



**Glasgow City Council**  
**City Administration Committee**

**Item 6**

26th March 2026

**Report by Councillor Ruairi Kelly, City Convener for Housing,  
Development, Built Heritage and Land Use**

**Contact: George Gillespie, Ext: 79106**

**Govan Heritage Funding Programme (2026 – 2031)**

**Purpose of Report:**

To outline proposals for the Govan Heritage funding programme to be delivered during 2026 – 2031.

**Recommendations:**

Committee is asked to:

- 1) Approve acceptance of external funding for the Govan Heritage programme from National Lottery Heritage Fund and Historic Environment Scotland;
- 2) Note the proposed Govan Heritage investment programme;
- 3) Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability to disburse the Govan heritage Common Fund as per the indicative programme outlined in Annex 2, which due to commercial sensitivities has been placed in the Members Library.

Ward No(s): 5 Govan

Citywide:

Local member(s) advised: Yes ✓ No  consulted: Yes ✓ No

## **1 Background**

- 1.1** The Council has been awarded funding by National Lottery Heritage Fund (Grants for Heritage) and Historic Environment Scotland (Heritage & Place Programme) to deliver a place-based heritage renewal programme in Govan over the next 5 years.
- 1.2** The Council successfully implemented two previous Townscape Heritage Initiatives in Govan (THIs) between 2009 and 2023. The THIs made funding awards of £9m with a resultant total investment of £13.5m.
- 1.3** The success of the THI programmes and Central Govan Action Plan, combined with a demonstrable need for further regeneration investment in Govan, led the Council to pursue a further heritage-based regeneration programme for Govan. The Council has now been awarded funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) Grants for Heritage programme (GfH) and from Historic Environment Scotland (HES) Heritage & Place Programme (HPP).
- 1.4** The Govan Heritage programme will operate between March 2026 and 2031 and will bring an estimated £11.5 million investment to the local area. The Govan Heritage programme encompasses £1.525 million from existing GCC funding sources matched by the contributions from NLHF £1.490 million and HES £1.490 million bringing a total fund of £4.505m.

## **2 The Need for a Place Based Heritage Renewal Programme**

- 2.1** The Govan Heritage proposals have been developed with the local community and stakeholders, working in partnership with the Central Govan Action Plan Steering Group. The Govan Heritage programme prioritises a number of long-standing opportunities and threats to Govan's heritage, some of which have been vacant for decades. The vision is for Govan to be a place where people want to visit, where the quality of life is improved and where heritage buildings and sites that currently detract from the area have become its biggest assets.
- 2.2** The Govan Conservation Area Appraisal (Draft 2025) highlights the large number of historic buildings, shops and public space in the town centre that are in poor condition or underutilised. The Govan Heritage programme will help to deliver change by repairing and bringing a number of these back into productive use. The Govan Heritage investment will protect the finite historic environment and strengthen the local economy and community well-being. The Govan heritage project will also deliver a Heritage Activity and Skills Plan, aimed at engaging the local community and organisations with their heritage and building opportunities to develop careers with the heritage construction sector.
- 2.2.** The implementation of projects such as the Govan-Partick Bridge through the City Deal, along with associated projects such as the Water Row Masterplan

Phase 1 has created a huge opportunity for Govan to continue to build the social and economic success required to sustain its magnificent built heritage. The localised interventions of the Govan Heritage programme will compliment this investment, helping to build the local economy and increase community pride in their built heritage.

### 3. Strategic Objectives

3.2 Govan Heritage project aims to:

- deliver heritage-based renewal, taking a whole place approach that links project investment to the wider area regeneration, existing partnership structures and community development processes
- enable use of underused and endangered heritage buildings through providing targeted grants, supporting community ownership and partnership working with local and strategic stakeholders
- improve the sustainability of built heritage in a challenging funding environment, by taking a fabric first approach to the repair of buildings
- enhance the economic viability of repairs and maintenance by improving the wider place context and promoting the area as a place to visit and invest
- build capacity in local organisations and individuals to enable them to fully support the ongoing management and maintenance of Govan’s heritage

3.3 Annex 1 shows a number of target buildings and heritage locations for intervention.

### 4.0 The Project Budget and Funding Partnership

4.1 An outline of the proposed Govan Heritage programme is provided in Annex 2 (copy in Members’ Library). This highlights that the majority of Govan Heritage investment will be made to bring buildings, shops and public space back into good repair and productive use. This paper also displays target grant rates and estimated grant approval amounts.

4.2 The Govan Heritage estimated eligible scheme cost is £5.684 million, funded as follows:

	£m	Status
Glasgow City Council	1.525	Approved from existing funding sources
National Lottery Heritage Fund	1.490	Approved September 2025
Historic Environment Scotland	1.490	Approved February 2026
Third Party Contributions	1.179	Subject to property owners’ participation
<b>Total Eligible Scheme Costs</b>	<b>5.684</b>	

4.3 Continuing the precedent set in THI / CARS Phase 2, Committee approval is sought to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability to disburse the Govan Heritage Common Fund as per the indicative programme outlined in Annex 2 and in line with

funding partner's specified requirements. This will negate the need for Committee approval of individual projects unless the proposed grant award exceeds the amount indicated in Annex 2 by more than 10%. The maximum single project grant award from the Govan Heritage Common Fund is anticipated to be £0.945 million, and maximum GCC grant award £0.312 million. An annual report, will be submitted to the EHTR Committee each year to enable Members to monitor and scrutinise progress and expenditure against programme.

- 4.4 Third party contributions i.e. contributions made by individual property owners whether from their own resources or via alternative grant sources, are expected to amount to £1.179 million. The target Govan Heritage grant rate varies from 38% to 100% of eligible project costs. The maximum grant intervention rate is calculated based on the increase in market value of completed properties. Owners of priority projects have indicated their willingness to partake in and contribute to the grant scheme.

## 5.0 Policy and Resource Implications

### Resource Implications:

<i>Financial:</i>	The total value of the common fund is £4.505 million. The Council contribution is £1.525 million allocated from existing funding sources. The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability will have delegated authority to approve individual project grant awards as per the indicative Govan Heritage Programme Annex 2.
<i>Legal:</i>	External funding is subject of legal agreements with HLF and HES. Grant offers to third parties are subject to legal agreements reflecting the requirements of all funding partners.
<i>Personnel:</i>	Three members of staff from NRS will be employed (two already in post and one to be recruited) to oversee the delivery of the Govan Heritage and CGAP programmes.
<i>Procurement:</i>	GCC will carry out all appropriate procedures relating to sustainable procurement and Article 19 for those projects where the Council is the owner, in this instance the Elder Park Statue improvements. The Govan heritage programme mainly administers grant to third parties and the onus on procurement passes to the grant applicant, although the Council will insist on competitive procurement and will

encourage sustainable practices in building repair.

**Council Strategic Plan:** Specify which Grand Challenge (s) and Mission (s) the proposal supports. Where appropriate the relevant Commitment can also be listed.

GRAND CHALLENGE 3. Fight the climate emergency in a just transition to a net zero Glasgow

MISSION 2. Become a net zero carbon city by 2030

COMMITMENT 30. Deliver place-based interventions and key local regeneration projects.

### **Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:**

*Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2025-29? Please specify.*

Yes. OUTCOME 6  
The importance of tackling social isolation and loneliness is recognised and prioritised through our work with partners.  
The Heritage Activity and Skills Plan will provide events and activities that will bring the community together.

*What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?*

The programme is expected to generate a positive equality impact, strengthening access to employment, social, and cultural opportunities.

*Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.*

Funding is targeted at an area of socio-economic disadvantage and will improve the physical environment and increase economic activity

### **Climate Impacts:**

*Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:*

Projects will support the following Climate Plan Themes:

Theme 2: Just and Inclusive Place.  
Theme 3: Well Connected and Thriving City  
Theme 4: Health and Wellbeing.

*What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?*

Capital investment proposals are likely to have a beneficial impact on climate as a result of improving existing buildings, saving embodied carbon and supporting development of the compact city form

*Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?*

Yes, through reuse of existing buildings and embodied carbon.

### **Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:**

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report  
Y/N

If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out

## **6 Recommendations**

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