Land around former Elder Park Depot, 1017 Govan Road (Ward 5) – Authority to Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability to commence negotiations for an off-market letting of land and commence a Common Good consultation approved.

16 There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability regarding proposals for an off-market letting of land around the former Elder Park Depot, 1017 Govan Road (Ward 5) to Glasgow City Mission through the People Make Glasgow Communities (PMGC) programme, advising that

(1) the PMGC programme was a mechanism by which local people, community groups, third sector and other organisations could express an interest in having a greater involvement in the management of local venues;

(2) during the pandemic, Glasgow City Mission used Elder Park for many of its outdoor activities as it was close to their Child and Family Centre and believed that its proposals for the land around the former depot site would allow it to expand its offer to the local community through the creation of an outdoor learning space that would encourage children to engage with the outside environment;

(3) Glasgow City Mission's application had been assessed by both the PMGC Project Working Group and Community Asset Working Group and they had recommended that the proposal be progressed to the development phase of the PMGC process, subject to any identified risks being addressed; and

(4) prior to any lease being entered into, a Common Good assessment focussing on the land disposal and change of use would be required.

After consideration, the committee

(a) approved the commencement of negotiations for an off-market letting of land around the former Elder Park Depot, 1017 Govan Road (Ward 5) to Glasgow City Mission, through the PMGC programme;

(b) granted authority to the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability to negotiate those terms and conditions for the proposed letting with Glasgow City Mission which should include, as appropriate, terms which:-

  (i) maintained a high level of public and democratic scrutiny over the operation of the council-owned facility; and

  (ii) maintained close alignment with all relevant council policies, including mechanisms for 'keeping pace' with future policy changes;

(c) provided options for recourse should either of these things cease to be maintained or if any actions are taken by the leaseholder which the Council considers detrimental to its reputation or to the wider public interest;

(d) approved the commencement of a Common Good consultation process focused on the disposal and change of use of the site; and

(e) granted authority to seek court approval once consultation responses had been received, in the event that the Council's right to alienate any part of the site was questioned.