

Neighbourhood Infrastructure Fund Programme – Community engagement update noted – Request to Councillor Anderson and Executive Director of Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability.

9 There was submitted a report by the Head of Policy and Corporate Governance, regarding the next stages for community engagement on the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Fund (NIF) programme, advising

- (1) of the current NIF allocation across the Area Partnerships and the challenges faced by Partnerships regarding generation of ideas, timescales of the funds, community engagement and allocation;
- (2) that Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS) would provide a progress report to the next meeting of the Partnership, which would include up to date costings and allocations for each ward, information on the new internal processes for the NIF and templates for the recording of ideas; and
- (3) that members should advise how the process of NIF allocations should continue, how the remainder of the £1m fund should be allocated and what support would be required from the Communities Team.

After consideration, the Partnership

- (a) noted the report;
- (b) raised questions in relation to the lack of progress and that Claythorn Community Council had submitted the Hartfield Drive project which had been approved by the Partnership and included in the 2020 programme however no work had yet been carried out;
- (c) highlighted
 - (i) numerous projects that had not been progressed or had taken several years to progress;
 - (ii) Councillor Brown expressed her disappointment, that it was essential that plans were progressed and if there had been no progress by the next meeting in April this issue would be escalated;
- (d) requested that
 - (i) an informal meeting be arranged by Councillor Anderson to discuss all proposed projects that had been submitted and costed by NRS and new ideas and projects to be considered before the April meeting and to be brought back to the next meeting for consideration and approval; and
 - (ii) that NRS submit a report on providing a breakdown of spend and balance.

- (e) agreed that the Partnership would continue to submit projects and then being submitted to NRS of costings.