.

Dear Councillor

Grants Advisory Committee

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Grants Advisory Committee to be held **via 'Zoom' at 6.00pm on Monday 14 September 2026** at which the following business will be transacted.

Any Councillor unable to attend should forward their apologies to the Town Clerk.

Yours sincerely

Tony Briggs
Town Clerk

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

3. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 May 2026 (**attached**) and to consider any matters arising from those Minutes. *[Minutes adopted by Council on 8 June 2026.]*

4. **GENERAL REVENUE GRANTS – 2026/27 BALANCES**

The table below reflects the current position of the council's revenue grant reserve/allocations. The table includes the allocations from the main annual grants round for 2026/27, the reserve carried forward from 2025/26, and grants awarded 'in year as detailed below:

Lichfield Community Sports Club - £16,800 (awarded in stages across 2026/27)

Late Night Listeners - £500

Friends of Lichfield City Station - £400 (July Council)

Budget Allocation	Budget (£) (26/27)	Allocated (£) (26/27)	Balance Available (£)
Earmarked Reserve	5,663	-	5,663
General Grants	50,000	49,958	42
Churchyards	11,010	10,905	105
Total	£66,673	£60,863	£5,810

RECOMMENDED: That the report be noted.

5. **IMPACT REPORT – LICHFIELD COMMUNITY SPORT SUMMER CAMPS**

To receive the report from Lichfield Community Sports CIC following the LCC grant funded summer camps (**ENCLOSURE 1**). Members are reminded that the Committee allocated funds for various camps across school holidays for the remainder of the 2026/27 financial year (see minute no.5 from the meeting of 18 May 2026 included in this agenda).

RECOMMENDED: That the Impact Report be received.

6. **2027/28 GRANTS ROUND**

The main annual grants funding round is now open for applications to 2027/28 funds. Previous applicants will be advised of this shortly, together with a press release. Further information can be found on the '[Grants](#)' page of the LCC website. The Grants Committee is scheduled to consider applications at its meeting of 22 February 2027.

RECOMMENDED: That the update be noted.

7. **CIL - MONIES RECEIVED, COMMITTED AND FORECAST**

To consider the Town Clerk's report at **APPENDIX 1** (attached). As is required by the relevant legislation, CIL is recorded separately to general revenue grants. The current CIL balance available for new allocations is **£149**. CIL is transferred to LCC from LDC twice per year (April and October). The scheduled October 2026 payment to LCC is approximately £52,000. The Committee is asked to note the CIL allocation of £12,000 made to the 6th Scouts, Lichfield at July Council.

RECOMMENDED: That the CIL balance, commitments and forecast be noted.

8. CIL – SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES (SIDS) – PURCELL AVENUE, LICHFIELD

To consider the Town Clerk's report at **APPENDIX 2** (attached).

RECOMMENDED: The Committee to note the content of the above report, together with allowing for further consideration should Staffordshire County Council's policy review result in a change of policy, or if evidence emerges demonstrating a need for additional measures that is supported by SCC's own metrics.

Town Clerk's Note: The following agenda items include requests for CIL totalling £51,585. As the latest transfer of CIL (forecast approx. £52,000) is yet to be received, the Committee may wish to consider conditions on any recommended allocation such as:

- *Being dependent upon the actual October 2026 CIL receipt being received as forecast*
 - *Prioritising applications should the eventual CIL receipt not cover the proposed allocations.*
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9. CIL REQUEST - HOSTILE VEHICLE MITIGATION BARRIER SYSTEMS (£24,085)

To consider the report provided by Richard Hunt, City Mace Bearer and designated LCC counter terror policy lead, provided at **APPENDIX 3** (attached). The opportunity may exist for LCC to hire the system to third parties though this has not been pursued in detail pending the discussions of the Committee as to the principle of purchase.

RECOMMENDED: The Committee to consider the report, discuss and agree the appropriateness of a CIL contribution, the amount of any such contribution, and make a corresponding recommendation to council.

10. CIL REQUEST - AIR CONDITIONING, DARWIN HALL (MATCH FUND 50% / £10,500)

At its meeting on 18 May 2026, this Committee considered a request from the Darwin Hall Community Association (DHCA) for 50% CIL contribution towards the installation of air conditioning at Darwin Hall – approximately £10,500. This Committee recommended to Council that £4,000 be allocated.

Council received further representations from DHCA clarifying that the proposal is intended not only to provide cooling but also to replace the existing Ground Source Heat Pump, which DHCA considers to be approaching the end of its operational life. DHCA has advised that the proposed system would provide both heating and cooling and could reduce electricity consumption during winter months. At the time of council consideration, the matter of Planning permission for the external element of the air conditioning units was being progressed by DHCA

Having considered the additional information, Council resolved that the matter be referred back to this Committee for further consideration, with the anticipation that more information would be available regarding the 'Planning' matter, and a more accurate forecast of likely CIL receipts would be available.

In regard to Planning, DHCA have received pre-application advice from LDC that suggests the formal application will be favourably received; DHCA are in the process of submitting the formal application currently.

A CIL allocation forecast of approximately £26,000 was reported to Council in June, but more recent estimates from LDC have seen this figure double (see Appendix 1).

Should the Committee be minded to recommend a CIL allocation, it may wish to set a maximum funding figure, while stipulating that the contribution will not exceed 50% of the total project cost.

RECOMMENDED: The Committee to consider the request for a CIL contribution, agree the sum and any conditions of any such contribution, and make a corresponding recommendation to council.

11. CIL REQUEST – JOHNSON STATUE, MARKET SQUARE (£17,000)

The Council's Museums and Heritage Officer (MHO) identified concerns regarding the condition of the Johnson Statue on Market Square. Following discussions with the Town Clerk, a specialist condition survey was commissioned to assess the monument and provide recommendations together with a cost estimate for conservation works.

The resulting report is attached as **ENCLOSURE 2** and was accompanied by the following summary from the consultant:

"The monument would greatly benefit from conservation. As outlined in the attached report, the stone is undergoing progressive weathering and deterioration, resulting in the gradual loss of the original carved details, surface definition and the legibility of the inscriptions. In addition, there is deterioration of the pointing, localised stone loss, biological growth and other weathering-related defects.

The proposed conservation treatment is designed to preserve the surviving historic fabric, carved details and inscriptions, while stabilising the deteriorating stone surfaces and reducing further deterioration. The works would also improve the monument's overall condition, durability and appearance, helping to safeguard it for many years to come.

Please note that the cost of scaffolding has not been included within the attached estimate."

The quotation received for the conservation works totals £14,440 plus VAT, excluding scaffolding. The full quotation document is available to members on request. A quote for scaffold is awaited, but an assumed sum of around £2,500 appears reasonable, taking the project total to around **£17,000**.

The MHO is seeking additional quotations but given the specialist nature of the work and current demand for conservation services, obtaining further estimates may take some time. The Committee is therefore invited to consider the proposal based on a single quotation at this stage. Based on her significant experience however, the MHO believes the quotation received is competitive.

Should the Committee be minded to recommend a CIL allocation, it may wish to attach conditions to any recommendation to Council, including:

- that efforts continue to obtain at least two further quotations
- delegated authority be granted to the Town Clerk and the MHO, in consultation with the Chair of this Committee and the Leader of the Council, to review any further quotations received and appoint the preferred contractor

RECOMMENDED: The Committee to consider the report and agree whether or not it wishes to recommend a CIL allocation to full council, the amount of any such allocation, and any conditions to be attached to it.

12. CIL - ALLOCATION UPDATES

A brief update on each ongoing/recently completed project where CIL has been allocated is provided at **APPENDIX 3** (attached).

RECOMMENDED: The report be noted.

13. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

To be decided by the Committee.

ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR

Lichfield City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the Grants Advisory Committee
held via 'Zoom' at 6.00pm on Monday 18 May 2026

PRESENT: Councillors C Ball (Chair), H Ashton, J Christie, A Hughes, J Marshall, B Watkins and R Yardley.

APOLOGIES: Councillors D Baker and C Pinder-Smith

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None.

2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

RESOLVED: *That the minutes of the Grants Committee meeting held on 23 February 2026 be confirmed as a correct record [Minutes adopted by Council on 9 March 2026]*

3. GENERAL REVENUE GRANTS – 2025/26 BALANCES

The Committee considered the agenda report, setting out the 2026/27 balances.

RESOLVED: *That the report be noted.*

4. GENERAL REVENUE GRANT – FORM & POLICY REVIEW

Members carried out the annual review of the Grants Policy and associated application form. It was agreed that the policy should emphasise that other organisations had found success with match funding and that LCC would be supportive of such bids. The revised application form was considered a significant improvement.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: *That the revised Grant Award Policy be adopted*

5. GENERAL GRANT REQUEST – LICHFIELD COMMUNITY SPORTS CLUB CIC

Members considered the application for a grant in the sum of £16,800 to provide school holiday activities across the remainder of the 2026/27 financial year. The Committee discussed the application at length, agreeing that the provision has been well received in the past and that the applicant has proven their ability to deliver. There were concerns however as to the sum of money requested and its impact on the grant reserve, and the gender split of those taking part. Clarification was also requested on venue ownership.

It was agreed that the grant allocation be supported subject to clarification on these points. Funding for each holiday club, though approved across the year in principle, to be subject to satisfactory delivery and reporting of previous club/s.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: *That a grant in the sum of £16,800 be approved for Lichfield Community Sports CIC subject to:*

- *satisfactory clarification of the venue ownership question mentioned above*
- *reporting on the gender split, encouraging female participation if underrepresented and reporting on outcomes*
- *funding for each holiday club being dependent on satisfactory delivery and reporting on the previous club/s across the year.*

6. GENERAL GRANT REQUEST – LATE NIGHT LISTENERS

Members considered the application for a grant in the sum of £500 from Late Night Listeners to assist with provision of insurance and radio communications. The Committee agreed that Late Night Listeners carried out important work and should be supported.

Cllr H Ashton advised that bank account details may be in the process of being updated.

***RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:* That a grant in the sum of £500 be awarded to Late Night Listeners.**

7. CIL MONIES RECEIVED, COMMITTED AND FORECAST

Members considered the agenda report which provided detail of completed and ongoing CIL funded projects. The current amount of CIL available for allocation being £12,149.

***RESOLVED:* That the report be noted.**

8. CIL REQUEST – AIR CONDITIONING, DARWIN HALL (MATCH FUND)

Members considered the proposal from Darwin Hall Community Association (DHCA) to install air conditioning at Darwin Hall. DHCA had received one quotation, with another expected imminently. The sole quotation totalled approximately £21,000. The Committee noted that a 50% match fund would result in nearly all available CIL being allocated, and discussed the relative merits of the proposal, noting that no other community centre owned by the council has air conditioning.

The Town Clerk advised that the inherent design of the Hall had led to relatively low natural ventilation when compared to (for example) Boley Park Community Hall (which does have fans installed in the main hall, but no air conditioning), and that the heat inside Darwin Hall had been a main complaint from hirers such as the pre-school for some years.

The Committee wished to encourage DHCA to seek alternative sources of funding, notably CIL from Lichfield District Council, if possible. The Town Clerk advised that DHCA itself had healthy reserves, but was not aware if these were being held as free reserves or strategically for planned improvements, maintenance etc.

Following discussion, it was agreed that a sum of £4,000 be allocated; the Committee being favourably disposed to the proposal, but did not feel able to commit nearly all available CIL to meet the 50% match fund request.

***RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:* That a CIL allocation of £4,000 be awarded to Darwin Hall Community Association towards the costs of air conditioning installation at the Hall.**

9. CIL ALLOCATION UPDATES

Town Clerk confirmed that the applicants for the Petit Plaque had withdrawn from the process due to a lack of capacity. Cllr H Ashton advised he would raise the matter of the Stowe Pool information boards at the next Friends of Lichfield Historic Parks meeting. Given the potential implications of local government reorganisation if the project is not completed relatively soon, the Chair asked the Town Clerk to raise the matter with District Council officers.

***RESOLVED:* That the report be noted.**

10. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting to be held in September via Zoom; The Town Clerk to circulate possible dates in due course.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 6.45PM**

Grants Advisory Committee: 14 September 2026 APPENDIX 1

Table 1: Combined CIL Balance to September 2026

Period	CIL Received £	CIL Allocations Minus Underspend £	CIL Balance £
Balance as at 31 March 2026	463,045	£347,613	£115,432
Received/Processed to Sept 2026	27,623	79,351	-51,728
Awaiting Invoice at Sept 2026	-	63,555	-63,555
Balance as at September 2026	£490,668	£490,519	£149

Table 2: Ongoing CIL Projects

Project	Amount Allocated £	Actual Invoiced £	Awaiting Invoice £
Restoration of Lock 23 (LHCRT)	54,000	0	54,000
Information Boards Stowe Pool (LDC)	9,555	0	9,555
TOTAL	£75,555	£0	£63,555

Table 3: CIL Received April 2026

Reference	Site address	Parish %	Parish Allocation £
19/01284/FUL	The Cottage, Tamworth Road	25	1,061.94
24/00137/REMM	Land at Cricket Lane (2 of 4)	25	26,561.57
TOTAL			£27,623.51

Table 4: CIL Forecast (provided by Lichfield District Council)

Date Payable	Allocation £
October 2026	52,065
April 2027	65,443
October 2027	28,965
TOTAL	£146,473

Table 5: Completed CIL Projects to Date

*underspends are returned to CIL balance

Project	Allocated £	Invoiced £	Underspend £*
New City Centre Signage	15,741	14,112	1,629
Curborough Community Centre CCTV (contribution)	3,000	3,000	0
Refurbishment of entrance to Lichfield signage	2,305	2,305	0
New external doors, Curborough CC (contribution)	3,337	3,337	0
Infrastructure support to LHCRT	10,000	10,000	0
Replacement of SOX/SON streetlighting (contribution)	8,000	8,000	0
Sandfields Pumping Station - Lichfield Waterworks Trust	10,000	10,000	0
Curborough Community Centre - pathways (Contribution)	6,000	6,000	0

Cycle Parking - Darwin Hall & Curborough CC	210	210	0
Boley Park Community Hall – doors/screens & floor sanding	17,000	16,306	694
Lichfield Waterworks Trust – cycle shelter	2,175	2,175	0
Festival Gardens boundary protection (contribution)	15,000	15,000	0
20MPH repeater signs – North Lichfield (1st phase)	2,500	2,145	355
Bus Shelter adjacent Boley Park Community Hall	5,500	5,269	231
CCTV and Fire Alarm – Boley Park CC	8,000	5,640	2,360
Lichfield Hockey Club - clubhouse to pitch pathway	12,200	12,200	0
Extended footpath to Sports Club, Eastern Avenue	12,000	12,000	0
Boley Park Pre-School – improved play area (contribution)	11,200	11,200	0
Replacement of birds mouth fencing – Curborough CC	9,500	9,500	0
Sound infrastructure improvements, Hub at St Mary's	21,465	21,465	0
Cycle track Improvements – Adjacent Stowe Pool	2,000	1,421	579
Allotment sites - access improvements	27,500	27,300	200
Allotment sites - replacement gates	2,800	2,410	390
Defibrillator at Sandfields Pumping Station	2,693	2,463	230
Provision of Cycle Repair Station – City Centre	3,000	2,150	850
City Centre Plaques Project/Barber & Seward Plaques	4,820	4,781	39
Lichfield Community Speed Watch Signage	1,500	384	1,116
Upgrade to Guildhall CCTV	5,585	5,586	-1
Allotment sites – Water Troughs/Associated Pipework	7,584	6,921	663
Hub at St Mary's – Bell Restoration (Contribution)	6,973	6,973	0
Darwin Hall - Replacement Rear Doors	6,633	6,633	0
Daisy Shaw Plaque	750	535	215
Pathway Lighting – Cross Keys to Stowe Pool	4,155	2,985	1,170
Liberty Jamboree – Lift Provision – Match Funding LDC	16,352	16,351	1
New Lighting – Sandfields (LWT)	5,500	5,500	0
Festival Gardens Additional Lighting	13,033	11,500	1,533
Parking Prevention - Beaconfields	5,000	4,430	570
JL Petit Plaque (not led by LCC)	750	0	750
Driveway to St Michael's Church	3,240	3,240	0
Additional Solar Panels – Darwin Hall	6,960	6,960	0
Michael Johnson's Workroom	14,625	14,625	0
Improvement Works to Christian Fields Site	32,300	32,300	0
Renovation of Birthplace Museum Kitchen and Toilet	22,042	22,042	0
Friary Clock Repairs	7,611	7,611	0
Guildhall Roof Repairs	50,000	50,000	0
6 th Scouts – Scout Hut, Christchurch Lane (contribution)	12,000	12,000	0
TOTAL	£440,539	£426,965	£13,574

Grants Advisory Committee: 14 September 2026 APPENDIX 2

Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) – Purcell Avenue, Lichfield

In March 2026, SCC Councillor Matthew Wallens raised concerns regarding vehicle speeds on Purcell Avenue and referred to traffic survey data provided by Staffordshire County Council. He suggested that Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) could be beneficial, particularly given the proximity of Charnwood Primary Academy.

On 7 June 2026, Cllr Wallens formally requested that Lichfield City Council consider supporting the installation of one or more SIDs in the vicinity of Charnwood Primary Academy. The request followed further concerns raised by local residents regarding vehicle speeds, particularly during school drop-off and pick-up periods when significant pedestrian activity takes place.

Cllr Wallens stated that SIDs have proved effective elsewhere in encouraging compliance with speed limits and suggested that discussions take place with Staffordshire County Council regarding suitable locations, costs and funding opportunities. He also advised that he may be able to contribute funding towards installation through his Divisional Highway Programme (DHP) allocation.

Cllr Ball, who was included in communications, advised that the City Council had considered the matter previously and noted that both installation and ongoing maintenance costs would likely fall to LCC.

Speed Survey Evidence

A radar-based speed and volume survey was undertaken by Staffordshire County Council on Purcell Avenue between 29 January and 5 February 2026. The survey recorded:

- Average speed eastbound: 18.6 mph
- Average speed westbound: 18.8 mph
- 85th percentile speed eastbound: 22.2 mph
- 85th percentile speed westbound: 22.4 mph

In its original assessment, Staffordshire County Council advised that the recorded 85th percentile speeds exceeded the 20mph speed limit but remained below police enforcement thresholds.

The Town Clerk sought confirmation of the survey results and clarification regarding reports that Staffordshire County Council had suspended approval of new SID installations pending a policy review. In response, Staffordshire County Council Highways confirmed that:

- The survey results outlined above remain the current position
- A county-wide review of SID policy and procedures is currently underway
- The review is ongoing as at September 2026

Whilst the review is ongoing, new SID schemes are not being progressed, although expressions of interest are being recorded.

SCC Advice

SCC Highways advised that, based on survey results, it would not normally recommend/support installation of SIDs on Purcell Avenue. The reasons given are:

- Recorded speeds are below the threshold normally used for police enforcement
- SIDs are considered most effective where there is a demonstrable speeding problem; installing them where vehicle speeds are already relatively low can reduce their effectiveness
- The road already contains features that assist with speed reduction, including speed humps, school warning signs and on-street parking, which together make the route largely self-enforcing
- Highways officers have indicated that, should concerns remain, they would be willing to consider a road safety appraisal to determine whether any existing measures could be enhanced. However, they have advised that current survey data indicates generally good compliance with the speed limit

Current Position and LCC Considerations

The request from Cllr Wallens remains an expression of concern on behalf of local residents and school users. However, LCC must consider the following:

- SCC is not currently progressing new SID schemes pending completion of its policy review
- SCC Highways has advised that it would not normally recommend/support SID installation at this location based on the available evidence

Accordingly, there is no immediate action available to the City Council regarding this matter beyond noting the request and the advice received from the Highway Authority.

RECOMMENDED: The Committee to note the content of the above report, together with allowing for further consideration should Staffordshire County Council's policy review result in a change of policy, or if evidence emerges demonstrating a need for additional measures that is supported by SCC's own metrics.

Assessment of Hostile Vehicle Mitigation (HVM) Barrier Systems

Background

The requirement for flexible Hostile Vehicle Mitigation (HVM) measures has increased as public authorities and event organisers seek to protect public spaces from vehicle-based threats, while maintaining normal pedestrian access, and the ability to respond quickly to changing operational requirements.

Permanent bollards, and other fixed measures provide an important level of protection in appropriate locations. However, they do not necessarily provide a suitable solution for temporary events, changing street layouts or locations where vehicle access needs to be maintained or altered.

The increasing use of vehicles as weapons in attacks across Europe, most recently the vehicle attack in Berlin in July 2026, highlights the need to consider Hostile Vehicle Mitigation (HVM) as part of the wider event risk assessment process.

The National Protective Security Authority (NPSA) identifies public places, and events where vehicles can access areas occupied by crowds as requiring consideration of appropriate protective measures.

Members will be aware of the measures the Council has already put in place in preparation for The Protection of Premises Act (Martyns Law) however, Officers now request Members to also consider the purchase of its own Hostile Vehicle Mitigation (HVM) equipment for use at all outdoor events. This will provide a consistent, and proportionate approach to protecting attendees, and managing the risks associated with vehicle-based threats.

Assessment Of Pitagone F18 Portable High Vehicle Mitigation (HVM) Barrier System

This system has been considered as a potential complementary solution to permanent HVM infrastructure. The system has already been deployed by organisations including the Metropolitan Police and at Twickenham Stadium, as well as being used during the recent installation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, which was attended by members of the Royal Family. This provides evidence of its suitability and effectiveness in both operational and high-profile event environments.



The system has undergone impact testing in accordance with International Workshop Agreement (IWA) 14-1 and BSI PAS 68:2013.

IWA 14-1 is an internationally recognised crash-test standard developed by the International Organization for Standardisation (ISO) to evaluate and classify the impact performance of Vehicle Security Barriers (VSBs). Published in 2013, it provides an international framework for Hostile

Vehicle Mitigation (HVM), drawing on established testing methodologies, including the British PAS 68, and American ASTM F2656 standards.

Testing has also been undertaken at the Motor Industry Research Association (**MIRA**) Test Centre in Nuneaton, providing independent evidence of the system's impact performance.

The Pitagone F18 barriers have additionally undergone side-impact testing, providing further assurance of their performance in different vehicle attack scenarios.

The F18 is designed to be assembled and deployed by a single operative without specialist tools. It can subsequently be dismantled, transported, and stored efficiently. The modular design is available in two widths, allowing the system to be adapted to various locations, and access requirements.

As part of the assessment a site visit and practical demonstration of the system was held on 29 July 2026.

The assessment considered: Deployment and assembly, dismantling and removal, portability and maneuverability, and requirements for manpower, and tools. In addition, pedestrian and emergency accessibility was demonstrated.

The practical demonstration indicated that the system can be rapidly assembled and deployed by one operative without the need for specialist tools. The ability to reposition and reconfigure the system is considered particularly beneficial where protection requirements change during an event, or where different areas of a site require protection at various times.

Accessibility and Emergency Access

The design is intended to remain pedestrian friendly and can accommodate:

- Normal pedestrian movement.
- Wheelchair users.
- Disabled access requirements.
- Pushchairs

This is an important consideration where HVM measures are deployed within busy public spaces and event environments. The system can be moved to facilitate emergency access when required. This provides an operational advantage compared with permanently fixed HVM measures.

The Pitagone barriers provide a portable and flexible solution for protecting public spaces and events against vehicle-ramming attacks, and unauthorised vehicle access. Its principal advantages are its portability, rapid deployment, ease of assembly, minimal maintenance requirements, and ability to adapt to different street layouts, and operational requirements.

Based on the practical demonstration, available test certification, operational experience, and the feedback received from existing users, the Pitagone F18 appears to offer a highly flexible temporary HVM solution for Lichfield City Council's requirements.

Costings – Purchase Vs Hire

The initial costing for a purchase of **24 Pitagone F18 units** is as follows:

Item	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total
Pitagone F18 barriers	24	£900	£21,600
Storage racks	4	£695	£2,780
Pallet delivery	4	£150	£600
Sliders for rack movement	2 units	£495	£495
Total excluding VAT			£25,475
VAT			£5,095
Total including VAT			£30,570

VAT of £5,095 is assumed to be reclaimable, subject to the organisation's normal VAT arrangements.

Potential Savings

It has been proposed that delivery should be provided free of charge, removing the £600 delivery cost. It has also been proposed that only **two racks** should be purchased for transportation between sites, rather than four. This would give the following revised position:

Revised equipment cost: £23,485 excluding VAT

With delivery included:

£24,085 excluding VAT

As VAT is fully reclaimable, the effective cost to the organisation would be **£24,085**.

Hiring Costs

A hiring option is also available.

The daily costs quoted are:

Deployment arrangement	Daily cost excluding VAT
Installed and staffed by Pitagone	£3,440
Installed and manned by LCC	£2,480

The hiring option may therefore be appropriate for individual events or occasional requirements. However, where barriers are expected to be deployed regularly over a number of years, purchasing the equipment may provide better long-term value and greater operational flexibility.

Value for Money

The additional expenditure on storage and logistics equipment provides the infrastructure required to maintain, transport, and deploy the barriers efficiently.

By comparison, hiring costs of £2,480–£3,440 per day could become significant if the system is required regularly.

For example, based solely on the quoted hiring rates, the revised purchase cost of £24,085 excluding VAT is equivalent to approximately:

- **9.7 days** of hiring at £2,480 per day; or
- **7.0 days** of hiring at £3,440 per day.

This indicates that, if the barriers are expected to be deployed regularly, purchasing may provide a significantly better long-term financial proposition than repeated hiring.

Maintenance And Service Life

The system is described as requiring:

- Minimal maintenance.
- No routine service costs.
- No specialist servicing arrangements.

An expected service life of **8–10 years under high-volume usage** has been indicated.

The actual service life will depend upon frequency of deployment, storage conditions, handling, and exposure to environmental conditions.

Testimonials

Metropolitan Police Operational Experience

Information provided by Liam MacDonald, UK Pitagone Sales Manager, indicates that the Metropolitan Police initially purchased approximately 800 modules five to six years ago.

A further order for approximately 860 modules is scheduled for delivery in September.

This provides evidence of continued operational use of the system by a major UK policing organisation and suggests that the system has demonstrated sufficient operational value to justify further procurement.

The scale and longevity of this deployment are relevant considerations when assessing the suitability of the F18 for continued operational use.

Existing User Experience – Canterbury

Canterbury has permanent bollards in certain locations, however, had identified a requirement for additional temporary and flexible HVM measures.

Recent events, including Christmas markets and the Enthronement of the Archbishop of Canterbury, highlighted the need for flexible vehicle mitigation arrangements.

Following research, and observation of Pitagone barriers being used at an event in London, the F18 system was considered highly suitable for these requirements.

Canterbury subsequently purchased 12 barriers in November/December 2025, together with holding crates and locks.

Feedback from the user has been positive. The equipment has been deployed on a near-permanent basis in a variety of configurations, particularly in conjunction with the Cathedral. The user feedback identifies the following positive points:

- The equipment is considered reliable and effective.
- The barriers have proved versatile in different deployment arrangements.

- The supplier has been easy to communicate with.
- Pitagone has been responsive to operational requirements.
- Delivery and training support have been provided.
- The overall procurement and operational experience have been positive.

Comparison with Fixed HVM Measures

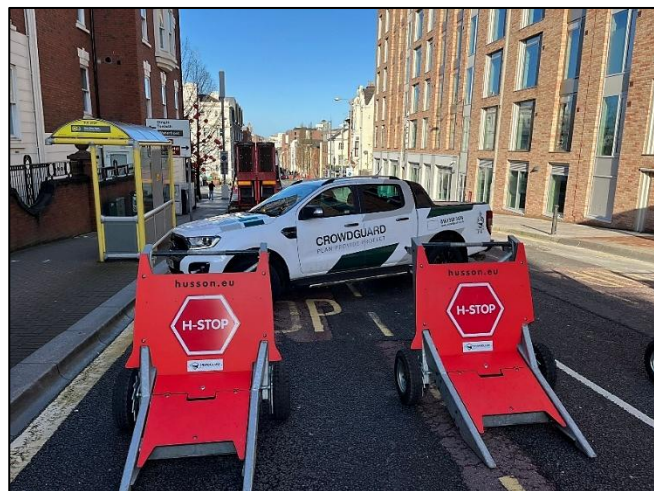
Permanent bollards remain an important solution where continuous protection is required at a specific location. However, the Pitagone F18 provides a different capability by offering a mobile and reconfigurable HVM solution. Its principal advantages over a fixed installation include:

- No permanent civil engineering works required for deployment.
- Can be moved between locations.
- Can be reconfigured to suit different events.
- It can be stored when not required.
- Can provide temporary protection at locations without permanent HVM.
- It can be removed to facilitate emergencies or authorised vehicle access.
- Can support changing security requirements.

The F18 should therefore be viewed as a complementary solution to permanent HVM infrastructure rather than necessarily as a replacement for fixed bollards.

Assessment Of H Stop HVM Barriers

Research has also been conducted into a similar product called **H STOP**, which is a HVM portable system. The main supplier in the UK is CROWDGUARD.



To purchase 24 of the units illustrated above would be **£130,800**.

Each unit cost £ 5,450.

Plus, Shipping £3,500.

Plus, Initial marking out and training: £650 for LCC employees

Plus, Annual SLA: £1800.

Total: £136,750. (Ex VAT)

Hire Costs

24 Units Up to 1 week: £6,480 (£270 per unit)

Transportation: 4 x £650 Total: £2,600.

TOTAL HIRE COST; £9,080.

The H Stop system performs similarly to Pitagone F18, however, it has not been subject to the same rigorous performance testing. Pitagone is accredited and includes head-on, offset, and 45-degree angle testing against a 7.5T vehicle, whereas the H-Stop is rated for 2.2T to 3.5T vehicles. In addition, H Stop would appear to be cost prohibitive.

Conclusion

The assessment indicates that the **Pitagone F18 HVM barrier system** offers a practical, flexible, and portable solution for temporary vehicle mitigation.

Its combination of impact testing, rapid deployment, one-person assembly, portability, modularity, and low ongoing maintenance requirements makes it particularly suitable for public events, and locations where permanent HVM measures are either unavailable or insufficiently flexible.

Lichfield City Council operates a minimum of 10 events per year when this equipment could be deployed. Thus, based on the figures in this report, within 12 months the cost of purchase against hire is significantly financially advantageous.

There would be an opportunity to loan the equipment on a full, or per unit basis, to known organisations in Lichfield, such as Lichfield Arts, Lichfield Festival, the Cathedral, and other Stakeholders within the City. This loan could carry a hire fee, thus recouping funds from the initial capital investment.

The ability to store and transport the system efficiently is also a significant operational advantage, particularly where barriers may be required across multiple sites.

Subject to satisfactory confirmation of the certification, procurement terms, warranty and operational requirements, the proposed purchase of 24 F18 barriers offers a strong and flexible HVM capability.

The procurement cost of **£24,085 excluding VAT**, assuming free delivery and the purchase of two transportation racks, represents a significant financial saving compared to annual hiring.

Overall, based on the assessment undertaken, the Pitagone F18 appears to provide a credible, flexible, and operationally practical HVM solution, with the potential to deliver both security and financial benefits over its anticipated service life.

RECOMMENDED: The Committee to consider the report, discuss and agree the appropriateness of a CIL contribution, the amount of any such contribution, and make a corresponding recommendation to council.

Grants Advisory Committee: 14 September 2026 APPENDIX 4

CIL ALLOCATION UPDATES

Several CIL projects have either been recently completed or are ongoing. A brief update on each is provided below. The full list of *completed* CIL projects can be found at Appendix 1.

1. LHCRT, Restoration of Lock 23 (CIL allocation £54,000)

Further progress is being made by the Trust towards the restoration of lock 23 with significant developments along Tamworth Road, most recently including the installation of the swing bridge and associated work towards the project area, plus further work undertaken at Gallows Wharf including the removal of the 'big pipe' and laying 85 metres of new canal, allowing it to be partially in water. The overall project for this section of the canal remains on schedule.

2. Information Boards – Stowe Pool (CIL allocation £9,555)

An update from LDC in January 2026 stated that the aim was to have the signage nearly complete, if not installed, prior to the Green Flag judges' accreditation visit in May/June of this year. On 20 May, a further update from LDC stated that the sign text was with the communications team for proofing, and that final tweaks were with the designer, with sign off awaited thereafter. A further update on 24 August stated that final details were being put in place, with the need to clarify the location for board number 3. Quotes are on file and the purchase order can be issued following some further discussion with the contractor regarding materials. LDC have [shared a link](#) allowing members to see the current design/text.

3. Guildhall Roof Repairs (£50,000)

Work commenced on 6 May 2026, with interim valuations as certified by the architects provided on an approximate monthly basis. CIL funds were allocated in the first instance, with the invoices funded through CIL having been received and paid.

4. Scout Hut – Christchurch Lane (contribution)

A CIL contribution of £12,000 was agreed by Council at its July meeting. The Scout group Leader and others involved in the project have asked that their sincere thanks be conveyed to the Grants Committee and the Council. LCC's contribution has been paid to the Scouts as 'part payment' of the overall project. Work is ongoing, but LCC's involvement is completed.

RECOMMENDED: That the report be noted.