Item 3

7th September 2022

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership

Victoria Park Area Partnership

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability

Contact: Stephen Egan Ext: 75604

Options for use of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within Victoria Park

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Partnership with:

1. Options for investment of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within Victoria Park 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;

(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): 12 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. £44,000 of this has been allocated to Victoria Park. 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. It is noted that Victoria Park Community Trust have set out, within the progress report page of their website, their strategic development goals and objectives for the park over the coming years highlighting projects and initiatives which will ensure a sustainable long-term future. Views were sought via their launch event 21st September 2021 and via online questionnaire, results of which received so far are currently being collated and are informing the joint working between the Trust and this service.

2.2. Officers from across the Council Family have been working with local communities 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.

2.3. 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.

2.4. 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

3.1 Options have been costed as follows:

The following are a suite of projects for Area Partnership to consider. Chosen projects should total: **£44,000**				
Option Number	Location	Proposal	Quantity	Potential Budget
1	Victoria Park Play Area	Contribution towards wider package of funding to support full refurbishment, with potential for funding from developer contributions and Scottish Government funding for Play Area Renewal Fund also being reviewed.	item	£5,500
2	Victoria Park	Bring forward proposals and costings to a future meeting of this Partnership for match funding one or more Short Term Actions for the Vision being consulted on by Victoria Park Community Trust	item	£24,000

3	Greenspace near Whiteinch Centre	Contribution towards a wider package of funding to support food growing at a greenspace near Whiteinch Centre to support their community fridge and foodbank		£5000
4	Bulb Planting and Wildflower Plug Planting	Contribution towards a wider package of funding- potential sites to be considered include: - Whiteinch cycleway - Naseby park Broomhill - Thornwood park – beside fence running along Dumbarton Road - Islands Thornwood Dumbarton Road - Dumbarton Rd various green areas Whiteinch		£600
5	Thornwood Benches	2 number new benches	item	£900
6	Thornwood	Review potential new locations for a street tree	1 no	£8000

4. 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

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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:

5. Recommendations

5.1 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.