

Parks and Open Spaces Improvement Fund - Update noted.

2 There was submitted and noted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability providing an update on the status of projects funded from the Parks and Open Spaces Improvement Fund,

(1) advising

- (a) that following the allocation of £1.5m from the Council budget in 2021/22 towards a Local Parks and Open Spaces Improvement Fund for a range of improvements in local parks and open spaces, the Council had allocated a further £1.5m as part of its budget in 2022/23;
- (b) that the service had worked with colleagues in the Communities team to develop a reporting mechanism for each Area Partnership, who had set out their recommendations for their allocations, however this had meant an increase in workload of the existing teams and had resulted in a slower delivery of the funded projects than expected by the Area Partnerships;
- (c) that following a series of reports presented to Area Partnership meetings since 2024, a total of £29,388 remained unallocated to a specific programme;
- (d) of a variety of funding themes that Area Partnerships had supported in its allocations, as detailed in the report;
- (e) of the next steps in relation to projects where delivery timescales had not yet been scheduled, as detailed in the report; and

(2) detailing in an appendix to the report, the projects that had been approved and their current status for each Ward.