



Item 2

24th January 2019

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership Newlands/Auldburn Area Partnership

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Transforming Pollok Country Park

Purpose of Report:

To inform and update members on the Transforming Pollok Country Park project, current progress and engagement activities.

Recommendations:

The Area Partnership is asked to

- 1) Take note of the project and current activities
- 2) Provide feedback on emerging Access and Orientation strategy being tested
- 3) Raise any interdependencies e.g. between this project and any local issues or other projects
- 4) Provide any suggestions for other meetings or networks in local areas for further consultation activities

1. Transforming Pollok Country Park

1.1 Pollok Country Park is the largest park in Glasgow and was voted Best Park in Europe in 2008. As well as its importance as a green space for leisure and nature conservation, it has outstanding heritage features, including housing two of Scotland's most important museums, both of which are Category A Listed buildings. It is owned and managed by Glasgow City Council, who recognise the potential and value of this resource and are developing the Transforming Pollok Country Park project which aims to:

- Transform the park from an asset rich but underutilised historic park into a world class civic destination that is enjoyed more and more often by its citizens and visitors to the city.

1.2 The objectives of the project are to:-

Improve the management and care of the park's heritage assets;
Support the establishment of a coherent public offer for Pollok Country Park;
Remove barriers to access;
Increase usage by the communities surrounding the park
Improve orientation of the attractions within the park and of the park within the city;
Improve transport links to the park generally and the Burrell Collection, Pollok House and other attractions specifically

2. Background and Context

2.1 The city's Tourism and Visitor Plan promotes Glasgow as a gateway to Scotland and provides the context for developing Glasgow's attractions and enhancing the Southside neighbourhood offer as part of an improved city-wide visitor proposition. The Burrell Collection in Pollok Country Park is currently being redeveloped and will re-open in late 2020. It is predicted that this will play a key role in attracting visitors and citizens of Glasgow to Pollok Country Park and to the south of the city.

3. Current Progress

3.1 The Access and Orientation workstream forms the focus of work at present, and seeks to enhance access to and within the park and improve overall user experience in line with the Burrell Collection re-opening in late 2020. As of November 2018, Glasgow City Council and Glasgow Life have been engaging with the public and other stakeholders about the Pollok Country Park Transformation project and are consulting on emerging access and orientation proposals. These proposals involve modifying private car access and vehicular routes, changing car parking arrangements, improving accessibility, promoting

public transport and pedestrian links, as well as improving connectivity to local areas (see Appendix A – Access Proposals Presentation).

3.2 This phase of engagement so far has included engagement at meetings with stakeholders:

- Poloc Cricket Club
- Police Dog Unit
- National Trust for Scotland
- Scot Rail
- SPT

A briefing session was held where there was a presentation and engagement with:

- Elected Members

And meetings were held with the public:

- Friends of Pollok Country Park Group
- Local Community Councils:
 - Pollokshaws and Eastwood Community Council
 - Mossspark and Corkerhill Community Council
 - Pollokshields Community Council
 - Shawlands and Strathbungo Community Council
 - Dumbreck Community Council
 - Craigton Community Council

As well as a pop-up information table to engage with the:

- General public in Pollok Civic Realm as part of Peat Road Medical Centre’s “Bringing the Community to You” service

3.3 This engagement forms part of the first phase of public engagement for the project and will extend into 2019. After this phase, formal pre-planning consultation with the public will begin at the end of January 2019 which will last for a period of 12 weeks and include two public meetings in Pollok Community Centre and Pollokshaws Burgh Hall. This consultation will specifically focus on the emerging access proposals, and will be followed by the submission of a planning application. There is a predicted site start date of August 2019 in advance of the Burrell re-opening in 2021.



4. Recommendations

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- 4) Provide any suggestions for other meetings or networks in local areas for further consultation activities