



Item 8(a)

29th April 2025

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership

Dennistoun 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
	22-007	CCTV at Townmill Road				Requires further site visit to check viability and privacy impact of location. Privacy impact has to be considered along with comms network. Note £10k approved by AP for CCTV
	22-008	CCTV at Alexandra Park/Onslow Drive				Requires further site visit to check viability and privacy impact of location. Privacy impact has to be considered along with comms network. Note £10k approved by AP for CCTV
	22-009	CCTV at Coll St				Requires further site visit to check viability and privacy impact of location. Privacy impact has to be considered along with comms network. Note £10k approved by AP for CCTV
	22-010	CCTV at Danny Park (Denny)		N		Site deemed unsuitable for Redeployable camera. No viable options for poles to provide required coverage. Tree foliage is an issue and will block comms path.
	22-011	Improvements to Arc Lane footpaths/footways				AP have approved ringfencing £10k for a feasibility study. AP to confirm they wish to proceed and this will be actioned.
20/02/2024	22-013	Proposal for a new eastern entrance at the necropolis				AP to confirm whether they still want this to be progressed. The Learning Quarter District Regeneration Framework recommended that there was a new active travel link through the Necropolis which would require a new entry point. It is noted that this link is not currently one of the first year's priority actions in the City Centre Strategy. The intention of the City Centre

						Regeneration team with the Necropolis action is to undertake some further engagement with the elected members of Wards 10 and 22 in 2025/26 to obtain direction on how to progress, and as such a further decision is unlikely to be available prior to this. Previous requests were made by AP for a site visit to go ahead and this work to be costed, for consideration of using NIIF to support this please confirm if this is still required.
20/02/2024	22-005	Proposed crossing Alexandra Parade at Iceland.		N		Unable to be progressed due to 2 existing junctions in area and inadequate space between crossings which would cause congestion.
20/02/2024	22-014	Puffin crossing at Duke Street Train Station		N		Unable to be progressed due to 2 crossing junctions existing nearby and a controlled crossing. Introducing a new crossing would have a major impact on traffic congestion.

2 - Proposals Requiring more Information:

Date Proposed	Reference Number	Proposed Item Description & Location	Information Required
28/11/2023	22-002	Improve Pedestrian facilities at Castle St at Junction 15	Historical request, NRS have advised that design discussions to improve Castle St/Alexandra Parade are ongoing with the sustainable transport/liveable neighbourhood team. AP to confirm/advise if further costings to this are required.
18/02/2025	22-012	Proposed Arts memorial Trail in the ward	Information was provided as requested, outlining graffiti incidences in Dennistoun and a map of council infrastructure that could potentially be used to support the development of an Art Trail in the ward. If the AP wish to progress this, further discussion would be required to establish how best to approach this as the trail itself could not be delivered by NRS, therefore, consideration of procurement

			procedures would need to be addressed before NIIF could be allocated to this.
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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
20/02/2024	22-004	Further greenspace works to be carried out at Coll Place to compliment the Children's Play Area	£150,000		In Progress	Materials for First Phase delivered to traffic control contractor. They will now provide installation date. Further phases of walking/cycling route improvements, planting and children's play to follow
	22-006	CCTV at Broompark Drive at Arc Lane	£3,000		Complete	Due to existing pole, this install was expediated. Camera is live and operational at 31.10.24. Awaiting final cost of £2,800 reaching ledger. AP have approved up to £10k for CCTV
Totals:			£153,000	£0		
*Running Total			£153,000			
Total Budget			£1,000,000			
Remaining NIIF Allocation:			*£847,000			

*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.