



Item 7

29th January 2025

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership

Hillhead Area Partnership

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration & Sustainability

Contact: Jenny O'Hagan Telephone 0141 247 9901

Local Parks & Open Space – Progress Update

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Area Partnership with an update on the Local Parks and Open Space Fund and to recommend use of the Neighbourhood Improvement Infrastructure Fund (NIIF).

Recommendations:

The Area Partnership is asked to note this report and to approve the following recommendations with use of the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund (NIIF):

- Considers and approves capital costs for either grid connected or off-grid lighting columns noted within appendix 1 for any chosen route (£3K - £4K per column).
- Approves £10K from the NIIF for feasibility work to install lighting at the stairs at University Avenue.
- Approves £6K from the NIIF to undertake works to the herbaceous border in Kelvingrove Park noted in appendix 2.

1. Introduction and progress to date

- 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. Progress Update of Projects

- 2.1 The following table provides updates to approved projects from 21/22 and 22/23:

2021/22

Location	Previous Proposal	Budget Allocated	Status & next steps
Kelvin Walkway	Restoration Works to Site of Flint Mill	£27,458	The Friends of the Botanic Gardens have assisted with the provision of a Conservation Pre Start Survey. Due to further assessment of the site, the scope of works has increased since this allocation was made, therefore funds will be used as a first phase of works. The Service will continue to pursue funds for further phases of works as and when they become available. We anticipate first phase of works to commence in Winter 24 subject to relevant consent being granted from Historic Environment Scotland.
Kelvin Walkway	The installation of 200 metres of new hardwood timber fencing, including	£18,500	Complete

	fence posts, from Lade to Flintmill.		
Kelvin Walkway	Surface water management at Gibson Street stairs	£3000	Funds fully utilised on initial phase of works to clear drain and purchase non-return valve. NIIF funds have been made available for a further phase of work which is currently being scoped by the Service. Options being considered are the installation of further surface drainage, alongside resurfacing to alleviate ponding issues

2022/23

Location	Previous Proposal	Budget Allocated	Status & next steps
Kelvingrove Park	Contribution towards Kelvingrove Park Play Area	£45,400	Works Complete
Kelvingrove Park	Contribution towards the Stewart Memorial Fountain	£2,300	Funds fully utilised on Stonework repairs.
Woodlands	Surface water management at Gibson Street stairs	£1,300	Funds fully utilised on initial phase of works to clear drain and purchase non-return valve. NIIF funds have been made available for a further phase of work which is currently being scoped by the Service. Options being considered are the installation of further surface drainage, alongside resurfacing to alleviate ponding issues

3. Parks Lighting Update

- 3.1 Following the Parks Lighting review undertaken by [Greenspace Scotland](#), suggested lighting routes within Kelvingrove Park remain under consideration. It is noted that should capital funding become available, a full Lighting Impact Assessment would require to be undertaken to allow the relative benefits and impacts of any proposal to be formally considered. This would include relevant ecological surveys and necessary mitigations to minimise impacts on wildlife.

Lighting Routes

- 3.2 The attached diagram (appendix 1) shows routes around Kelvingrove Park reviewed during the Greenspace Scotland place making workshops. It is expected that that results of the Lighting Impact Assessment will provide us with specific guidance as the approach we will take where, routes are shown on the current plan, as crossing the Site of Significance for Nature Conservation. Capital costs for both grid connected and off-grid lighting columns are considered to be **£3K - £4K per column**.
- 3.3 The Service has been approached by Glasgow University regarding the stairs leading from Kelvin Way to the University campus, highlighted in red on appendix 1. We understand representations have been made from both staff and students at the University regarding safety concerns of this well used path. Due to the topography of this area, alongside mature tree spread, the Partnership may wish to consider an initial allocation of **£10K from NIIF** for a lighting feasibility study. The Service will continue to engage with Glasgow University in relation to these works.
- 3.4 Two off-grid lighting trials have now been complete in Queens Park and Kelvingrove Park, which have been reviewed by officers and continued to be considered for lighting schemes in park and greenspace settings.
- 3.5 It is noted that there are no energy costs associated with off-grid lighting columns, compared with grid-connected columns which incur an estimated £19.37 per annum cost. Maintenance costs for both lighting columns are similar, ranging from £79-120 per annum. A suitable timed lighting column consumes an estimated 158kW per annum. Using this consumption figure, an annual saving of 0.0489 Co2 tonnes is achieved by use of off-grid lighting columns, with reduced cabling and trenching reducing the impact on species and habitats. Batteries will need intermittently replaced and have a lifespan of 8-20 years.
- 3.6 Information on Off-Grid Columns
- Both examples use optics which can allow for minimal light spill into green areas.
 - A 2700k warmth light would be used for reduced impact on wildlife.
 - Spacing between columns could be flexible
 - Lights can be set to a timer, and can use a sensor to activate when someone walks by

- Lighting can be adjusted, according to feedback
- 3.7 Solar way-finders have been implemented from Royal Terrace to Eldon Street. Feedback has been noted, including positive findings that they are not impacting on wildlife such as Bats. These measures will continue to be monitored.

Access to Herbaceous Border

- 3.8 Following the parks lighting review, a range of non lighting interventions were undertaken in the park through 2023/24 to improve feelings of safety for park users. This included works to prune or remove vegetation where site lines were restricted and repair or remove compromised park infrastructure. As part of these considerations, participants of the initial place making exercise identified the herbaceous border as a potential hazard to park users through the lack of escape routes within this area. Opening this access route would also allow easier access to the north section of the herbaceous border. This information has been shared with the Friends of Kelvingrove Park. Appendix 2 provides a diagram of the proposed works. The Service is therefore recommending an allocation of **£6K from NIIF** to undertake these works.

4. Recommendations

The Area Partnership is asked to note this report and to approve the following recommendations with use of the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund (NIIF):

- Considers and approves capital costs for either grid connected or off-grid lighting columns noted within appendix 1 for any chosen route (£3K - £4K per column).
- Approves £10K from the NIIF for feasibility work to install lighting at the stairs at University Avenue.
- Approves £6K from the NIIF to undertake works to the herbaceous border in Kelvingrove Park.