Street Art Culture – Motion as adjusted, approved.

16 Councillor Reid-McConnell, seconded by Bailie Mearns, moved that:-

"Council strongly believes that art should be accessible to all Glaswegians, that art comes in many forms, and that everyone should have the opportunity to express themselves artistically.

Council welcomes the vibrant street art culture within Glasgow including: the development by SWG3 of a "striking graffiti and street arts district" in Partick, Yorkhill and Greater Govan; the work of Colourworks CIC, an "artist led organisation which aims to support and promote graffiti and street art within Glasgow"; our own City Centre Mural Trail and the growing number of linked walking tours; and organic development of murals and street art such as those in Shawlands supported through the Langside Area Partnership.

The Council spends considerable resources removing graffiti and recognises the concerns of residents over graffiti which includes discriminatory or offensive language or symbols. Council understands that other cities and local areas have successfully embraced the even greater potential for vibrant street art to transform overlooked areas, give opportunity for people to engage in creating art, whilst respecting people's rights to feel safe in their communities.

Council therefore instructs the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability to:

- engage with street artists and street art organisations to consider what more the Council can do to support the development of street art culture in Glasgow, including providing public "legal walls"; expanding existing mural trails to cover other parts of the city; and improving outreach with people who could benefit from involvement in street art to allow creative expression and discourage vandalism;

- develop a business case for a pilot programme rolled out via Area Partnerships as a mechanism to connect with local artists and local third sector organisations on a ward level. Also explore potential for engaging with community centres, housing associations and other local stakeholders likely to have walls that could be linked with a specific artist or utilised as a public wall for workshops or practice, with a focus on engaging local youth groups; and

- bring a report to an appropriate policy committee in the next three cycles to report on this engagement and business case, and further actions the Council can take to support a vibrant street-art culture, including analysing publicly-owned sites which could be made available for street art, as well as action to address problem graffiti and reduce the costs involved with clean-up."

Councillor Kelly, seconded by Bailie Christie, moved as an amendment to delete paragraphs 4 and 5 and after paragraph 3 insert the following:-

“Council commends the cross-departmental work across the Council to counter graffiti and promote street art exampled by our Education Services and schools. Council notes pupils from across the city - Sunnyside Primary to Shawlands Academy - were involved in a mural project at SWG3 in the lead-up to COP26 and a St Mungo’s Academy pupil won a prize for their art. Council further notes St Patrick’s and Hillhead Primary Schools have also recently been working with some street artists.

Council recognises the positive work being carried out across the Council and the city and instructs the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability working in collaboration with Glasgow Life to:

- continue engagement with the street art community to nurture the next generation of artists while developing a policy which includes providing public "legal walls"; expanding existing mural trails to cover other parts of the city; and improving outreach with people who could benefit from involvement in street art to allow creative expression and discourage vandalism;”

Councillor Reid-McConnell, with the approval of her seconder, accepted the amendment by Councillor Kelly resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

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“Council commends the cross-departmental work across the Council to counter graffiti and promote street art exampled by our Education Services and schools. Council notes pupils from across the city - Sunnyside Primary to Shawlands Academy - were involved in a mural project at SWG3 in the lead-up to COP26 and a St Mungo’s Academy pupil won a prize for their art. Council further notes St Patrick’s and Hillhead Primary Schools have also recently been working with some street artists.

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- continue engagement with the street art community to nurture the next generation of artists while developing a policy which includes providing public "legal walls"; expanding existing mural trails to cover other parts of the city; and improving outreach with people who could benefit from involvement in street art to allow creative expression and discourage vandalism;

- develop a business case for a pilot programme rolled out via Area Partnerships as a mechanism to connect with local artists and local third sector organisations on a ward level. Also explore potential for engaging with community centres, housing associations and other local stakeholders likely to have walls that could be linked with a specific artist or utilised as a public wall for workshops or practice, with a focus on engaging local youth groups; and

- bring a report to an appropriate policy committee in the next three cycles to report on this engagement and business case, and further actions the Council can take to support a vibrant street-art culture, including analysing publicly-owned sites which could be made available for street art, as well as action to address problem graffiti and reduce the costs involved with clean-up."

The motion, as adjusted, was thereafter unanimously approved.