Glasgow City Council

North East Area Partnership

Item 3

17th 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 North East

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Partnership with:

1. Options for investment of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within North East as set out within section 3 of this report
2. Advise as to next steps

Recommendations:

It is recommended that committee note this report and advise of their preferred options for the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund to allow for early action and delivery of projects.

Ward No(s): 21 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. It is noted that £74,300 of this has been allocated to North East.

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 4 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

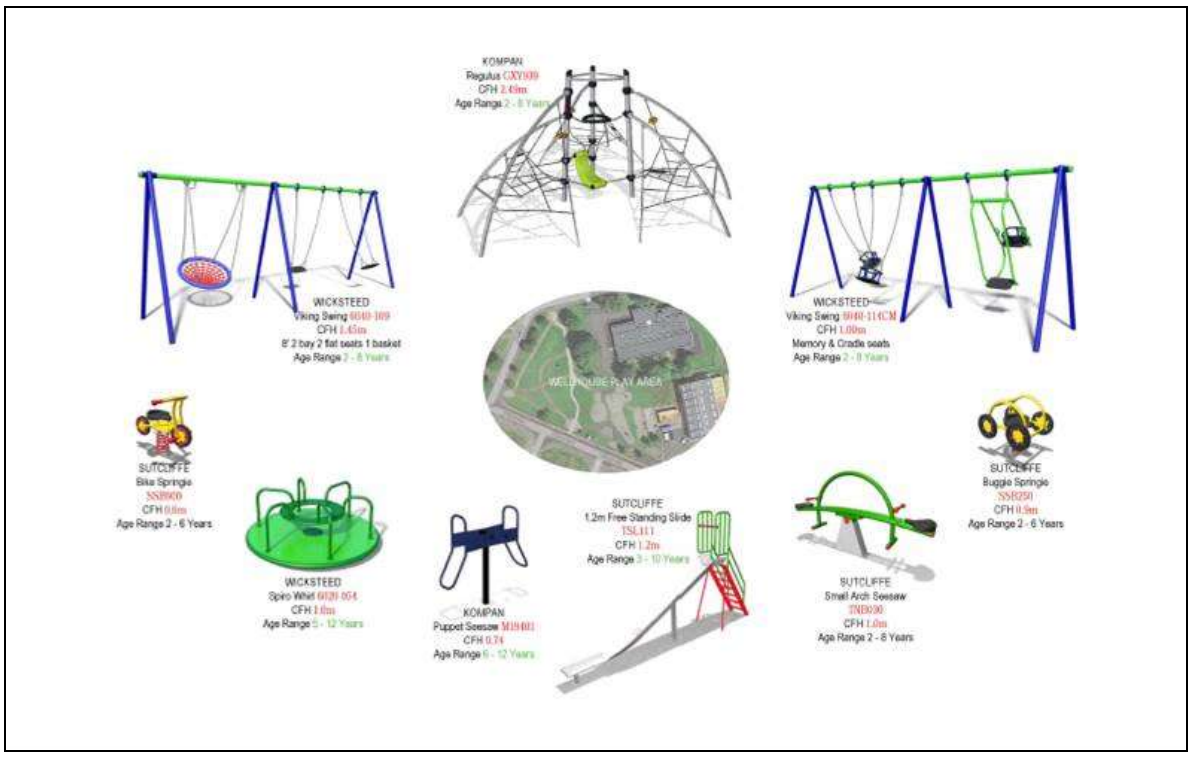
Options for investment, for consideration by the Area Partnership, have been informed by the engagement work set out above set out above, and where selected for action, will form the subject of further engagement.

2.4 Two larger parks identified by officers as priorities for investment are Auchinlea Park and Blairtummock Park. At Auchinlea Park upgrades are required to entrances, paths, car park and formal gardens to align with the restoration works to Provan Hall, which is scheduled to re-open later this year. A

landscape design commission is underway to develop detailed designs and costs for improvements works. The total costs of works will exceed £150k, and work coni to identify potential sources of funding. A sum of £52,337 was committed from this fund as part of its 2021/22 allocation. A further contribution towards woodland management and boundary treatments is recommended as part of this year's allocation.

3.2 At Blairtummock Park the play area has been identified as requiring a full replacement. Illustrate the type of fixed play are that may be possible Figure 1 shows a recent upgrade to Wellhouse West Play area. The cost of this upgrade was £88,000, and Scottish Government funding for Play Area Renewal is being sought as part of the wider funding package being compiled. Residents have also highlighted the need for improved maintenance and infrastructure in the new area of nature park created on former blaes pitches. City Property are soon to market a housing site on Aberdalgie Rd (150 – 175 homes) and this development must include provision of play and open space. Further consultation with local community groups will be brought forward.

Figure 1 - Wellhouse West Play Area



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: **£74,300**				
Option Number	Location	Proposal	Quantity	Potential Budget
1	Blairtummock Park	Contribution towards wider package of funding to support rebuilding and relocating (to reflect recent investment elsewhere in the park) play area to reflect recent investment elsewhere in the park, with potential for funding from developer contributions and Scottish Government funding for Play Area Renewal Fund also being reviewed. Timelines for project development will reflect need for survey of protected species.	item	£37,150
2	Auchinlea Park	A further contribution towards woodland management and boundary treatments to complement the restoration works to Provan Hall	item	£37,150

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 within North East

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.