Festive Lighting 2023/24 – Update noted – Request to Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability

7 With reference to the minutes of 26th April 2023 when the Area Partnership agreed that a report be brought back providing costings for festive lighting locations in the Ward, there was submitted a report by Stephen Blanchflower, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS), advising

(1) of the festive lighting locations for the Ward delivered as part of the 2022/23 programme; and

(2) of the costs for the 2023/24 festive lighting programme, as detailed in the report.

(3) that in view of previous questions and concerns that had been raised by members of this Partnership over previous festive lighting costs, it was agreed that officers from NRS

(a) should moving forward, and in order to identify reduced future savings, propose to buy, rather than rent, more energy efficient future festive lighting features; and

(b) submit proposed festive lighting costs for 2024 to this Partnership for consideration at its scheduled meeting on20th February 2024, with a view to these being finalised and agreed by June 2024.

After consideration the Partnership

(i) noted

(A) the report;

(B) that High Knightswood Community Council had advised that they proposed to source external funding to support a sustainable tree at Anniesland Cross;

(C) that NRS would look at reducing festive lighting costs next year and that proposals should be agreed and submitted to NRS as early in 2024 as possible;

(D) requested clarity from NRS officers in what seemed to be a variation in the 2023/24 standard pricing costs schedule, as the costs of the projects for the Kirkhope Roundabout Tree and two switch on events seemed to be higher than other wards;

(ii) raised concerns and questions that were addressed by Mr Blanchflower;

(iii) approved

(A) the locations for multi-coloured lights at the central natural tree at Hecla Park, the Christmas tree at Kirkhope roundabout and for 2 switch on events; and

(B) to award up to £5,500 from the Area Budget to assist with the costs of its Festive Lighting Programme, with a view that NRS officers would look at a potential reduction in the actual costs of the Central Natural Tree multi-coloured lights at Hecla Park, with current costings being £3,600; and

(iv) requested that NRS submit revised costs for the afore mentioned locations and events to the Partnership and Development Officer and the Chair for consideration and final approval.