Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund (NIIF) - Funding Approved – Progress Update noted etc – Request to Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability.

3 There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS) providing an update on the progress of the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund (NIIF) and governance arrangements, advising that

(1) the NIIF provided an opportunity to implement participatory budgeting at a scale with an approved budget that was set in 2021/22 of £23 million and that £1 million of this was allocated to each ward;

(2) the funding was capital expenditure and therefore could be carried forward to be spent in future financial years, although should be fully committed by March 2027; and

(3) of the progress to date, as detailed in appendix 1 of this report.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted the report;

(b) agreed

(i) to approve options 1 and 2 of Ref 22-011a- changes/updates to pathways at Ark Lane - as detailed in the report, at a cost of £253,767;

(ii) to add Ref 22-029 - remedial works to Mausoleum to make this wind and watertight – to Ref 22-013, and add the remaining NIIF budget totalling £24,083.32 to the sum already allocated to Ref 22-013, to allow the total of £50,000 to be allocated to the work on the Mausoleum, and for this to be carried out as part of the wider Necropolis works; and

(iii) that the Chair would approach the Pride in Place forum to request that Ref 22-018 – outdoor exercise equipment in Sighthill Park – as detailed in the report, be considered as part of the Pride in Place project; and

(c) Requested that the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability

(i) provide costings for a permanent camera installation in respect of Ref 22-008 – CCTV at Onslow Drive and Alexandra Park Street – as detailed in the report, so that any available funds returned from rejected CCTV proposals could be ringfenced for this proposal;

(ii) provide designs and drawings relating to the feasibility study carried out in respect of Ref 22-011a – changes to pathway/updates at Ark Lane;

(iii) provide a report of investigations into alternative funding for the restoration of the Saracen Fountain in respect of Ref 22-026, as detailed in the report, to a future meeting;

(iv) formally requested that Ref 22-028 – ground clearance for creation of memorial garden and columbarium at the Necropolis – as detailed in the report, be carried out under business as usual; and

(v) provide a full update on Ref 22-013 – Eastern entrance at Necropolis – as detailed in the report and bring this to the next Partnership meeting.

The Partnership requested that it be highlighted that the other proposals in the report had not been able to be progressed due to limited funding and that they would encourage for other areas of funding be explored to take these issues forward.