

Development of City Centre Rapid Repairs project noted – Recommendation to City Administration Committee.

3 There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability regarding the development of a pilot City Centre Rapid Repairs project, advising

- (1) that the City Centre Strategy (CCS) 2024-30 had incorporated findings from several post-pandemic reports commissioned by the Council and the City Centre Task Force and these findings had informed the development of the CCS priority actions;
- (2) that one of the CCS priority actions related to the establishment of a Development Team, with a number of objectives to support development, including a focus on blighted land and property in the city centre and the CCS 2024-30 had introduced a range of new measures to support this, as detailed in the report;
- (3) that to directly target the issue of poor quality public realm out-with funded programmes such as the Avenues and Bus Partnership projects, a more innovative approach was required to enable a relatively rapid response to smaller-scale but higher-impact streetscape issues and it was proposed that a pilot City Centre Rapid Repairs project be developed;
- (4) of the scope of the City Centre Rapid Repairs project which would be trialled as a 1 year pilot with a total of £400,000 of funding which would comprise of £200,000 from the CCS capital funding and it was proposed that the remaining £200,000 be met from Developer contributions generated through the planning process for the maintenance and provision of public realm generated in the city centre;
- (5) that the pilot project would be co-ordinated by Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS) City Centre Regeneration Group with the support of NRS Roads Operations who would manage the implementation of all improvements whether undertaken by internal services or external contractors, as detailed in the report; and
- (6) of the next steps.

After consideration and having heard a presentation by Ms Jane Laiola, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, the committee

- (a) noted
 - (i) the presentation;
 - (ii) the development of the City Centre Rapid Repairs project which would be delivered as a 1 year pilot from January 2025; and

- (iii) that a progress report would be submitted to this committee at the end of the pilot on outcomes and next steps; and
- (b) agreed to recommend to the City Administration Committee approval of the City Centre Rapid Repairs project which would be trialled as a 1 year pilot.