



Item 7 (a)

23rd April 2025

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership

Partick East/Kelvindale Area Partnership

Report by: Executive Director of 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
21/08/2022	23-001	Binghams's Pond works - GCC removed 3 trees on central reservation opposite Binghams Pond, AP require these to be replaced				Trees cost approx. £500 each. Technical checks would be required to establish feasibility based on issues like whether the neighbouring trees are growing to fill the gap, or whether there have been electrical cables installed nearby etc. AP to advise if they want this progressed. Please note - NRS typically do the checks each summer and then arrange a contract to plant each winter.
08/11/2023	23-003	Fund half the costs with Victoria Park Area Partnership for the installation of speed camera on Crow Road - solar safety vehicle sign	£8,000*	Y		*Overall cost for the sign was reported back to AP as now being £8,000 (increased from £7,700) however no response was received and the price has likely increased again. AP required to confirm intention to proceed with this request and approve a % amount over the estimate to address any potential increase in cost.
24/04/2024	23-005	Installation of handrails from Lauderdale Gdns to Hughenden Lane				Historical request pulled from minutes, If AP confirm desire to proceed. An up-to date estimate can then be provided. NRS Ops have noted they are unclear as to scope of works to be completed.
24/04/2024	23-006	Central Railings in Hyndland - (map in appendix 2)				Historical request pulled from minutes, estimated £15k has been provide some time ago and no further movement, AP to confirm desire to proceed then updated costs can be provided

24/04/2024	23-007	Queensborough Gdns - Repair bent railings mainly below Polwarth St				Historical request pulled from minutes, AP to confirm desire to proceed then updated costs can be provided
24/04/2024	23-008	Repaint/Maintain Hyndland Central Railings Lauderdale Gdns/Queensborough Gdns				Historical request pulled from minutes, AP to confirm desire to proceed then updated costs can be provided
06/11/2024	23-009	Repair broken bollard stump on corner of Byres Rd and Grosvenor Lane		N		NRS have confirmed this is a Business as Usual request and should be processed through the normal channels for BAU requests
06/11/2024	23-010	Install standpipe at the corner of Dyce Park				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
06/11/2024	23-011	Provide 2 disabled parking bays at Hyndland Primary school -tied in with wider TRO for enforcement purposes				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
06/11/2024	23-012	Carry out feasibility study to repair and realign the kerb stones denoting the Western end of Marchmont Terr with possibility of road widening				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
06/11/2024	23-013	Carry out feasibility study and costing of the cycle lane at Clarence Dr to Highburgh Rd to include insets or armadillos to improve the cycling infrastructure				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings

06/11/2024	23-015	Resurfacing of carriageway - Whittinghame Dr from Great Western Road to Arnwood Drive				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
06/11/2024	23-022	Dangerous Kerbstones in Hatfield Drive from Clarence Dr to 16 Dudley Dr to 2 Dudley Dr/Turnburry Road				AP to provide more information on scope of works. Please note that further discussion will be required as this may not meet NIIF criteria, may be Business as Usual
06/11/2024	23-023	Improve Lighting in Beith St Footway/Footpath				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
06/11/2024	23-024	Improve Lighting: Clarence Drive between Hyndland Road & Falkland Street				AP to confirm these proposals are to be submitted to NRS for costings.
06/11/2025	23-028	Line Painting works Great Western Road, Fifth Avenue and Ascot Avenue				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
06/11/2025	23-030	Install Traffic Signage at Hyndland St junction with Highburgh Road				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
29/01/2025	23-032	Pavement resurfacing and kerbstone repair at Athole Gdns, Dowanhill				AP to confirm these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
29/01/2025	23-034	Resurface uneven pavement on Beacon Fields St leading to Gartnaval Hospital				AP to confirm these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
29/01/2025	23-035	CCTV around East Mansfield and South of Dowanhill Park				AP to confirm these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings

2 - Proposals Requiring more Information:

Date Proposed	Reference Number	Proposed Item Description & Location	Information Required
06/11/2024	23-016	Gateways - Hyndland St - Gateway at top of street where it forks with Cottiers	AP to provide more information on what is being requested. Please provide more detail to allow us to direct to appropriate NRS OPS team
06/11/2024	23-020	Two speed bumps to be replaced	AP to provide more information on location. Please note that further discussion will be required as this may not meet NIIF criteria
06/11/2024	23-021	Circus suffers from numerous potholes - condition of street requires resurfacing	AP to provide more information on location
06/11/2024	23-025	Fifth Ave/Hatfield Drive drainage issues	AP to provide more information on location. Please note that further discussion will be required as this may not meet NIIF criteria, may be Business as Usual
29/01/2025	23-031	Improve air quality in Hyndland Street	AP to provide more information, what is being requested? Please note that further discussion will be required, may not meet NIIF criteria

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
08/11/2023	23-004	Installation of notice board near Kirklee Entrance to Botanic Gardens	£5,375.00	£3,072.13	Complete	
Totals:			£5,375.00	£3,072.13		
*Running Total			£3,072.13			
Total Budget			£1,000,000			
Remaining NIIF Allocation:			*£996,927.87			

*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.