Item 5

14th February 2023

Glasgow City Council

Pollokshields Area Partnership

Date: 14th February 2023
Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability

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Options for use of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within Pollokshields

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Partnership with:

1. Options for investment of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within Pollokshields as set out within section 2 of this report

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Partnership
(1) notes this report; and
(2) approves funding for its preferred options for the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund to allow for early action and delivery of projects.

Ward No(s): 6	Citywide:
Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐	consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

1. Introduction

1.1. The Glasgow City Council 2022/23 budget allocated £1.5 million to Area Partnerships across the city for investment in Parks and Open Spaces. It is noted that £49,800 of this has been allocated to Pollokshields. The following projects are options for the committee to consider taking forward.

1.2. It should be noted that factoring in procurement and tendering procedures that timescales for development of projects, allocation of spend, and delivery on the ground will vary across the current and next financial year. Whilst project budgets have been proposed based on costs for similar work elsewhere in the city in recent years, with usual contingencies we note current market volatility across a range of products, for example with tarring costs recently reported as increasing by 18%.

1.3. It is noted that there are seasonal windows for certain projects involving planting and habitats, namely:

1.3.1. September and April - seasonal windows for delivery of meadow creation

1.3.2. November -February - seasonal window for delivery of woodland creation and/or woodland management works on the ground

2. Local Engagement

2.1. Officers from across the Council Family have been working with local communities over recent months to build participation and engagement around the use of open spaces, with this work taking an increased importance and a digital form over the last 3 years. This engagement has taken a number of different strands, and has arrived at some early greenspace actions, as well as exploring longer term ideas. This report seeks to provide a summary of engagement to date, details options for these early actions and sets out a timeline for delivery of these options once a decision is made.

2.2. As part of Glasgow's Food Growing Strategy, we have been inviting communities across Glasgow to share with us their ideas for land they consider to be potentially suitable for food growing.

2.3. In May 2020, 917 responses were received from Citizens in relation to survey in relation to the Ecological Emergency, with the top 5 ranked priorities for action being:

- Support planners and developers to step up protection and enhancement of green space and biodiversity
- Work with other public sector land owners to maximise green corridors and pollinator ways through the city
- Increase connections across the city between green spaces, for both people and wildlife Allocate more open space for nature in the city
- Increase planting of native trees and plant species on and around active travel routes

Options for investment, for consideration by the Area Partnership, have been informed by the engagement work set out above set out above.

3. Suggested Projects for Area Partnership to Consider

3.1 Whilst it is recognised that engagement with communities does not follow any external timescale, it is understood that many greenspace investment works are tied to certain seasons of the year. Where capital funding has been allocated, it is noted that projects will involve time being set aside for the preparation of contract documents, procurement activity and lead in times for the delivery of materials.

3.2 Following the June meeting of the Partnership, Officers were requested to write to community groups requesting they submit suggested projects for consideration. The options listed below therefore include additional projects put forward by community partners.

3.3 It is noted that officers received details of the allocation to Glasgow City Council from the Scottish Government for Play Area Renewal for the next 3 year period on the 31st August 2022. Officers are currently gathering data to support the allocation process within Glasgow and intend to align this with other sources of play area capital funding including those currently and potentially available via developer contributions, and would intend to review the play areas within this ward as part of this exercise. A paper will be brought to the appropriate Council committee on this in due course.

3.4 Options have been costed as follows:

The following are a suite of projects for Area Partnership to consider. Please note, due to the level of feedback obtained from partners, the current list of projects is currently oversubscribed.
Chosen projects should total: **£49,800**

Option Number	Location	Proposal	Quantity	Potential Budget
1	Bellahouston Park- Play Area next to Glasgow Club Bellahouston	Supply and install new item of play equipment. The remaining £3000 associated with this installation will be funded from other sources.	item	£15,000
2	Maxwell Square Play Area	Suggestion received from Pollokshields Primary Parent Council- bring forward proposals for 3 items of outdoor gym- Contribution towards wider package of funding which includes Children's Play Equipment and Surfacing	item	£11,800
3	Balvicar Street Play Area	Contribution towards wider package of funding to support full refurbishment. It is	item	£10,000

		noted that recommendations are also being brought forward to Area Partnerships for Ward 7 & 8 (with £20,000 funding approved by ward 8, and consideration being continued for ward 7), with potential for funding from developer contributions and Scottish Government funding for Play Area Renewal Fund also being reviewed. It is noted that this location is recommended for investment by the Queens Park Working Group, which has representation from a range of organisations both within the park and the surrounding communities.		
4	Bellahouston Park – Fencing Works	Allowance for additional fencing, in addition to the approved fencing works from 2021/22, where an existing 145m of fencing is to be installed. Panel sections on Paisley Road West and Dumbreck Road have been identified as in need of repair.	Allowance	£13000
5	Minto Crescent – Craigton	Soft landscaping works to include bulb planting, tree planting and improvements to central planter. Installation of 3no. benches.	Item	£9000
6	Fleurs Avenue	Remove slabbed path and replace with tarmac surface. Crown lift adjacent trees.	Item	£4000
7	Bellahouston Park – Children's train play	Repair of damage	Allowance	£500

	equipment			
8	Urrdale Road	Landscape enhancements to be developed in conjunction with stakeholders	Allowance	£7000

4 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: This paper outlines options for how capital investment identified as part of the 2022/23 budget process by Glasgow City Council can be allocated within Pollokshields

Legal: None

Personnel: None

Procurement: Early Actions will be procured via existing GCC frameworks

Equality Impacts:

EQIA carried out:

Outcome: -

Sustainability Impacts:

Environmental: It is considered that the early actions set out in paragraph 3 would contribute to the recommendations of the Climate and Ecological Emergency working groups, and to the Local Biodiversity Action Plan

Social:

Economic:

5. Recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that the Partnership
(1) notes this report; and
(2) approves funding for its preferred options for the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund to allow for early action and delivery of projects.