Item 4

17th June 2022

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership

Canal Area Partnership

Report by George Gillespie, 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.

Ward No(s): 16 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 £84,600 of this has been allocated to Canal.

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 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: **£84,600**				
Option Number	Location	Proposal	Quantity	Potential Budget
1	Ruchill Park	Contribution towards wider package of funding to support further investment in Children's Play with potential for funding from developer contributions and Scottish Government funding for Play Area Renewal Fund also being reviewed.	item	£25,000
2	Greenspace and Play Area next to Cadder Primary School	200 linear metres of hard surfaced active travel route to connect Vaila Street to the Primary School via the Herma Street (opposite no 49) entrance and to connect the MPGC and Children's Play Area to to the Primary School via the Herma Street (opposite no 49)	item	£19,000
3	Cowlairs Park	Early Actions on the parts of the parkland and greenspace proposed to be retained as greenspace within the Cowlairs Masterplan report. Detailed proposals to be brought back to this Partnership		£28,600

		but could include active travel routes, signage and interpretation, benches, wildflower and bulb planting, woodland management and/or tree planting.		
4	Greenspace next to Ashgill Road	Detailed proposals to be brought back to this Partnership but could include active travel routes, signage and interpretation, benches, wildflower and bulb planting, woodland management and/or tree planting.		£12,000

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.