Item 5

24th January 2019

Glasgow City Council

City Administration Committee

Report by Report by Councillor Kenny McLean, City Convener for Neighbourhoods, Housing and Public Realm

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Calton Barras Action Plan: Acceptance of Sustrans Grant Funding

Purpose of Report:

To advise Committee of the offer of up to £300,000 of capital grant funding from Sustrans Scotland to Glasgow City Council for Barras Public Realm Phase 2 and to further seek approval from Committee to accept this funding.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that Committee:

a) Notes the contents of this report; and

b) Approves acceptance of £300,000 capital grant funding from Sustrans for Barras Public Realm Phase 2.

Ward No(s): 9 Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ✓ No ☐ consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

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1.0 Background

1.1 The Calton Barras Action Plan (CBAP) was approved by the Council's Executive Committee on 27 September 2012, with £3.5m of capital funding allocated from the capital expenditure programme to deliver the Action Plan over a 5 year period. An additional £1.4m has been secured through the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF).

1.2 The main focus of the Action Plan is the physical regeneration of the Calton Barras area in recognition of the challenges it faces and its strategic importance to the City. The investments aim to create a healthier and more sustainable neighbourhood adjacent to the city centre by promoting a place-making approach whilst enhancing access to employment opportunities, green space, local facilities and services.

1.3 Interim reports were presented to the Council's Executive Committee on 27 June 2013 and on 26 June 2014. The Barras Masterplan was presented to the Regeneration and the Economy Policy Development Committee on 08 March 2016 and a further update was presented to the Neighbourhoods, Housing and Public Realm City Policy Committee on 21 November 2017.

2.0 Barras Public Realm

2.1 The Barras Masterplan was commissioned to provide a means of influencing future development through a placemaking approach that retains the market/retail function but allows for the introduction of different uses over time to create a unique, vibrant destination immediately to the east of Glasgow Cross.

2.2 The Barras Masterplan proposes a number of public realm interventions to improve the attractiveness of streets and spaces within, and immediately adjacent to, the Barras and to help create a distinct identity and enhance connectivity.

2.3 Barras Public Realm Phase 1, which is now substantively complete, focused on internal streets in the Barras and included: high quality re-surfacing; wider pavements; improved lighting and CCTV. The resurfacing of Mercat Cross also formed part of this contract. Phase 1 was funded through the Collegelands Calton Barras City Deal programme (CCBCD).

2.4 Barras Public Realm Phase 2 seeks to improve the key streets and junctions adjacent to the Barras, primarily Gallowgate and London Road. A key aim is to improve connectivity between the Barras and the city centre by prioritising pedestrians and cyclists and by reducing the dominance of cars and other vehicles. The project includes signalising the junction at the north of Moir Street, resurfacing, widening pavements where appropriate and the introduction of a 20mph zone. Phase 2 will also be funded through CCBCD.

3.0 Funding

3.1 In order to meet the aspirations set out in the Barras Masterplan, it is considered that the Barras Public Realm Phase 2 project will have maximum impact when all elements are delivered. Estimates indicate that additional funding is required cover the full cost of the project and an application was submitted to the Sustrans Community Links Fund 2018 to address the shortfall.

3.2 Sustrans Scotland has sought additional improvements to the project as a condition of funding, particularly around the Charlotte Street/London Road junction and the proposed design has been amended to reflect this.

3.3 This funding will allow the Barras Public Realm Phase 2 project to be taken forward in its entirety and provides additionality through an enhanced design. It is considered to accord with the Glasgow City Development Plan's outcomes of A Connected Place, A Thriving and Sustainable Place and A Green Place.

3.4 Following procurement in early 2019, work is expected to commence on site in spring/summer 2019 and to complete in 2020.

3.5 Committee authority is being sought to allow drawdown of funding to proceed.

4.0 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial:	The estimated budget for Barras Public Realm Phase 2 is £1,280,000. Sustrans funding will contribute £300,000 to the project.
Legal:	The report raises no new legal issues.
Personnel:	No direct personnel issues.
Procurement:	Works will be procured according to Council Standing Orders.

Council Strategic Plan: The project supports the following themes:

- A Healthier City
- A Sustainable and Low Carbon City

And the following priorities:

- No 54. Invest in roads and pavement maintenance, improving conditions, residents' satisfaction and contributing to active travel networks. Ensure community involvement in local decision making about this investment.
- No 55. Prioritise sustainable transport across the city.

- No 59. Progress reducing the speed limit on all suitable residential roads to 20mph.
- No 65. Build high quality, inclusive travel infrastructure to make Glasgow an excellent cycling and walking city.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2017-22	The project will help deliver **Outcome 9** by removing barriers and improving access to physical activity for people with protected characteristics. The project will help deliver **Outcome 10** by involving people with protected characteristics in the design process.
What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?	An EQIA was undertaken for this project to consider the impact on users with protected characteristics. The completion of the works which this funding enables is considered to impact positively on the majority of users.
Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio economic disadvantage.	The proposal will enhance accessibility and promote a socially inclusive environment.

Sustainability Impacts:

Environmental:	Promotion of sustainable transport and active travel.
Social, including Article 19 opportunities:	Encouragement of cycling for commuting and leisure, and provision of a socially inclusive environment. Enhancements to the pedestrian environment will encourage active travel with associated health benefits.
Economic:	The Public Realm works will encourage footfall and activity in and around the Barras with associated increased spend assisting in the wider town centre regeneration.

Privacy and Data Protection impacts:	None

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that Committee:

a) Notes the contents of this report; and

b) Approves acceptance of £300,000 capital funding from Sustrans for Barras Public Realm Phase 2.