Item 8

21st June 2022

Glasgow City Council

Pollokshields Area Partnership

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 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 Options have been costed as follows:

The following are a suite of projects for Area Partnership to consider. 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	item	£18,000
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
6	Balvicar Street Play Area	Contribution towards wider package of funding to support full refurbishment. It is noted that recommendations are also being brought forward to Area Partnerships for Wards 7 and 8, with potential for funding from developer contributions and Scottish Government	item	£20,000

		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.		

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 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:

9. Recommendations

9.1 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.