



**Glasgow Community Planning Partnership.**

**East Centre Area Partnership.**

**Report by Head of Policy and Corporate Governance**

**Contact: Anita Moore      Email: [anita.moore@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:anita.moore@glasgow.gov.uk)**

**Area Budget 2026/27: Applications for Funding.**

**Purpose of Report:**

To provide the Area Partnership with details of the area budget allocations for 2026/27, the current budget position and to make recommendations on new applications for funding.

**Recommendations:**

The Area Partnership is asked to:

- (1) Note:
  - (a) the area budget allocation for 2026/27;
  - (b) the current budget position;
  - (c) the introduction of a new area budget application form; and
- (2) consider the recommendations on applications received for Area Budget funding in 2026/27, as detailed in appendix 1.

## Introduction.

1. Glasgow City Council set its budget for 2026/27 on [24 February 2026](#). Within the budget, the overall funding for Area Partnerships was increased by £63,000, to be apportioned on the basis of the SIMD (Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation).
2. On [12th March 2026](#), the Council's City Administration Committee approved allocations to Area Partnerships. The East Centre Area Budget for 2026/27 is **£119,553.00**

## East Centre Area Budget 2026/27.

3. Area Partnerships were able to allocate a portion of their 2026/27 budget, subject to Council Budget approval, in advance for services or activities that were to be delivered in early April 2026, prior to the first meetings of the Partnerships in 2026/27. The East Centre Area Partnership committed £0.00 from the 2026/27 Area Budget at its meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2026 and £0.00 has been committed under the Scheme of Delegated Functions.
4. Therefore, a total of £0.00 has been committed to date to various projects serving the East Centre Ward, leaving a balance of £119,553.00 yet to be allocated.

## Area Budget Application Form.

5. From April 2026, a new, online application form will be introduced. The main reasons for this are:
  - a. To provide greater depth and consistency of information available for decision making at Area Partnerships;
  - b. Improve the capture of appropriate information at the application stage to reduce requirements for clarification/additional detail or consideration to be continued to subsequent meetings;
  - c. Speed up the process from application to decision.
6. The new application form seeks to balance the ease of completing the form with ensuring the proper scrutiny of the use of public funds. For this reason, whilst the new form has more questions, they are more direct and in a logical format. This should help to ensure that the necessary information is captured in full at the first stage application, reducing the need to request further information and the delay that causes.
7. The application form has been tested by a number of organisations across the city that had previously submitted area budget applications. They were asked to test the form for clarity and ease of completion. The feedback was very positive and some suggested changes were taken on board by the Communities Team. Below is a summary of the feedback and some quotes from those organisations that tested it:

### **What people *liked***

- Easy to use / clear / straightforward
- Save-and-return or autosave features

- Good flow
- Easy document uploading
- Form felt more focused and aligned to the project

*“Very easy to complete – and a logical order as well. The questions about eligibility and convenient link to the guidance was also very useful.”*

*“The form is pretty straightforward and with it being online seems much more simplified than a word document.”*

#### **Ease of use and accessibility**

- 88% said it was *easy to complete*
- 100% of respondents were happy with the accessibility of the forms.

*“The form was very easy to complete, size was perfect, font clear, a massive difference to what we have done before.”*

*“Yes easy to complete and navigate through”*

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#### **Other comments**

- 78% felt the experience was positive
- 33% felt the new form was a major improvement

*“Good form and better / more user friendly than the previous Word document. Going through the web sections the overall application didn’t feel long or as if I would need to repeat myself in different sections.”*

*“I felt the form was very similar to all other council applications, which is great as it helps ‘uniform’ most things.”*

8. The form will be introduced for the 2026/27 financial year with a transition period when we will accept applications using the current form. It’s acknowledged that there may be organisations who could face difficulties completing an online form. The Communities Team will put in place appropriate support to ensure this is not a barrier to applying for funding. The new form will be widely advertised and reviewed after a 6 month period.

#### **Area Budget Applications.**

9. **Appendix 1** provides a summary of applications that have been received and require consideration. Each application has been assessed and a recommendation is offered which may include specific conditions, in addition to the standard Glasgow City Council conditions of grant.

#### **Recommendations**

10. The Area Partnership is asked to:
  - (1) Note:
    - (a) the area budget allocation for 2026/27;
    - (b) the current budget position;
    - (c) the introduction of a new area budget application form; and
  - (2) consider the recommendations on applications received for Area Budget funding in 2026/27, as detailed in appendix 1.

