



## **Item 6 (a)**

**1st May 2025**

### **Glasgow Community Planning Partnership**

#### **Anderston/City/Yorkhill Area Partnership**

**Report by: Programme Manager, Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability**

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### **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
17/11/2022	10-004	Drainage repairs throughout the ward – deep clean Gullies/Pipes				Historical request taken from minutes – AP to confirm if they wish this to progress. AP would also need to confirm drainage locations. Estimates will then be provided by NRS for AP to approve. Previously approved in principle £65k
17/11/2022	10-005	Cobble repairs throughout the ward.				Historical request taken from minutes – AP to confirm if they wish this to progress. AP would also need to provide locations requiring cobble repairs. Estimates will then be provided for AP to approve. Ties in with 10-023 from December 2024 Previously approved £96k and £10k allocated to 10-018
17/11/2022	10-006	Pedestrian crossing – Finnieston Street/Argyle Street/Minerva Street				Historical request taken from minutes – £290k AP to confirm if they wish this to progress. Clarity would be required regarding the actual request as this is next to a traffic signal junction.
17/11/2022	10-007	St Vincent Crescent – feasibility study for potential upgrade to public realm/localised repairs.				£54k approved for this. Roads Maintenance carried out localised repairs under BAU addressing a number of footway defects etc. A feasibility study would be required to scope potential for public realm developments. Feasibility studies can only be funded via NIIF if there is an expectation of affordability of the outcome from NIIF. Please note this should be considered in conjunction with current committed spend from

						Table 3 and potential committed spend outlined in the comments from Table 1.
17/11/2022	10-014	Junction Improvements Elliot St/St Vincent St		N		This request is being progressed with NRS Ops but will be funded from Road Safety Improvement Fund
05/12/2024	10-021	Requested costings and timelines for alternative solution for pedestrian crossing at junction of Breadalbane/Argyle St/St Vincent St				AP to provide more detail of what is being requested and confirm whether they still wish to proceed with this. If so, an estimate will be provided if possible.
13/02/2025	10-024	<p>Development of Dover Street Play Park</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> Supply and install 3 items of play equipment to the existing Play Area: <b>£44,300</b></p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Renew Outdoor Gym Equipment and Install Surfacing to this area to respond to wear and tear to existing grass surface and reduce the extent of grass edges requiring treatment: <b>£25,000</b></p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Upgrade 4 picnic benches to wheel chair and buggy accessible, and install these into a new tarmac surfaced area, to provide accessibility, to respond to wear and tear to existing grass surface and reduce the extent of grass edges requiring treatment: <b>£7000</b></p>		Y	3 options provided	AP to confirm which of the 3 options previously provided they wish to progress with and approve associated costs.

## 2 - Proposals Requiring more Information:

Date Proposed	Reference Number	Proposed Item Description & Location	Information Required
05/12/2024	10-022	Requested a report and tracker for LED Lighting Column Replacement programme and if the £100,000 could be reallocated.	LED Lighting Column Replacement programme report can be provided for consideration but AP should advice of whether this is still something they wish to allocate funding to. Please note this should be considered in conjunction with the I level current committed spend from Table 3 and potential committed spend already outlined in the comments from Table 1.

### 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
17/11/2022	10-001	Resurfacing works – St Mungo's Avenue from St James Road to McAslin Court	£80,000.00	£91,681.60	Complete	
17/11/2022	10-002	Resurfacing works – Haugh Road (full length)	£67,000.00	£59,181.50	Complete	
17/11/2022	10-003	Resurfacing works – Kelvinhaugh Street, No 100 to Sandyford Street	£55,000.00	£55,000.00	Complete	
17/11/2022	10-008	Footway improvements including provision of bollards	£5,000.00	£1,949.20	Complete	
17/11/2022	10-009	Footway improvements – Sauchiehall Street (various)	£42,000.00		Programmed	Sauchiehall Street south footway (Granville St to North St) Works to be completed 2025/26.
17/11/2022	10-010	Localised repairs to private stairs - Hall Street to Renfrew Street			Complete	Committed spend was £3,100, however job was completed under BAU and minimal costs absorbed by revenue budget.
17/11/2022	10-011	Localised Repair to Stair Link - West Graham St to Dalhousie St incl. railings.	£13,874.00		In Progress	Stair repairs to be programmed for completion 2025/26.
17/11/2022	10-012	Bollards to prevent pavement parking – Midland Street	£20,000.00	£15,218.30	Complete	
17/11/2022	10-013	Agreed funding for landscape improvements at St Patricks Primary	£6,000.00		In Progress	In conjunction with 10-017/019/020 Total £70k Contractor appointed. NRS working with contractor and teacher to agree a programme.



17/11/2022	10-015	Landscape improvements with installation of trees at agreed locations	£100,000.00		TBC	Greenspace & Biodiversity have been working with City Centre and have a plan for trees being progressed via other funded routes. AP can review PDF attachment and nominate specific sites (out with these locations) NRS can then determine if sites are feasible.
23/11/2023	10-016	Resurfacing works – Somerset Place (full length)	£20,000.00	£18,759.23	Complete	
23/11/2023	10-017	Agreed funding for landscape improvements for tree planting at St Patricks Primary	£16,000.00		In Progress	In conjunction with 10-013/019/020 total £70k Contractor appointed. NRS working with contractor and teacher to agree a programme.
09/05/2024	10-018	Cobble work – Regent Moray Street	£10,000.00		In Progress	Contractor to be appointed and works programmed 2025/26.
09/05/2024	10-019	Agreed funding for raised beds at St Patricks Primary	£3,042.00			In conjunction with 10-013/017/020 Total £70k Contractor appointed. NRS working with contractor and teacher to agree a programme.
09/05/2024	10-020	Agreed further funding to be allocated to Green Wall at St Patricks Primary	£44,958.00			In conjunction with 10-013/017/019 Toal £70k Contractor appointed. NRS working with contractor and teacher to agree a programme.
<b>Totals:</b>			<b>£482,874.00</b>	<b>£241,789.83</b>		
<b>*Running Total</b>			<b>£477,663.83</b>			
<b>Total Budget</b>			<b>£1,000,000.00</b>			
<b>Remaining NIIF Allocation:</b>			<b>*£522,336.17</b>			

\*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.