**Item 4**

**9th November 2022**

**Glasgow City Council**

**East Centre Area Partnership**

**Date: 9 November 2022**
**Report by Stephen Egan, Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability**

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# Options for use of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within East Centre

**Purpose of Report:**

To provide the Partnership with:

1. Options for investment of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within East Centre 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) 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): 18 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, £89,200 of which has been allocated to this Partnership. 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%.

## 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 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

2.4 At the August meeting of this partnership, options totalling £51,700 were approved. Officers were subsequently asked to conduct further engagement in relation to the remaining options. A walkround was held in September 2022 involving several community members and residents to hear and discuss their ideas. The options below are based on suggestions and ideas from this walkround.

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

3.1 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.

3.2 Options have been costed as follows:

The following are a suite of projects for Area Partnership to consider, the total allocation for the ward was £89,200. Please note that a range of options have been provided following recent engagement to allow the Partnership various options to consider.
Final chosen projects should total: **£37,500.**

| Option Number | Location | Proposal | Quantity | Potential Budget |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Greenfield Park | Invest in the following projects:<br>- Outdoor Gym<br>- x2 Picnic benches<br>- x1 Slide | item | <br><br>£36,000<br>£7500<br>£10,000 |
| 2 | Danny's Park | Enhancements to the south entrance, including resurfacing.<br><br>Resurfacing of path around the park: | | £6000<br><br><br>Tar Surface - £43,500<br><br>Whin Stone Surface - £22,000 |

## 4 Update on 2021/ 22

| **Option Number** | **Location** | **Proposal** | **Status** |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Hogarth Park | Wildflower and bulb planting | Completed |
| 2 | Hogarth Park | Resurfacing works for active travel route | Following site visits, officers would recommend that this funding is reallocated to Abernethy Street Play Area to |

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|---|---|---|---|
| | | | complement other sources of capital funding to support a more complete refurbishment |
| 3 | Lethamhill Road Play Area | Enhancements to play area, including renewal of play equipment | Engagement ongoing with Friends of Lethamhill Park |
| 4 | Carntyne Square | Enhancement works, including planting and bench installations | Following further engagement with the community group limited demand for fruit trees or planters was identified, and extensive underground utilities identified. Officers will now bring forward proposals to replace non-native shrubs/planters within bulb and plug plants to enhanced habitat and visual appeal |
| 5 | Sandaig Park | Removal of gym equipment and planting of wildflowers and bulbs | Further investigation required into watervole and appropriate landscaping options thereafter. |
| 6 | Themed Walk at Halhill Road | Themed Walk with wooden carved fairy trail, bear hunt or Gruffalo theme with wildflower planting | Further engagement required with community in relation to location and specification of any installations |

## 5 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

*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:*

## 6. Recommendations

6.1 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.