Item 4

8th November 2023

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership
East Centre Area Partnership

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration & Sustainability

Contact: Jenny O'Hagan Telephone: 0141 247 9901

Neighbourhood Infrastructure Fund – progress update

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Area Partnership with a progress update in relation to the process to support the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Fund including a summary of commitments to date.

Recommendations:

The Area Partnership is asked to note the contents of the report and advise of any approved spend to allow this to be programmed and actioned.

1. Introduction and progress to date

1.1 The Neighbourhood Infrastructure Fund provides an opportunity to implement participatory budgeting at scale with an approved budget in 2021/22 of £23m, allocated £1m per ward. The budget assigned the decision making in relation to this fund to Area Partnerships. This report provides an update regarding the Area Partnership's position in relation to this.

1.2 In parallel, the Centre of Civic Innovation within NRS continues to develop a citizen engagement model to support the NIIF decision-making process as well as assist with future initiatives involving citizen engagement. An update in relation to this work is provided below.

1.3 It is worth noting that this funding is capital expenditure and therefore can be carried forward to be spent in future financial years.

2. Progress Update of Fund

2.1 Commitments to date across the Infrastructure categories total **£0** as follows:-

- Road Resurfacing and Patching
- Footway Improvement
- Street Lighting Investment
- Drainage Repairs including gully cleaning
- Traffic Signals
- Street Furniture
- Other- **6 locations have been identified, a number of these were surveyed in 2022 and deemed unsuitable due to a range of factors. The team will feed this back and arrange site visits for the other locations week beginning 30th October.**

2.2 A total of £6m has been redirected from the overall £23m NIF fund, to be topped up in future budget years, for road repairs. **Area Partnerships are still expected to allocate the full £1m initially awarded**. These road repairs are scheduled to be fully completed by 31st March 2024 and on target across all wards.

3. Centre of Civic Innovation – Community Engagement Process – update

3.1 Further to the update provided at the previous Area Partnership regarding to the process being developed to involve greater community involvement to inform the decision-making process for the fund, the Council's Centre for Civic Innovation are working with Community Empowerment Services to run the system in a live testing environment in Calton and Greater Pollok with the following timeline:

3.2 Following Area Partnerships agreeing final ideas to go to public vote:-

- 16th of September to 13th of October - Local people vote on ideas to fund
- 16th of October to 20th of October - Analyse votes & format reporting
- 23rd of October to 1st November - Area Partnerships agree final ideas to fund
- 1st November to 30th November - Evaluation activity with all stakeholders involved in these pilots to understand the learning from the prototypes and advise on options for recommendations for rolling out to other wards
- Early December - report with recommendations submitted to Community Empowerment Services for wider circulation.

Votes are currently being collated and recommendations for how the NIIF fund should be spent are being prepared ahead of being presented to Area Partnerships for a final decision. CCI will then communicate results and timelines with the communities.

3.3 Running alongside this, evaluation activity is ongoing with a view to developing portions to scale this way of working across the city to inform the final report in December.

4. Recommendations

The Area Partnership is asked to note the contents of the report and advise of any approved spend to allow this to be programmed and actioned.