Item 3
7th June 2022

Glasgow City Council

Southside Central Area Partnership

Date: 7th June 2022
Report by Stephen Egan, Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability

Contact: Stephen Egan Ext: 75604

Options for use of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within Southside Central

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Partnership with:

1. Options for investment of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within Southside Central 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): 8	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. £74,000 of this has been allocated to Southside Central. 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 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

3.1 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.

3.2 Options have been costed as follows:

The following are a suite of projects for Area Partnership to consider. Chosen projects should total: **£74,000**				
Option Number	Location	Proposal	Quantity	Potential Budget
1	Riccarton Street Park	• Re-paint the play equipment that is not damaged. • Replace/ repair the two pieces of play equipment that are damaged. • An allowance of up to £10,000 towards replacement of the carpets of the play areas. • Repair and repaint the fencing surrounding the basketball court. • Replace the	item	Up to £27,700

		basketball boards and nets. • Replace the park signage with the park name and park rules once fence has been painted. • Tidy up some of the shrub beds within the park and crown raise the trees, also potential for some bulb planting on the grass plots within the park.		
2	Bennan Street	Community Bulb planting day	unit	£300
3	Calder Street Phase 2	Phase 2 of improvement works to site to reflect suggestions from older residents and children engaged with so far	item	£12,000
4	Queens Park	Outdoor Table Tennis Table and surrounding surfacing- location to be agreed	item	£5000
5	Queens Park	Frame and surrounding surfacing to		£8000

		support use of the park by individuals undertaking TRX Suspension Training		
6	Balvicar Street Play Area Renewal	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 6 and 7, with potential for funding from developer contributions and Scottish Government funding for Play Area Renewal Fund also being reviewed.		£20,000
7	Plot at Hollybrook Street and Aitkenhead Road	Paint, plants and soil		Up to £1000

5 Local Parks and Open Spaces Funding 2021/22

5.1 At its meeting of the 3rd September 2021, this Partnership approved funding of '*Further phase of Queens Park surface water management at a cost of £10,000'.* A working group of organisations with an interest in Queens Park is now meeting regularly and at its meeting of the 24th March 2022 agreed that a recommendation be made to this Partnership that these funds instead be allocated towards the following items:

2	Boating Pond	6 Additional benches	Item @ £450 ea	£2700
5	Gateway next to Balvicar PA	Upgrade signboard / replace plexiglass and repaint	Item- based on similar work at another park	£773
5a	Gateway next to	Address / dig out path due to	Item- costs not known so	£500

	Balvicar PA	muddiness of playground entrance path (under 5cm of mud)	allowance	
9a	Curved path which rises up from Balvicar Drive Entrance	4 empty 'bench' indents	Item @ £450 ea	£1800
13	Tree avenue between Flagpole and Depot	Replace missing trees	Circa 8 trees subject to detailed survey/utilities	£2,400
17	Entrance at Victoria Road	Upgrade signboard	Item- based on similar work at another park	£773
18	MPGC near Tennis Courts	Repairs required to lining markings- the circle and one of the D's	Item- costs not known so allowance	£1054

6 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

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.