



Item 7(a)

4th April 2025

Newlands/Auldburn Area Partnership

Report by: Programme Manager, Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability

Contact: Nicola McPhee e-mail: NIIFEnquiries@glasgow.gov.uk

The Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund (NIIF) – Progress Update

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Area Partnership with a progress update in relation to the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund, including new arrangements for support and governance of this, and a summary of commitments and spend to date

Recommendations:

The Area Partnership is asked to note the contents of the report, review the content provided in the attached tables to confirm its accuracy and identify any new proposals for NIIF to be costed before the next meeting.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund provides an opportunity to implement participatory budgeting at scale with an approved budget set in 2021/22 of £23million. The budget assigned the decision making in relation to this fund to Area Partnerships, with £1million allocated to each ward. This report provides an update regarding the Area Partnership's position in relation to this.
- 1.2 This funding is capital expenditure and therefore can be carried forward to be spent in future financial years, though funding should ideally be fully committed by March 2027.

2. Management and Governance of the fund

- 2.1 In September 2024, the Director of Service Delivery, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS), provided a report outlining the challenges experienced in implementing the fund and dealing with the volume of requests to date. The report also advised that a new process was being devised to manage this.
- 2.2 In December 2024, a small team of staff were tasked with reviewing the current process for NIIF and the backlog of requests already received, as well as devising clear guidance and processes for its management going forward.
- 2.3 This has involved a significant amount of work to review information held in Area Partnership minutes, within NRS services and across council departments.
- 2.4 As a result, a full breakdown of current committed spend, new proposals still to be costed and spend to date can now be provided.
- 2.5 It should be highlighted that due to previous challenges in the management of this information, the information provided may contain gaps. We would therefore ask that Area Partnerships review what is provided and advise of anything they believe was previously requested or approved, that does not appear in this report.
- 2.6 It should also be noted that some proposals discussed at Area Partnerships previously have been listed in this report but have yet to be progressed for estimate. We ask that Area Partnerships first review these lists and confirm that they have been approved and should now be sent for estimate within NRS.
- 2.7 Clear guidance has been created to assist community members and Area Partnership Chairs in identifying proposals for the use of the fund which meet the criteria and contain the required information to enable NRS to progress these. This is attached at Appendix 1.

3. Criteria for the Fund

- 3.1 Criteria is outlined in the guidance attached at Appendix 1, however, the following should be noted:
- 3.2 Because the £1 million is designated for capital expenditure, it must be spent on Council infrastructure - Physical things in Council ownership.
- 3.3 The fund is not intended to be used for “business as usual” council activities such as dealing with individual service requests related to basic maintenance or repair of existing assets – for example: individual broken streetlights, blocked drains, potholes etc.
- 3.4 The fund is not intended to be used for consultancy work, for example, the carrying out of community engagement work to find out what projects the community are interested in. It may, in circumstances where Council services require external assistance, be used for technical consultancy fees which are required to develop and deliver a capital project, such as architects or streetscape designers to help communities redesign civic spaces.
- 3.5 The fund cannot be used to fund revenue costs, such as future or ongoing costs related to maintenance, utilities, repair costs etc. Any revenue costs resulting from NIIF investment will need to be met from other sources.
- 3.6 NIIF proposals should not be costed by external contactors or suppliers before being put forward. All proposals need to be costed within GCC in line with procurement procedures.
- 3.7 Potential ideas for the use of NIIF will only be costed by NRS if these proposals have been discussed and approved at an Area Partnership meeting, then submitted through the process outlined in the attached guidance.

4. Process for NIIF requests

- 4.1 As outlined above, all proposals for the use of NIIF must be approved at an Area Partnership meeting before being passed to NRS to be costed.
- 4.2 NRS Neighbourhood Liaison Managers will attend each meeting, present the report produced by NRS and record all approved new proposals on an agreed template to be used internally by NRS. These will be reviewed and costed where possible. They will also provide support and guidance to Area Partnerships on the criteria and information required for NIIF requests.
- 4.3 The officers will also record decisions related to any estimates provided and advise NRS when an estimate has been approved for work to commence. To allow this to be more streamlined, we ask that Area Partnerships discuss and approve a % amount that costs can go over the original estimate without seeking further approval.

- 4.4 This enhanced process will ensure that all proposals and decisions related to NIIF are documented, including all required information, without relying solely on the minutes. We are confident that this process will ensure a sufficient level of information is provided to allow proposals to be costed more timeously.

5. NIIF enquiries and Updates

- 5.1 The new process outlined in the attached appendix will ensure full updates are provided at each Area Partnership meeting on spend and progress. This should negate the need for enquiries out with the meeting cycle to seek information on progress of either work underway or estimates.
- 5.2 However, it is recognised that more general enquiries about the NIIF funding or the process related to this may require a response. For this reason, the Programme Management Office for NIIF have created a NIIF mailbox which will be monitored by the team - NIIFEnquiries@glasgow.gov.uk
- 5.3 This should **not** be used for suggesting NIIF proposals or requesting estimated costs as such requests should go via Area Partnership meetings. However, it will ensure a clear communication channel is in place for any more general queries.

6. Progress to Date

- 6.1 The tables at the end of this report will be provided as standard at future Area Partnership meetings and provide a breakdown of:
- Proposals previously submitted for estimate: **Please note for this round of reports we are asking that Area Partnerships review these and confirm whether these should proceed to being costed if an estimate has not already been provided.** At future meetings, this table will only contain new estimated costs provided by NRS for AP approval.
 - Proposals Requiring more information: where an estimate can not be progressed, a reason for this will be outlined clearly. If this relates to a lack of clear information being provided to allow costing, we ask that Area Partnerships review this and provide the required information to allow this to be considered before the next scheduled meeting.
 - Summary of Committed and Actual Spend to date: This includes an update on any works currently underway and a breakdown of committed NIIF and actual spend to date. **It should be noted that work is still underway to review the actual spend with individual teams within NRS and ensure this has been recorded accurately and appears in the ledger. Final Actual spend for all completed works will be provided in the next round of reports**

1 - Proposals submitted for estimate:

Date of AP Meeting Originally Proposed	Reference Number	Proposed Item Description & Location	Estimate request sent to NRS Ops Team Date	Estimate Received Y/N	Estimate Amount	Comments
08/11/2024	02-007	Carriageway Resurfacing – Burnfield Rd between Nethercairn Road to Mansewood Road (down to Bell & Bane Printers)				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
08/11/2024	02-008	Carriageway Resurfacing - Monreith Road (between Langside Drive to Friarton Road) ensuring that road lining was replaced timeously				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
30/08/2024	02-012	Repaint 20mph road signs: Garvock Drive/Stoneside Drive/Fyvie Avenue		N		AP to be advised that this should be considered under Business as Usual and a request made via general reporting channels.
30/08/2024	02-013	CCTV to be installed covering perimeter and internal building at Eastwood Nursery				Police Scotland's Safer Communities have carried out a Crime Prevention Survey at the nursery first to recommend potential security features that education could consider funding.
30/08/2024	02-014	Various Items for consideration at Eastwood Nursery: 1. Re-install safety barriers at entrance/exit. 2. New perimeter railings required and existing ones repaired.				Police Scotland's Safer Communities have carried out a Crime Prevention Survey at the nursery first to recommend potential security features that education could consider funding.

		3. Repair and supply of locks on outdoor gates.				
30/08/2024	02-015	Clean up White Cart Area, including riverbanks – around Shawholm Crescent area in Pollokshaws				NIIF funding could be utilised for specific cleanups. Previous “one off” clean ups have cost in the region of £12k. However, it is recommended that any funding allocated for a cleanup be part of a wider strategy including community engagement and enforcement action otherwise the riverbank is at risk of returning to the same undesirable state within a short period of time. The funding of regular cleanups is unlikely to be financially sustainable. AP are asked to give this further consideration
30/08/2024	02-016	Tackle existing flooding Thornliebank Road (Eastwood estate side) near pedestrian crossing and close to where existing traffic speed cameras are located.				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings. AP should be aware that this request may be considered BAU.
30/08/2024	02-017	Tackle existing flooding Thornliebank Road near junction of Westwood Road and Wellmeadow Road				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings. AP should be aware that this request may be considered BAU.
30/08/2024	02-018	Improve drainage system – B762 Barrhead Road (under Railway Bridge) near Pollokshaws Toll House				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings. AP should be aware that this request may be considered BAU.
30/08/2024	02-019	Address surface water issues – Pollokshaws Road (NE bound past turn off for Bowling Club and SW bound on bridge just before Pollokshaws West station.				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings. AP should be aware that this request may be considered BAU.
30/08/2024	02-020	Repair and improve condition of children’s				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings.

		swings at Greenbank Park, Nether Auldhouse.				
30/08/2024	02-005	Area Partnership requested NRS to provide a range of options for works at Hillpark Play Area				£130k would be required based on 'standard' refurbishment completed in Pollok Country Park. This could be viewed as a benchmark for what can be achieved for this commitment. Request that AP look at Pollock Country Park and advise whether a similar approach is desired, or provide alternative details of the type of options they would like costed more specifically.
30/08/2024	02-021	Area Partnership requested NRS to provide a range of options for works at Mansewood Park Play Area				£112k would be required from NIIF as £8k from Parks & Open Spaces and £10k from Scottish Government Play Area renewal fund already secured based on 'standard' refurbishment spend at Pollok Country Park. . Request that AP look at Pollock Country Park and advise whether a similar approach is desired, or provide alternative details of the type of options they would like costed more specifically.
30/08/2024	02-022	Area Partnership requested NRS to provide a range of options for works at Thornliebank Road Play Area (Opposite Eastwood Nursery)				£130k would be required based on 'standard' refurbishment completed in Pollok Country Park. This could be viewed as a benchmark for what can be achieved for this commitment. . Request that AP look at Pollock Country Park and advise whether a similar approach is desired, or provide alternative details of the type of options they would like costed more specifically.
		Totals			£0	

2 - Proposals Requiring more Information:

Date Proposed	Reference Number	Proposed Item Description & Location	Information Required
08/11/2024	02-009	Repair football pitch at rear of Merrylea Primary School play area	AP to confirm extent of repair required at football pitch.
30/08/2024	02-011	Lower kerbs in areas around Eastwood for people with mobility vehicles to cross-roads.	Require more specific location information from AP

3- Summary of spend to date:

This table provides details of all committed and actual spend. This includes estimates received and approved, where work has yet to commence and no actual costs have been accrued.

Date of AP Meeting Originally Proposed	Costing Template Reference Number	Details of works	Approved Estimate	Actual Spend	Status	Comments
08/11/2024	02-010	Repair of stairs and handrails on pedestrian walkway leading from Thornliebank Road to Fyvie Ave/Bonnybridge Dr	£25,000.00	£5,690.82	Complete	Work has been completed and spend recharged to NIIF.
Totals:			£25,000.00	£5,690.82		
*Running Total			£5,690.82			
Total Budget			£1,000,000.00			
Remaining NIIF Allocation:			*£994,309.18			

*Running Total shows all ACTUAL SPEND for 'COMPLETED' WORKS & ESTIMATED SPEND for 'INCOMPLETE WORKS' This is then subtracted from the AP £1 million allocation to show remaining NIIF.