

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Public Bidding & General Statement

What is CIL?

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a planning charge that local authorities, including Swindon Borough Council, apply to new developments. The funds help deliver the infrastructure needed to support growth & offset the impact of development to those already here.

CIL is governed by the *Planning Act 2008* and the *Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended)*.

When new buildings are constructed within our parish, developers may be required to pay a CIL charge to Swindon Borough Council. These contributions help fund infrastructure such as roads, schools, parks, and healthcare facilities. This in part helps to ensure local services keep pace with the anticipated increasing population and amenity use.

The Neighbourhood Portion

A proportion of the CIL collected, known as the Neighbourhood Portion, is passed directly to the parish or town council where the development takes place. Swindon Borough Council do this periodically through the year.

For Central Swindon North Parish Council:

- Swindon Borough Council collects CIL payments and reports on how they are used.
- CSNPC receives 15% of local CIL receipts because we do not have an adopted Neighbourhood Plan in place. If we did have a neighbourhood plan in place we would be entitled to 25% of local CIL receipts.
- Neighbourhood plans are very expensive to produce and in densely built areas such as CSNPC, local development is limited, which means CIL payback times against the Neighbourhood plan cost is disproportionate. Councillors regularly review the likelihood of future development and may in the future proceed with a Neighbourhood plan.

What Can CIL Be Spent On?

CIL funds must be used to support development by providing, improving, replacing, operating, or maintaining local infrastructure, or by addressing the impact of development in other ways. CSNPC will only be able to allocate CIL payments to where we are lawfully permitted to do so, these are marked *.

Examples include:

Physical Infrastructure

- Roads and junction improvements
- Public transport enhancements
- Flood defences
- Utilities (water, energy, drainage)

Social Infrastructure

- Schools and early years facilities
- Health centres and clinics
- Sports facilities and community centres*

Green Infrastructure

- Parks and open spaces*
- Play areas*
- Allotments and landscaping projects*

Time Limits for Spending

Parish and town councils must spend their allocated CIL funds within 5 years of receipt.

If unspent after this period, Swindon Borough Council may reclaim the funds under Regulation 59E of the CIL Regulations. Every year CSNPC has to send SBC evidence that funds have been paid, this is called a CIL Annual Report (Annual Return) and must be issued by 31 December every year.

The report must include:

- Total CIL received
- Total CIL spent
- Summary of funded projects
- Amount retained for future use

The report must be published on our .gov website.

How CIL Funds Are Allocated & Public Bidding

Some councils run public bidding rounds for CIL funding. While this is encouraged, it is not a legal requirement. Swindon Borough Council supports public involvement, but Central Swindon North Parish Council currently allocates CIL funding through an internal parish decision-making.

This is because the sums this Parish Council receives is relatively small and there are sufficient directly managed services to widely allocate spend.

CIL projects are reviewed and approved during formal Parish Council Environment & Planning meetings, ensuring that funds are directed toward projects that deliver demonstrable community benefit.

Meeting agendas and minutes where CIL allocations are discussed are publicly available, allowing residents to see how funds from local developments are being reinvested into the parish.