



Item 3 (a)

23rd April 2025

Springburn/Robroyston Area Partnership

Report by: Programme Manager, Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability

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The Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund (NIIF) – Progress Update

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Area Partnership with a progress update in relation to the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund, including new arrangements for support and governance of this, and a summary of commitments and spend to date

Recommendations:

The Area Partnership is asked to note the contents of the report, review the content provided in the attached tables to confirm its accuracy and identify any new proposals for NIIF to be costed before the next meeting.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund provides an opportunity to implement participatory budgeting at scale with an approved budget set in 2021/22 of £23million. The budget assigned the decision making in relation to this fund to Area Partnerships, with £1million allocated to each ward. This report provides an update regarding the Area Partnership's position in relation to this.
- 1.2 This funding is capital expenditure and therefore can be carried forward to be spent in future financial years, though funding should ideally be fully committed by March 2027.

2. Management and Governance of the fund

- 2.1 In September 2024, the Director of Service Delivery, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS), provided a report outlining the challenges experienced in implementing the fund and dealing with the volume of requests to date. The report also advised that a new process was being devised to manage this.
- 2.2 In December 2024, a small team of staff were tasked with reviewing the current process for NIIF and the backlog of requests already received, as well as devising clear guidance and processes for its management going forward.
- 2.3 This has involved a significant amount of work to review information held in Area Partnership minutes, within NRS services and across council departments.
- 2.4 As a result, a full breakdown of current committed spend, new proposals still to be costed and spend to date can now be provided.
- 2.5 It should be highlighted that due to previous challenges in the management of this information, the information provided may contain gaps. We would therefore ask that Area Partnerships review what is provided and advise of anything they believe was previously requested or approved, that does not appear in this report.
- 2.6 It should also be noted that some proposals discussed at Area Partnerships previously have been listed in this report but have yet to be progressed for estimate. We ask that Area Partnerships first review these lists and confirm that they have been approved and should now be sent for estimate within NRS.
- 2.7 Clear guidance has been created to assist community members and Area Partnership Chairs in identifying proposals for the use of the fund which meet the criteria and contain the required information to enable NRS to progress these. This is attached at Appendix 1.

3. Criteria for the Fund

- 3.1 Criteria is outlined in the guidance attached at Appendix 1, however, the following should be noted:
- 3.2 Because the £1 million is designated for capital expenditure, it must be spent on Council infrastructure - Physical things in Council ownership.
- 3.3 The fund is not intended to be used for “business as usual” council activities such as dealing with individual service requests related to basic maintenance or repair of existing assets – for example: individual broken streetlights, blocked drains, potholes etc.
- 3.4 The fund is not intended to be used for consultancy work, for example, the carrying out of community engagement work to find out what projects the community are interested in. It may, in circumstances where Council services require external assistance, be used for technical consultancy fees which are required to develop and deliver a capital project, such as architects or streetscape designers to help communities redesign civic spaces.
- 3.5 The fund cannot be used to fund revenue costs, such as future or ongoing costs related to maintenance, utilities, repair costs etc. Any revenue costs resulting from NIIF investment will need to be met from other sources.
- 3.6 NIIF proposals should not be costed by external contactors or suppliers before being put forward. All proposals need to be costed within GCC in line with procurement procedures.
- 3.7 Potential ideas for the use of NIIF will only be costed by NRS if these proposals have been discussed and approved at an Area Partnership meeting, then submitted through the process outlined in the attached guidance.

4. Process for NIIF requests

- 4.1 As outlined above, all proposals for the use of NIIF must be approved at an Area Partnership meeting before being passed to NRS to be costed.
- 4.2 NRS Neighbourhood Liaison Managers will attend each meeting, present the report produced by NRS and record all approved new proposals on an agreed template to be used internally by NRS. These will be reviewed and costed where possible. They will also provide support and guidance to Area Partnerships on the criteria and information required for NIIF requests.
- 4.3 The officers will also record decisions related to any estimates provided and advise NRS when an estimate has been approved for work to commence. To allow this to be more streamlined, we ask that Area Partnerships discuss and approve a % amount that costs can go over the original estimate without seeking further approval.

- 4.4 This enhanced process will ensure that all proposals and decisions related to NIIF are documented, including all required information, without relying solely on the minutes. We are confident that this process will ensure a sufficient level of information is provided to allow proposals to be costed more timeously.

5. NIIF enquiries and Updates

- 5.1 The new process outlined in the attached appendix will ensure full updates are provided at each Area Partnership meeting on spend and progress. This should negate the need for enquiries out with the meeting cycle to seek information on progress of either work underway or estimates.
- 5.2 However, it is recognised that more general enquiries about the NIIF funding or the process related to this may require a response. For this reason, the Programme Management Office for NIIF have created a NIIF mailbox which will be monitored by the team - NIIFEnquiries@glasgow.gov.uk
- 5.3 This should **not** be used for suggesting NIIF proposals or requesting estimated costs as such requests should go via Area Partnership meetings. However, it will ensure a clear communication channel is in place for any more general queries.

6. Progress to Date

- 6.1 The tables at the end of this report will be provided as standard at future Area Partnership meetings and provide a breakdown of:
- Proposals previously submitted for estimate: **Please note for this round of reports we are asking that Area Partnerships review these and confirm whether these should proceed to being costed if an estimate has not already been provided.** At future meetings, this table will only contain new estimated costs provided by NRS for AP approval.
 - Proposals Requiring more information: where an estimate can not be progressed, a reason for this will be outlined clearly. If this relates to a lack of clear information being provided to allow costing, we ask that Area Partnerships review this and provide the required information to allow this to be considered before the next scheduled meeting.
 - Summary of Committed and Actual Spend to date: This includes an update on any works currently underway and a breakdown of committed NIIF and actual spend to date. **It should be noted that work is still underway to review the actual spend with individual teams within NRS and ensure this has been recorded accurately and appears in the ledger. Final Actual spend for all completed works will be provided in the next round of reports**

1 - Proposals submitted for estimate:

Date of AP Meeting Originally Proposed	Reference Number	Proposed Item Description & Location	Estimate request sent to NRS Ops Team Date	Estimate Received Y/N	Estimate Amount	Comments
13/09/2023	17-001	3 CCTV cameras subject to locating and signal testing inc Robroyston Train Station, Springburn Park Monument Area & Shops Quarrywood Rd		N		We have advised that at present Robroyston is not a viable option due to location (communication) but also land is not yet adopted by GCC. Springburn park we would require further details on request and for the shops @Quarrywood Road.
20/11/2024	17-003	Road Repairs to the hole at the junction at Ned Donaldson House traffic lights at Springburn Way Road		N		This is a Business as Usual enquiry, not NIIF related. Please report through BAU channels
20/11/2024	17-007	Installation of pathway lighting and resurfacing of pathway to the rear of Wallacewell Primary school				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
20/11/2024	17-008	Installation of speed signage for all primary schools in the area				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings
20/11/2024	17-009	Purchase of defibrillator for Beatroute Arts				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for costings. Please note that these will require further discussion as they may not meet NIIF criteria.
12/02/2025	17-011	Brunswick Community Development Trust				AP to confirm that these proposals are to be submitted to NRS teams for updated costings.

		<p>Seeking funding to modernise Springburn Park Synthetic Pitch and Pavillion by transitioning to renewable energy sources and upgrading the pavilion area. LED Lighting Upgrade (Pitch & Car Park) £25k</p> <p>Air to Air Heat Pump £18k</p> <p>Modernisation & Disabled Access £22k</p>				
12/02/2025	17-012	<p>Springburn Winter Gardens works £50k-£75k - subject to match funding being approved. Multi works outlined in Appendix 2 from Mintues 12/02/2025</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stabilise the base of all curned steel lattice frames - blacksmith to add steel place strenghening to elements degraded to point of failure 2. Propping main entrance route to allow safe access to the main building - install crow props with timber beams/plywood sheeting to create safe corridor throughout glasshouse 3. Clearance of vegetation inside the main building to clear floor channels and sllow filling of the floor voids with either hardcore or crushed bricks to level floor 				Source of costs provided is unclear. NRS to review, investigate and provide estimate where possible.

		<p>4. Potential partial demolition of the brick planters at the south of building to clear space in central area and potentially offer some site won materials to infill floor channels</p> <p>5. Fencing off vulnerable/dangerous areas around the perimeter of accessible space, fencing off stairs and areas below mezzanine to limit risk of public accessing upper areas</p> <p>6. Re-attaching hanging steel bracket using a high level access platform into the main space</p>				
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2 - Proposals Requiring more Information:

Date Proposed	Reference Number	Proposed Item Description & Location	Information Required
11/09/2024	17-002	Costs for installation of dropped kerbs	AP to confirm locations for drop kerbs. Estimate is £1000 for drop kerbs on both sides of road eg. constructed in pairs.
20/11/2024	17-004	Road Repairs at Quarrywood Road	AP to confirm is this generalised road repairs which would be classed as Business as Usual, or resurfacing of Quarrywood Road?
20/11/2024	17-005	LED Lighting at Standburn Road	Please provide more detail on what is being requested, is it maintenance of existing lighting? Or installation of new lighting? Please provide details of exact location using junctions/landmarks as reference.
20/11/2024	17-006	Upgrade to lights at Springburn Way	Please provide more detail on location, is it all of Springburn Way or a specific section? Please use junctions/landmarks as reference if requesting a section only.
24/04/2024	17-013	Noted that £100k was ringfenced for road resurfacing, footway improvement, street light investment, drainage repairs, and street furniture	Please provide more information detailing what specific jobs/locations are requested to allow us to progress to relevant NRS Ops teams to get up to date accurate costings.

3- Summary of spend to date:

This table provides details of all committed and actual spend. This includes estimates received and approved, where work has yet to commence and no actual costs have been accrued.

Date of AP Meeting Originally Proposed	Costing Template Reference Number	Details of works	Approved Estimate	Actual Spend	Status	Comments
24/04/2024	17-013	Noted that £100k was ringfenced for road resurfacing, footway improvement, street light investment, drainage repairs, and street furniture	£100,000		Awaiting more information	Please provide more information detailing what specific jobs/locations are requested to allow us to progress to relevant NRS Ops teams to get up to date accurate costings.
Totals:			£100,000	£		
*Running Total			£100,000			
Total Budget			£1,000,000			
Remaining NIIF Allocation:			*£900,000			

*Running Total shows all ACTUAL SPEND for 'COMPLETED' WORKS & ESTIMATED SPEND for 'INCOMPLETE WORKS' This is then subtracted from the AP £1 million allocation to show remaining NIIF.