

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership

Drumchapel / Anniesland Area Partnership

**Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration &
Sustainability**

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Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund

Purpose of Report:

- To provide the Area Partnership with:
- An update on the Local Parks and Open Space Fund for the Drumchapel/Anniesland ward
- Details of Amenity Greenspace, Childrens Play and Allotments Developer Contributions (unallocated capital) available from Developments within the distance threshold of greenspaces within the High Knightswood and Anniesland Community Council area
- An update in relation to the Scottish Government Play Area Renewal funded programme

Recommendations:

The Area Partnership is asked to note the contents of this report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Glasgow City Council allocated £3 million to Area Partnerships across the city for investment in Parks and Open Spaces over 2021/22 & 2022/23. This report is to provide members an update on each allocated project within the ward and to advise on any further steps to be taken.
- 1.2 It should be noted that 328 projects have been approved on an ongoing basis since year 1 of this fund. Whilst the Service is placing focus on delivering these within desired timescales, these will be subject to resource pressures within the Service, alongside daily operational requirements. Where possible, the Service has been engaging with partners to grant award monies for project delivery where appropriate, to support community empowerment and local capacity building.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The following table provides details of the Local Parks and Open Spaces Fund allocations from 2021/22 & 2022/23:

Ward 14 Drumchapel Anniesland 2021/22

| Location | Proposal | Budget Allocated | Anticipated timescales for any remaining works by NRS |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hecla Park Festive Natural Christmas Trees (6 No) | Natural Xmas Trees | £9100 | Complete |
| Hecla Park Festive Lighting | Central tree for Festive Lighting location | £9750 | Complete |
| Hecla Park COVID 19 Memorial | Landscaping works to complement Memorial stone | £7070 | Complete |
| Gorget Avenue | Various play area improvements | £9088 | Complete Play Area improvements have been undertaken to a value of £3700. Remaining funds (£5388) have been allocated to projects detailed in 22/23 spends, as detailed below. |
| Knightwood High School | Expand or enhance food growing provision in discussion with | £2500 | Grant funded to school |

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| | local stakeholders | | |
| Drumchapel Park | Paint/refurbish a section of railings where previous lead paint has been used | £35,994 | Complete |

2022/23

| Location | Budget Allocated | Status & Next Steps |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Blairdardie & Old Drumchapel CC | £24,500 | Projects currently being considered for development in conjunction with the relevant Community Council |
| Drumchapel CC | £24,500 | Projects currently being considered for development in conjunction with the relevant Community Council |
| High Knightswood & Anniesland CC | £24,500 | <p>Funds distributed to local organisations for environmental projects through High Knightswood & Anniesland Community Council.</p> <p>Temple Shafton Youth Project greenspace enhancements - £2500 grant funded to date</p> <p>Confirmed Grant Funds: Knightswood Secondary School greenspace enhancements - £5,000 Knightswood Primary School greenspace enhancements - £5,000 St Ninian's Primary School greenspace enhancements - £5,000 Temple Shafton Youth Project greenspace enhancements - £5,000 (including transfer of £2500 from Gorget Avenue Play Area). An update from the organisation notes activity to date around painting of fencing and garden boxes, with a range of activity ongoing, for which further updates can be provided. High Knightswood / Anniesland Community Council - £351</p> <p>Confirmed projects: Trinley Brae Bench - £2,500 - Installation date tbc.</p> |

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| | | Balance remaining for future allocation- £4,537 (includes transfer of £2888 from Gorget Avenue Play Area) |
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3. Developer Contributions - Background

The Council's Planning Team is responsible for monitoring open space and public realm projects funded by financial contributions received from new residential developments and certain types of commercial development within the City Centre in accordance with [Interim Planning Guidance IPG12 - Delivering Development](#) (which replaces Policy ENV2 in the previous plan).

The report below summarises the sums committed or requested from each contribution received to date within each Area Committee area, and sets out the remaining balances. A regular update of this report will be provided, along with and other relevant Committee reports or briefing notes that would be considered useful.

- [Briefing Note: ENV2/IPG12 Developer Contributions for Open Space](#) provides further information on the background to IPG12, current open space requirements, the open space assessment process and the fund allocation process.
- ENV2/IPG12 Monitoring Reports are regularly updated and published. These Monitoring Reports detail **total contributions** received, summarise project funds allocated or requested and set out the remaining available balance, by category of open space for each individual Ward.
- ENV2/IPG12 Summary Reports detail contributions received, and project funding allocated/requested **over the last five years** and current available funds by category of open space (including deadline for spend, where applicable) for each individual Ward.

The Council has an established procedure in place for allocating and spending funds. Any potential projects brought forward to secure ENV2/IPG12 funding must comply with the following:

- It should be on Council owned land.
- It should comprise the creation or enhancement of a recreational open space, or a building that supports this use.
- It should be available for community use.

The distance thresholds identified in IPG12 are:

- Children's Play - 300 metres
- Amenity Space - 400 metres
- Informal Sport - 500 metres

- Formal Sport - 1,000 metres (with the focus in recent years moving towards sectoral spend).
- Allotments- 400m (with the focus in recent years moving towards sectoral spend and demand based spend).

Proposals being brought forward should be supported by as much information as possible and be discussed with the appropriate Service contact.

The Council has five years from the completion of a development to allocate and spend associated ENV2/IPG12 funds. Whilst this does not preclude the allocation of recent funds, the preferred approach is to allocate oldest funds first. This can impact the distribution of ENV2/IPG12 allocation/spend patterns across the City.

NRS Greenspace and Biodiversity provide advice to Glasgow City Council on the use of Amenity Greenspace, Childrens Play and Allotment Funds, with Glasgow Life providing advice in relation to the use of Informal and Formal Sport Funds.

4. Developer Contributions - High Knightswood and Anniesland Community Council area

In relation to unspent capital funds, currently available for allocation, from developments located within the distance thresholds for investment in High Knightswood and Anniesland Community Council area, our records note the following sums:

- A capital sum of £6,718.00 is available for investment in Childrens Play from site DA Ref: IPG Ref: 0146 at 380 Bearsden Road, which we plan to consult with members as to whether this could be utilised at the play area adjacent to 1049 Crow Road, as part of the project development process for this location once commenced.
- A capital sum of £1,162.00 DA Ref: ENV2 Ref: 0775 at 41-49 Spencer Street remains available for allotments. We welcome details of land considered by communities to be potentially suitable for food growing, with further details in relation to land, similar projects and other sources of funding available found [here](#).

In addition, we note Childrens Play sums totalling £25,877 approved for investment at Fulton Street play area on Temple Walkway, arising from Developments at 231 Bearsden Road, Tambowie Street and 41-49 Spencer Street which will be added to the Scottish Government sums of £50,000.00 to provide a total budget of £75,877. Following a range of matters being brought to our attention, we note repair activity which has now taken place to basket swing, trampoline and safety surfacing at this location, with a repair to the springy ongoing at time of writing this report.

5 Play Area Renewal

5.1 We note that the minutes of 19th February 2025 *'agreed that the Partnership would look at the priority list and should be making the decisions on the priorities should be within the ward;'*

5.2 The conditions of Scottish Government Play Area Renewal funding are such that it can only be used to continue a programme of play area renewal. The extent of renewal, and refurbishment varies across the whole play estate and is influenced by local authority plans, investment priorities and engagement and consultation with children and young people. An eligible play park for investment through this funding is one which is:

- Local authority owned and managed.
- Designated for play; and
- Free to access and open to all.

Play parks in private ownership, those that require an entry fee or those only available to specific groups or with conditions for entry are outwith scope. Play parks with equipment (swings, slides etc) aimed at children aged 0-14 are included as are other facilities used by the same age group, for example skateparks. Multi-purpose Games Courts (MPGCs) or dedicated sports fields are outwith the scope.

5.3 In relation to Play Investment generally, Glasgow's Strategic Plan sets out Grand Challenge: Mission 1 of ending child poverty in our city using early intervention to support families, with services across the council considering how their delivery can be aligned. Reports taken to Environment and Liveable Neighbourhoods City Policy Committee have highlighted how the operational delivery programme for Play Area Renewal will be aligned in support of the aim to reduce child poverty. To ensure the focus of investment is appropriate to meet this aim, data at a household level is gathered nationally and anonymised, allowing officers to make data-informed decisions about how services and investment is made. As such, the recommendations taken to Environment and Liveable Neighbourhoods City Policy Committee as to how the list of projects would be timetabled were informed by this data, rather than having been the subject of engagement with Area Partnerships or with Community Councils.

5.4 The Report taken to Environment and Liveable Neighbourhoods City Policy Committee in November 2025 indicated that the next play area being progressed within Ward 14 is Southdeen Play Area, with tender documents being prepared for February 2026. This service plans to continue timetabling the available resources of this service in line with Child Poverty data detailed [here](#), with play areas serving communities most affected by Child Poverty having renewal plans delivered earlier. A number of further play areas citywide will be progressed after Southdeen, with the next play area within Drumchapel to be progressed being Fulton Street Play Area. Future reporting to Environment and Liveable Neighbourhoods City Policy Committee will note progress in relation to the play areas where timescales have been provided to date, and also share timescales for further play areas.

5.5 Area Partnerships wishing to promote a participatory approach to Play Area Renewal programme can do so by considering whether they wish to make allocations from funding sources such as NIF, so as to supplement sources of funding committed through Scottish Government of £6.179M between 2021/22 and 2025/26. Details of any schools who would wish to participate in the engagement activity being undertaken as part of the Play Sufficiency Assessment can be passed to this service, and we will arrange for further details to be sent on directly to the school, with

engagement feedback gathered through this process being fed into our play area renewal programme as individual projects are brought forward.

5.6 This service has supported decision making by Drumchapel Area Partnership in relation to Parks and Open Spaces Fund and NIF allocations to date, with information provided to this service supporting the prioritisation of works funded through these sources.

6 Recommendations

6.1 The Area Partnership is asked to note the contents of this report.