



Item 8

13th February 2025

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership

Anderston/City/Yorkhill Area Partnership

**Report by George Gillespie, Executive Director of
Neighbourhoods, Regeneration & Sustainability**

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Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund – Update Report

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Area Partnership with an update on the Local Parks and Open Space Fund for the Anderston/City/Yorkhill ward.

Recommendations:

The Area Partnership notes use of the Local Parks and Open Space Fund within the ward, and:
Approves funding for Dover Street Play Park

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Glasgow City Council allocated £3 million to Area Partnerships across the city for investment in Parks and Open Spaces over 2021/22 & 2022/23. This report is to provide members an update on each allocated project within the ward and to advise on any further steps to be taken.
- 1.2 It should be noted that 328 projects have been approved on an ongoing basis since year 1 of this fund. Whilst the Service is placing focus on delivering these within desired timescales, these will be subject to resource pressures within the Service, alongside daily operational requirements. Where possible, the Service has been engaging with partners to grant award monies for project delivery where appropriate, to support community empowerment and local capacity building.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The following table provides details of the Local Parks and Open Spaces Fund for 2021/22 & 2022/23, with projects where works are completed, or funds granted to local organisations for delivery, omitted.

	Anderston/City/Yorkhill – Local Parks & Open Spaces Fund – Programme of Works – 2021/22			
Financial Year	Project / Location	Costings	Date of AP Approval	Timeline / Status
	(iv) Crown lift and thinning of 3 trees adjacent to the seating area in Cherry Park - following a site meeting between officers and Yorkhill Greenspaces, it is recommended that these funds are instead utilised to move 2 benches from underneath trees and one from behind the pergola, to locations nearer the play area where they will be less shaded, and create a small rain garden	£900	30 September 2021	2025
	(ix) Crown lift and thinning of 3 trees in Garnethill Park at a cost of £900; following a site meeting between officers and Friends of Garnethill Greenspaces, it is recommended that these funds are instead contributed towards the installation of the carved stone, for which wider fundraising activity is planned by the group	£900	30 September 2021	This service will make contact with the group to make arrangements for the installation of the carved stone
	(xvi) Creation of six parklets within the Ward	£9,340	30 September 2021	<p>6 Planters with multi-stem trees and pollinator friendly planting have been, as informed by site walkrounds with the Community Council in the following locations at a value of £3528, with a balance of £5812 remaining from this allocation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 outside Ramshorn Cemetery • 2 on Wilson Street • 2 on Parnie Street <p>This service is available to support further walkrounds with Community Councils to identify additional locations.</p>

	Anderston/City/Yorkhill – Local Parks & Open Spaces Fund – Programme of Works – 2022/23			
Financial Year	Project / Location	Costings	Date of AP Approval	Timeline / Status
2022/23	(i) Broomielaw grass plots west of Kingston Bridge – Bring forward proposals for wildflower planting	£300	17 November 2022	Before April 2025
	(ii) Broomielaw grass plots west of Kingston Bridge – Tree planting 21 number	£6,300	17 November 2022	Before April 2025
	(iii) Broomielaw public realm adjacent to Tradeston Bridge – Bring forward proposals for raised beds	£3,042	17 November 2022	It is noted that this location regularly used for events in additional to high volume of active travel usage. This service is available to support further walkrounds with Community Councils to identify additional locations.
	(iv) Greenspace on Broomielaw east of Kingston Bridge – Bring forward proposals for wildflower planting	£300	17 November 2022	Before April 2025
	(v) Greenspace on Broomielaw east of Kingston Bridge – Bring forward proposals for tree planting	£2,100	17 November 2022	Being planted west of Kingston Bridge- Before April 2025
	(vi) Lancefield Quay grass plots – Bring forward proposals for wildflower planting	£300	17 November 2022	Before April 2025

	(vii) Lancefield Quay grass plots Tree planting (x 7)	£2,100	17 November 2022	Before April 2025
	(viii) Plot adjacent to Yorkhill Park Play Area – New benches as part of proposal for raised beds (x 2)	£900	17 November 2022	Works to be carried out as one contract with nearby investment with works to play equipment- further update to be provided
	(ix) Plot adjacent to Yorkhill Park Play Area – 3 Raised beds	£3,042	17 November 2022	Works to be carried out as one contract with nearby investment with works to play equipment- further update to be provided
	(x) Greenspace east of the blaes pitch at Glasgow Gaelic School – Widen the scope of the community proposal	£900	17 November 2022	Not aware of the community proposal being progressed, so we will add this scope to works at Dover Street Greenspace next door
	(xiv) St Patricks Primary School – Raised beds	£3,042	17 November 2022	Reallocated to Living Wall, see section 7
	(xx) Footway at Junction of New City Road and Shamrock Street near Memorial Fountain parklet	£1,594	17 November 2022	Meeting being arranged with Queens Cross Housing Association so that they can cost proposals for additional planting within Dundasvale
	(xxiii) Townhead ‘St Mungo Jubilee Garden’	£9,000	17 November 2022	Planting day held September 2023. remaining works to be scheduled for 2025

3. This Partnership, at its August meeting, requested an update in relation to progress on the Stewart Memorial. This service notes that a contractor has been on site to carry out repairs to a number of leaks in the historic pipework. It is noted that the original pipework was something that this service were asked by heritage bodies to retain at the time of the last full refurbishment of the Fountain. Whilst considered to form a valuable aspect of the fountain's heritage, it should be noted that much of these dates back to the 19th century and will require complex, ad-hoc repairs to be undertaken from time to time. From time to time the fountain will experience vandal damage to stonework, and arrangements will be made for repair as resources permit. Members of the Partnership will be aware that this service arranges drain down this fountain prior to Winter each year, in order to protect the Fountain from frost damage.
4. This Partnership, at its August meeting, requested an update in relation to the use of glyphosate in the parks and the scale of its use. This Service notes that Glasgow City Council uses Glyphosate based herbicide where required. This service annually reviews new weed control techniques and methods and carries out trials of new products and equipment with the aim of reducing herbicide usage where possible. Since 2012 this service has reduced total annual herbicide purchase by over 50%. This is down to new technology in chemicals, application equipment and alterations to treatment programmes in accordance with best practice.

Glasgow City Council uses Glyphosate-based herbicide to control the growth of unwanted plants on:

- Grass plot edges & obstacles (around trees, bollards, fence posts, under fence lines)
- Japanese Knotweed and giant hogweed (plants would be almost impossible to control without herbicides)
- Road/kerb edge Spraying (to prevent weed growth on road sides, since weed growth can damage tar surfaces and block drains)
- Hard Surface Spraying (Spot treatment to control weed growth between slabs)
- Shrub bed spot treatment
- The base of headstones, railings and around grass plots

As part of our plan to reduce use of glyphosate where possible, one treatment each year on Japanese Knotweed (where not growing near watercourses) is replaced by a herbicide named ICADE instead.

Neighbourhoods & Sustainability have also trialled the use of with 'Paradise' herbicide, and the use of Hot Water/Steam weed treatment system, Hot Foam weed treatment system and Electric weed control system, so that we might better understand how they compare in relation to long-term effectiveness, and in terms of material, plant and labour costs. At present we are not aware of any non-glyphosate-based herbicide products on the market which control a similar range of unwanted plants in a similar range of locations. Glasgow City Council will continue to monitor the horticultural product market and will review any new products that become available.

In addition, we also liaise with the Scottish Government on this matter and attend the Pesticides Policy Team and the Amenity Forum which looks at managing amenity spaces in Scotland. Part of this forum is to look at best practice and adopting integrated approaches, balance chemical and non-chemical methods to produce the desired outcomes and fully consider environment impacts.

5. This Partnership, at its August meeting requested that NRS liaise with Parks about the Dover Street playpark to provide options for redevelopment that could be funded via NIF and that an update be provided

Options are available to:

Option 1: Supply and install 3 items of play equipment to the existing Play Area: £44,300

- Wheelchair Accessible Carousel Roundabout
- Cocowave Pendulum Swing
- Home Seesaw

Option 2: 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: £25,000

Option 3: 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: £7000

We have been made aware that the adjacent school community may wish to progress a mypark.scot crowdfunding appeal in support of this wider activity. In our experience working with local groups on similar bids elsewhere, starting with an appeal for a specific and smaller value item, and then scaling up future appeals as support grows, is an approach that has been successful, with success also influenced by community groups running an engaging campaign via social media. One example of a potential topic for a bid could potentially be for 1 of the picnic tables, which would have a supply-only cost of £1250.

6. This Partnership, at its August meeting requested that NRS locate benches outside the Ramshorn Cemetery from those previously located within George Square- these are now in position.
7. In relation to St Patricks Green Wall Project, it is noted that officers are preparing tender documentation for this, with a view to contractors to be on site during 2025. Officers are arranging to meet the headteacher to discuss how to minimise disruption to the school.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1 The Area Partnership notes use of the Local Parks and Open Space Fund within the ward, and:
- 8.2 Approves funding for Dover Street Play Park