Item 4

18th November 2022

Glasgow City Council
Canal Area Partnership

Report by Stephen Egan, Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability

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

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Partnership with:

1. Options for investment of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within Canal as set out within section 3 of this report
2. Advise as to next steps

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Partnership
(1) notes this report; and
(2) Advise of preferred options for the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund to allow for more detailed proposals to be developed.

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 £84,600 of this has been allocated to Canal.

1.2. At its meeting of the 17th June, this Partnership agreed options for Ruchill Park and Greenspace and Play Area next to Cadder Primary School totalling £44,000. It is noted that funds allocated towards Ruchill Park Play Area will be complemented by Developer Contributions (Cityplan Policy ENV2) of £57,063 and £15,000 of funding from this years Scottish Government Play Area Renewal Fund. Developer contributions represent sums allocated to Amenity Greenspace and Children's Play, from receipts banked with Glasgow City Council at the time of allocation, from developments located within the distance thresholds (as set out in CityPlan policy) of Ruchill Park.

1.3. This leaves a balance of £40,600 for which for which a proposal is set out in section 3 of this report. This section has been updated in light of other funding bids prepared for Cowlairs, and further to more detailed scoping discussions held with local stakeholders for the greenspace next to Ashgill Road.

1.4. 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%.

1.5. In relation to options funded from the 2021/22 fund, it is noted that:

1.5.1. Liddesdale Square New tree planting- including a permanent 'Christmas Tree' 9 no. Serbian Spruce and Cherry trees- works planned for November 2022

1.5.2. Liddesdale Square New metal benches within parks and open spaces- We expect to appoint a contractor November 2022, and to receive their programme for installation thereafter

1.5.3. New gateway signage at park entrance at Ruchill Park- 1 New stainless steel or powder-coated lettering, up to 300mm high, as part of a new entrance feature at Murano Street- works will be tendered in 2023, and a programme for works provided upon appointment of a contractor

1.5.4. New gateway signage at park entrance at Ruchill Park- 2 New stainless steel or powder-coated lettering, up to 300mm high, as part of a new entrance feature at Bilsland Drive - works will be tendered in 2023, and a programme for works provided upon appointment of a contractor

1.5.5. Ruchill Park New metal benches within parks and open spaces locations to be agreed- We expect to appoint a contractor November 2022, and to receive their programme for installation thereafter

1.5.6. Ruchill Park Cherry Trees along Bisland Drive- works planned for this Winter

1.5.7. Ruchill Park Advance planting of larger tree species such as oak, sycamore and lime as a first phase to mitigate anticipated impact of Ash dieback upon the overall canopy cover- works planned for this Winter

1.5.8. New gateway signage at park entrance at Milton Park New stainless steel or powder-coated lettering, up to 300mm high- works will be tendered in 2023, and a programme for works provided upon appointment of a contractor

1.5.9. 9 Milton Park New metal benches within parks and open spaces locations to be agreed- works will be carried out as part of the play area works below

1.5.10. Milton Park Replace missing play equipment and associated carpet repairs as an initial phase of work- works will be tendered in 2023, and a programme for works provided upon appointment of a contractor

1.5.11. Milton Park Planting of larger tree species such as oak, sycamore and lime as a first phase to mitigate the Willow trees within the park approaching the end of their safe lifespan- works planned for this Winter

1.5.12. Parkhouse Greenspaces New wildflower meadow/bulb planting and new tree planting- works completed

2. Engagement

2.1. Officers from across the Council Family have been working with local communities in recent years 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 2 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 landowners 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, and where selected for action, will form the subject of further engagement.

3. Suggested Projects for Area Partnership to Consider

2.1 Whilst it is recognised that engagement with communities does not follow any external timescale, it is understood, where possible, that the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund is spent and projects delivered with the financial year 2022-2023, and 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.

2.2 Costs have been scoped as follows:

The following are a suite of project costs for Area Partnership to consider.
Chosen projects should total: **£40,600**

Option Number	Location	Proposal	Quantity	Potential Budget
1	Greenspace next to Ashgill Road	Contribution to Active Travel project to link Chirnside Primary and Ashgill Recreation Centre with a walking and cycling route, engaging with local partners including representatives from both locations, Love Milton and others. Discussions have been held to clarify that footpath layout can be aligned to any future pitch proposals. Further funding bids will be brought forward in support of this project, with finalised scope and timescales to be confirmed once all funds in place.	contribution	£40,600

3 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 Canal

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:

4. Recommendations

4.1 It is recommended that the Partnership

(1) notes this report; and

(2) Advise of preferred options for the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund to allow for more detailed proposals to be developed.