Item 3

14th September 2023

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership

Anderston/City/Yorkhill Area Partnership

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration & Sustainability

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DISTRICT REGENERATION FRAMEWORKS (DRFs) FOR COWCADDENS, TOWNHEAD, LEARNING QUARTER AND MERCHANT CITY

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Area Partnership with an update on the DRFs for Cowcaddens, Townhead, Learning Quarter and Merchant City.

Recommendations:

The Area Partnership is asked to note the contents of this report and the presentation which will be given at the Area Partnership Meeting on 14 September 2023.

1 Introduction

1.1 The City Centre Strategy (CCS) 2014-19 was intended to be the first five-year plan in a ten-year strategy to recalibrate the regeneration focus of the city centre towards a more inclusive, sustainable, mixed-use place capable of supporting a growing population.

1.2 The onset of the Covid-19 pandemic from March 2020 required a different response and the City Centre Recovery Plan 2022 – 2024 was subsequently developed and approved by Committee in 2021. The intention is to develop a new CCS for the period 2024-30.

1.3 The CCS has a number of ambitious actions including the development of the District Strategy. The District Strategy has two elements:

1.3.1 The development of a District Regeneration Framework (DRF) for each of the nine districts. A DRF is a 10-year long regeneration plan with a series of short, medium- and long-term actions that combine strategic planning and place making with shorter term operational and environmental improvements.

1.3.2 The delivery of the Avenues programme of public realm investment. The CCS proposed the concept of this network of green, active travel infrastructure.

1.3.3 The Avenues activity is being taken forward through the Glasgow City Deal programme and is reported to committee separately.

2. District Regeneration Frameworks

2.1 The Learning Quarter, Merchant City, Cowcaddens, Townhead Regeneration Frameworks were commissioned in 2020. As with the previous five DRFs, the process was built around Town Centre First principles and has integrated spatial planning and placemaking objectives with operational and environmental enhancements.

2.2 It has been developed collaboratively by a multi-disciplinary team led by Austin-Smith: Lord and Studio for New Realities, who have worked with the local community, stakeholders and organisations within both the public and private sectors.

2.3 The recommendations and proposals have undergone detailed review with a focus on deliverability (in funding, resource, and outcome terms). On that basis, a prioritised draft action plan was produced for consideration as part of the public consultation.

3. Summary

3.1 The action plan is now being incorporated into the new City Centre Strategy which will run from 2024 to 2030.

3.2 The DRFs will be delivered over a 10 year framework. As each of the projects gets underway, we will engage with the local community and stakeholders to help shape the project and implementation.

4. Recommendations

4.1 The Area Partnership is asked to consider the contents of this report and the presentation which will be given at the meeting on the 14 September 2023.