**Item 3**

**8th June 2022**

**Glasgow City Council**

**East Centre Area Partnership**

**Date: 8th June 2022**
**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 East Centre

**Purpose of Report:**

To provide the Partnership with:

1. Options for investment of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within East Centre 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) 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): 18 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, £89,200 of which has been allocated to this Partnership. 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%.

## 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 land owners 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: **£89,200** | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Option Number | Location | Proposal | Quantity | Potential Budget |
| 1 | Greenfield Park | Invest in active travel routes to support walking and wheeling (surfacing and directional signage) bulb and wildflower plug planting and tree planting | item | £37,700 |
| 2 | Enhancements at Lethamhill Road Play Area and Greenspace | Additional funded phase of work to entrances, railings, woodland management, benches and increased tree planting | item | £14,500 |
| 3 | Budhill Park Play Area | Match funding to add to that available from the Children's Outdoor Play capital fund to increase the scope of the play area refurbishment project- supply and install two additional item of equipment and associated surfacing | item | £37,000 |

## 5 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.