

Programme Delivery Review:

Town Centre Fund (2019/20 – 2020/21) and Place Fund (2021/22 – 2025/26)



Table of Contents

Introduction

Background

Funding overview

Town Centre Fund

Place Fund

Analysis

Procedural Improvements

Conclusion and Next Steps

Appendix

Introduction

This review examines the implementation, progress, and outcomes of projects delivered through two Scottish Government regeneration programmes: the Town Centre Fund (2019/20–2020/21) and the Place Fund, part of the five-year Place Based Investment Programme. The review assesses how these funds have been used in Glasgow, the types of projects supported, and the contribution they have made to wider regeneration objectives, including the [Place Principle](#). The review has been undertaken as the Place Based Investment Programme approaches its conclusion and offers an opportunity to reflect on delivery to date ahead of potential future place-based investment.

The review will identify key trends and themes in the types of activities supported, the organisations involved, and the areas of the city that have benefited, while also highlighting challenges that have influenced delivery. The analysis considers the extent to which each programme has supported local and national policy aims, including the Place Principle, community-led regeneration, and the development of 20-minute neighbourhoods.

Several projects from previous years of the programme remain ongoing. Therefore, the findings presented here represent a combination of final outcomes and of progress to date. The report will be supplemented by case studies in order to provide further detail.



Saracen St .Shopfront improved as part of the Possilpark Heritage Shopfronts Project

Background

Town Centre Fund

The Town Centre Fund was launched in 2019 when the Scottish Government, in partnership with COSLA, announced a £50m capital budget to help boost Scottish Town Centres. Its aim was to support Local Authorities to ensure their high streets were more diverse, sustainable, and successful by:

- Stimulating transformative investment
- Driving economic activity
- Creating inclusive and vibrant local centres

In 2019/20, Glasgow received a £3.01m allocation from a total national pot of £50m. This represented 6% of the total available budget. This allocation was based on a formula agreed by Scottish Ministers and COSLA: 80% based on population and number of towns, and 20% based on deprivation.

Funding was provided to Councils to allocate directly to projects that met the themes of the Town Centre Action Plan. When developing a programme of funding, Council also considered factors such as deliverability, strategic fit with the City Development Plan, and alignment with the Place Principle.

In September 2020, the Scottish Government then announced that the programme would be extended as part of the economic stimulus plan in response to Covid-19. As a result, Council received an additional £1.096m. An overview of the projects supported across both rounds of the Town Centre Fund can be found in the appendix to this report.



Queensland Community Park, Cardonald

Background

Place Fund

Building on the success of the two-year Town Centre Fund, the Scottish Government launched their Place Based Investment Programme in September 2020 as part of their Programme for Government. The fund was designed to align place-based initiatives and establish a coherent local framework designed to implement the Place Principle, ensuring that all place based investments were shaped by the needs and aspirations of local communities. It also sought to contribute to the following themes:

- Development of 20-minute neighbourhoods
- Town Centre regeneration
- Community led regeneration and community wealth building
- Achieving net zero
- Promoting wellbeing and inclusive economic development, tackling inequality and disadvantage.

Glasgow received its first allocation of £3.699m in May 2021, representing 9.7% of the national £38m budget. This allocation was based on a similar methodology to that used to determine previous Town Centre Fund awards. A provisional allocation for each of the following four years was also indicated.

Each year following receipt of an offer of grant from the Scottish Government, a paper was taken to City Administration Committee for acceptance and approval of the proposed funding themes and projects.



Hamiltonhill Green Infrastructure Project

Funding Overview

Across both programmes, Council has received a total of **£15,506,000**, broken down in the following table.

In October 2024, Scottish Government advised Council that no funding would be received in 2024/25. This decision was taken by Scottish Government to offset wider financial issues at the time.

With the exception of 2025/26, grant has been paid by the Scottish Government to Council in one instalment following signed acceptance of the Offer of Grant. In 2025/26, Council will receive its allocation in two tranches.

Fund	Year	Funding Award
Town Centre Fund	2019/20	£3,010,000
Town Centre Fund	2020/21	£1,096,000
The Place Fund	2021/22	£3,699,000
The Place Fund	2022/23	£3,217,000
The Place Fund	2023/24	£2,242,000
The Place Fund	2024/25	£0
The Place Fund	2025/26	£2,242,000
TOTAL		£15,506,000

Town Centre Fund

Town Centre Fund 2019/20

In its first year, Council's £3.01m Town Centre Fund allocation supported projects aligned with the City Development Plan and Town Centre Action Plan, focussing on investment on the following three themes:

- Food Inclusion - addressing food poverty and promoting access to healthy, affordable food within communities, including pantry development
- Built Heritage - restoring historic buildings and bringing them back into productive use
- Community Grants - grants to local and third-sector community-based organisations to deliver local regeneration initiatives

Food Inclusion

This theme emerged in order to focus on addressing food poverty and improving access to healthy, affordable food. The allocation supported the development of four community pantries in areas of food deprivation in Castlemilk, Govanhill, Ruchazie and Parkhead. These pantries enabled dignified access to food, supporting households on low incomes to tackle food insecurity.

Built Heritage

Investment was provided to key historic assets in existing town centres. Allocations were made to focus on the restoration and repurposing at Elderpark Library, Parkhead Library, and Tollcross Winter Gardens.

Community Grants

Part of the first Town Centre Fund grant award was allocated via an open grants call to community based and third-sector organisations to deliver community led regeneration. Priority was given to town centres with high levels of deprivation. Grant of up to £50,000 per project was made available.

A programme of themes and projects was approved by City Administration Committee in August 2019.

Town Centre Fund Case Study 1: Ruchazie Pantry & Ruchazie Cafe

Project Lead: Growing 21

Funding: £96,000 (Town Centre Fund 2019/20) and £170,000 (Place Fund 2021/22 & 2022/23)

Total Project Costs: c£300,000

Theme: Food Inclusion

Completion: July 2024

Growing 21 were successful with a 2019/20 application to the Town Centre Fund when a £96,000 award was made for the development of Ruchazie Pantry. A subsequent award from the Place Fund enabled Growing 21 to create the Ruchazie Café, delivering a welcoming community café that provides affordable food, social connection and training opportunities for local residents.

Outcomes:

- Funding allowed Growing 21 to establish the Ruchazie Café on the back of their pantry development, creating a fully functioning, inclusive space offering low-cost meals and a warm, safe environment.
- Training and volunteering opportunities have been created for local people, supporting skill development and confidence building. Feedback from Growing 21 shows that their users reported the following: *“Makes a real difference to the community,”* offers *“a friendly, welcoming place to come for a chat and feel part of something.”*
- Increased food security, through community meals and cooking sessions, as well as conversation cafes and themed events created to tackle isolation.

Challenges:

- Based on feedback from Growing 21, sustaining volunteer capacity under increased demand was a challenge.
- Grant draw down and the timescales involved meant that the organisation couldn't forward plan as effectively as they would have liked.



Ruchazie Café

Town Centre Fund 2020/21

Following Scottish Government's decision to extend the Town Centre Fund, Council was allocated an additional £1,096,000 in 2020/21. The 2020/21 approach built on the programme established in the previous year. A programme of projects was approved by City Administration Committee in October 2020:

- An additional allocation was made to expand on the Possilpark shopfront improvements initiative in Possil Town Centre which received funding from the 'Community Grants' theme in 2019/20.
- An additional contribution was made to enable the completion of the Tollcross Winter Gardens refurbishment.

The following two themes, Food Inclusion, and Animating Spaces, were allocated via an open grants call.

- **Food Inclusion**- applicants were invited to apply under this theme if they could contribute to the development of pantries that would provide quality and fresh food to people on low incomes. This built on the success of the model used in the previous year. A total of 7 projects were supported under this theme, including the Govan and Pollok pantries.
- **Animating Spaces**- this theme was established in response to the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic. Grant of up to £20,000 per project was available to applicants who could contribute to the creation of spaces for safe movement and trading within town centres. A total of 12 projects were supported under this theme.

Case Study 2: Possilpark Heritage Shopfronts

Project Lead: Possilpark Business Improvement District (BID)

Funding: £386,443 (Town Centre Fund 2019/20 & 2021/22) and £203,587 (Place Fund 2022/23)

Total Project Costs: c£600,000

Theme: Built Heritage and 20 Minute Neighbourhood

Completion: October 2025

The Possilpark Heritage Shopfronts project enhanced the physical environment of Saracen Street, encouraging footfall, and improving the everyday experience of local residents and visitors. Situated in one of Glasgow's most deprived areas, the improvements were part of a broader programme of activity the BID undertook to tackle perceptions of decline, support local businesses, and strengthen community cohesion.

The 2022/23 Place Fund award of funding built on the successful 2019/20 and 2021/22 Town Centre Fund awards. The project restored and upgraded 10 traditional shopfronts across Saracen Street improving visual appearance, strengthening local pride, and supporting economic resilience. The project included the restoration of original features, cleaning and replacement of doors, windows and shutters, and new fascia signage and lighting.

Outcomes:

- Physical transformation of Possil Town Centre, with improved shopfronts increasing attractiveness and local pride.
- Support for local businesses by upgrading facilities and providing an enhanced environment.
- Contribution to regeneration policy, including 20-minute neighbourhoods and the Place Principle.

Challenges

- Complexity of delivering improvements over multiple properties, including issues such as ownership and consents, resulted in delays.
- Cost pressures, including rising material cost.



Saracen Street Shopfronts

Place Fund 2021/22

In the first year of the Place Fund, Glasgow City Council received an allocation of £3.699m from Scottish Government. This funding was allocated through an open grants call with applications sought for projects that were aligned with the following National and Council priorities:

Transformational Town Centre Works (TCW) - targeting town centres, particularly in peripheral estates, where regeneration interventions were required.

20-Minute Neighbourhoods (20MN) - Improving local accessibility and travel and connecting to Council's [Liveable Neighbourhoods](#) programme.

Food Inclusion - Building on the pantry model established through the Town Centre Fund.

Built Heritage - A continuation of work to fund targeted restoration and repurposing of built heritage properties to build on the previous rounds of the Town Centre Fund.

A total of 56 applications were received, and each was assessed against the fund's objectives, as well as a set of weighted criteria including SIMD characteristics, community need and demand, leverage, and deliverability.

A total of 9 applications were recommended for funding, with several to be funded over two financial years. Further details can be found in the Appendix to this report.



Hillwood Community Sports Hub

Case Study 3: Threehills Community Supermarket

Project Lead: Feeding Britain/Good Food Scotland

Funding: £246,473 (Place Fund 2021/22)

Total Project Costs: £757,788

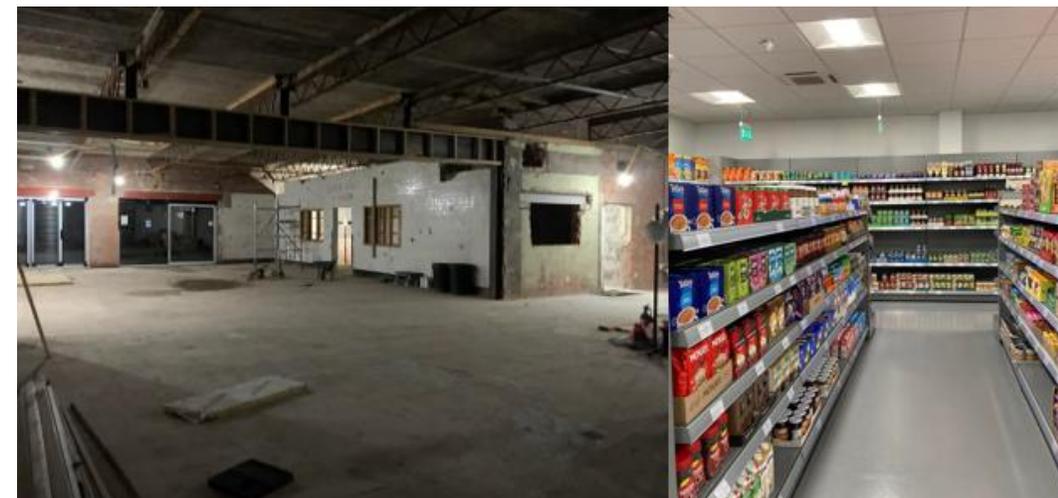
Theme: Food Inclusion

Completion: December 2024

Threehills Community Supermarket successfully delivered an affordable food hub, transforming a previously derelict building in Nitshill into an accessible community supermarket. It addressed issues of food insecurity by providing access to affordable and nutritious food, helping members to save an average of 30-40% on food bills. Wraparound support including legal, financial, welfare and employment advice, as well as community activities such as youth clubs and social groups has also been provided.

Outcomes:

- Over 800 members are now registered with the Community Supermarket with over 1000 local residents having used the space since its opening (as of November 2025).
- The project has created 5 paid jobs, and supports 8 to 10 active volunteers from the community.
- Feedback from Good Food Scotland has shown that their model has reduced the social stigma associated with traditional foodbanks.
- Wraparound support has increased access to welfare and income maximisation
- The project continues to divert surplus food waste, contributing to carbon reduction and net zero ambitions.



Before and after of Threehills Community Supermarket

Place Fund 2022/23

In the second year of the Place Fund, Council received an allocation of £3.217m. Just under £2.3m of this funding was committed in 2021/22, meaning that just over £0.9m was available via an open grants call based on similar themes to those in the previous year:

- Transformational Town Centre Works
- 20-Minute Neighbourhoods
- Food Inclusion

A total of 25 applications were received, with each assessed against the main themes of the fund and scored based on a similar criteria to that used in the previous year. A total of 8 projects were allocated funding. Further details can be found in the Appendix.



Threehills Community Café, part of Threehills Community Supermarket

Case Study 4: North-West Community Pantry Allotment Development

Project Lead: DRC Youth Project

Funding: £42,900 (Place Fund 2022/23)

Total Project Costs: £42,900

Theme: Food Inclusion

Completion: March 2026

This project transformed a neglected allotment site in Yoker into an inclusive community growing space, supporting food security and community well-being. The initiative aimed to tackle local challenges such as food poverty, poor mental health, and anti-social behaviour by creating a safe, productive environment for young people and the wider community.

Outcomes:

- Increased community participation and pride, with the site well maintained and no anti-social behaviour now reported.
- Seasonal produce grown for the NW Community Food Pantry, improving access to healthy food.
- Strengthened partnerships between youth groups, schools, and allotment committees.
- Long-term aspiration for young volunteers to become future plot holders.

Challenges:

- A Youth-led, volunteering approach slowed delivery but enhanced engagement and sustainability.
- Significant costs and effort was required to clear decades of waste.
- Funding processes were straightforward. However, as funding is paid in arrears rather than advance, this put some pressure on the organisation from a cashflow perspective.



Work at the North-West Community Pantry Allotment Development

Case Study 5: Glenavon Community Centre

Project Lead: YoMo Young Movers

Funding: £140,148 (Place Fund 2022/23)

Theme: 20 Minute Neighbourhoods

Completion: October 2023

YoMo's Glenavon Community Centre project has significantly expanded the services, activities, and support available to local residents in the Glenavon area of Maryhill. The project has not only delivered the planned improvements to the building, but also a broad programme of community-led services targeting poverty, wellbeing, employability, and social inclusion. The centre has developed into a vibrant local hub, now accessed by approximately 350 people per week, demonstrating substantial community demand and impact.

Outcomes:

- Improved access to healthy food and essential support through a food pantry, budgeting advice, and healthy eating programmes.
- Enhanced physical and mental wellbeing via structured wellbeing activities, recovery groups, and inclusive social programmes.
- Expansion of life skills, volunteering, and employability pathways, including new opportunities created through YoMo's own bike recycling project.
- Reduction in isolation and increased community cohesion, with resident reporting that "Glenavon is a community now, not the lonely, isolated place it once was".
- Increased sense of belonging and empowerment, reflected in YoMo's feedback: "volunteering helped me get back into work" and "volunteering supported my asylum application".
- Support for minority and vulnerable groups through advice services, access to technology and digital inclusion.
- Creation of a more circular local economy with initiatives designed to reduce waste.

Challenges:

- The building was in a state of disrepair and required a lot of work.
- Delays were experienced due to building condition, and the process by which Council approved roof repairs. This impacted on works already completed.
- Operational pressures due to draw down of the funding from the Council.



Before and after at YoMo's Glenavon Rd project

Place Fund 2023/24

In the third year of the Place Fund, Council received an allocation of £2.242m. The 2023/24 Programme supported a number of key strands:

- People Make Glasgow Communities (PMGC)
- Glasgow Food System Development Fund (FSDF)
- Local Place Plans & Liveable Neighbourhoods
- Changing Places Toilets

Just over £0.5m of the annual allocation was administered via an open grants call, focussing on two main themes; Glasgow's Food System Development (Food Inclusion theme) and Local Place Plans (20MN theme).



Youth volunteers at the North-West Community Pantry Allotment Development

Place Fund 2023/24 Themes

Food System Development Fund (FSDF)

The FSDF was developed in response to some of Glasgow's significant public health challenges, including food poverty and food insecurity.

[Glasgow's Food Plan](#) was established as a result of these pressures, with the FSDF created in December 2023 to attempt to tackle some of the issues identified within this plan.

An open grants call was made to organisations who could contribute to the goals of the food plan, and in total, 16 organisations shared over £400,000 of funding. Funding was allocated to third sector organisations who best demonstrated alignment with strategic plans, were in areas of deprivation, and could deliver local food system improvements in their communities.

Local Place Plans

Just over £100,000 was allocated for the development of Local Place Plans. Local Place Plans are community led plans setting out proposals for the development and use of land, introduced as part of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. Its aim was to significantly enhance engagement in development planning, empowering communities to play a proactive role in shaping the future of their place.

The Local Place Plan Development Fund was created in response to this and was allocated via an open call for applications from community bodies, targeted at areas of greatest need, and those that could support the identification of future capital investments.

In total, 9 [Local Place Plans](#) were developed through this funding call. The majority of these plans have now been validated by Council, and will now become material considerations when reviewing planning applications.

Liveable Neighbourhoods

In addition to this, an allocation of £150,000 was made to Council's Liveable Neighbourhoods (LN) programme to enable designs to progress for several projects that emerged from the LN programme. This funding was focused on ensuring a pipeline of projects could be brought forward in future years.

Place Fund 2023/24 Themes

Built Heritage

The remaining 2023/24 funding was allocated to strategic, council-led projects. Direct grant awards were made to projects through the People Make Glasgow Communities ([PMGC](#)) process, and to the provision of inclusive and accessible public toilets within parks:

Mosesfield House (£400,000 allocation): A direct grant award was made to renovate the B-Listed mansion house in Springburn Park. NG Homes, the local Registered Social Landlord have been working with the Council on the building's redevelopment into a community facility.

Fossil Grove (£499,432 allocation): A Site of Special Scientific Interest located within Victoria Park, this was under threat of degradation before an intervention from the Place Fund. This project was delivered in partnership with the Fossil Grove Trust and is due to complete in March 2026.

The Citizens Theatre (£382,000 allocation): Part of a wider multi-million pound restoration project, a Place Fund grant award was made to help address rising costs in order to ensure its successful completion.

Changing Places Toilets (£250,000 allocation)

- Funding was made available to deliver inclusive and accessible public toilets within four locations: Tollcross Winter Gardens, Botanic Gardens, Bellahouston Park, and Glasgow Green. These projects are Council led. Work has now completed at Bellahouston Park, with a site start expected at the Botanic Gardens later in 2026. Work at Tollcross Winter Gardens and Glasgow Green is currently at pre-construction stage.

Case Study 6: Food System Development Fund

Project Lead: Multiple third-sector organisations

Funding: £425,860 (Place Fund 2023/24) shared across 16 organisations

Theme: Food Inclusion

Completion: 2024/25

The Food System Development Fund (FSDF) was introduced in December 2023 in direct response to Glasgow's Food Plan and the challenges around food poverty and access to affordable and nutritious food. The fund aimed to enable the creation of sustainable, community-based systems that could address food insecurity and increase access to affordable, healthy, and nutritious food.

Outcomes:

- A total of 16 third-sector and community-based organisations benefited from access to funding, delivering both small-scale food system improvements such as allotment and growing space development, to larger scale works like commercial kitchens and pantries.
- Residents, particularly in areas of high deprivation, benefitted from improved dignified access to affordable and healthy food.
- Numerous projects delivered training and skills development to volunteers, including food related education classes, building community capacity.
- Projects contributed to Council and Scottish Government Net Zero goals through interventions including a reduction of food waste, and the installation of solar panels and rainwater harvesting.

Challenges:

- Many grantee organisations were entirely volunteer run, limiting potential impact. Despite increased community capacity, organisations still rely on the time of these volunteers.
- While small scale improvements have reduced food insecurity for many, delivering improvements at scale has proved challenging.



Polytunnel at Cranhill Development Trust



Raised beds at Nan McKay Hall

Place Fund 2024/25

Council were advised by Scottish Government in October 2024 that no allocation would be made in 2024/25. This decision was taken by Scottish Government to offset wider financial pressures felt at the time.

Place Fund 2025/26

In the final year of the Place Fund, Council received an allocation of £2,242,000. A programme of projects were developed that aligned with existing strategic priorities. Based on this, funding was divided across four key strands:

Liveable Neighbourhoods (£1,100,000 allocation-20MN): Building on the success of the previous award (2023/24), funding was provided to advance works at Letherby Triangle/Battlefield Rest, Shawlands/Strathbungo and Dennistoun, and Lorne Street/Festival Park.

Carlton Place and South Portland Street Suspension Bridge (£482,000 allocation-Built Heritage): An award was made to undertake improvements including to the soft landscaping, as well as lighting and public realm improvements to the Suspension Bridge.

People Make Glasgow Communities (£400,000 allocation-TCW): An allocation was made to the PMGC programme to facilitate improvements to identified GCC owned properties to allow community-based organisations to take over the use of these facilities, enabling them to deliver key services to their local communities.

Food System Development (£260,000 allocation- Food Inclusion)

- As part of the further development of Glasgow's Food Systems, funding was provided to create a pilot project to establish a community growing space on vacant council owned land.

These themes were established on the back of discussion between senior officers and local elected members where a decision was made to allocate funding via direct grant awards. This approach reflected the identified priorities at the time, as well as the fact this was the final year of the fund and the opportunity to fund these projects may not come around again soon.

Case Study 7: Castlemilk Braes Shopping Centre

Project Lead: The Scotsman Group

Funding: £3,350,000 (Place Fund 2021/22 & 2022/23)

Total Project Costs: £15,500,000

Theme: Town Centre Works

Completion: N/A- project is ongoing



Castlemilk Braes Shopping Centre

The Braes Shopping Centre in Castlemilk experienced long-term decline, falling into significant disrepair, with unit vacancy sitting at over 50% in 2021. An application to the Place Fund from the Scotsman Group was approved in 2021/22 for funding across two financial years. The proposal sought to undertake a phased transformation of the centre, with the Place Fund grant going towards works as noted below, not directly to build a supermarket, to ensure it was in line with Subsidy Control legislation:

- Creation of new roads and junctions, improving access to the town centre.
- Creation of a public square alongside wider public realm improvements.
- New lighting and visibility upgrades to improve safety.
- Additional parking, alongside Electric Vehicle charging points.
- Creation of a vibrant and accessible centre for Castlemilk that will encourage footfall, support community activity and attract further private investment to include provision of a supermarket offering fresh food- with the nearest supermarket being over 3 miles away.
- Following delays, substantive works have now commenced with a contractor now appointed and Place Fund funded works to be completed within the coming financial year.

Challenges

- The necessary statutory consents were more complex and time consuming to obtain than originally anticipated- e.g. asbestos removal was required before site investigations could be undertaken.
- No supermarket operator has been confirmed for the site with the original operator now in abeyance following change in internal management structure. Alternative supermarket operators have been approached by Scotsman Group and positive discussions are ongoing.

Analysis

Successes

The Town Centre Fund and Place Fund has together delivered over £15m of grant funding, helping to unlock an estimated £75m+ worth of additional capital investment, much of which was spent in some of Glasgow's most deprived areas. Over 100 projects have been supported, and numerous jobs have been created as a result. The vast majority of projects within the programme have been successfully delivered.

Both funding Programmes have had a wide-ranging impact, with funding focussed on a broad range of objectives such as heritage restoration, significant town centre works, and Food Inclusion. This flexibility of funding has enabled Council to provide targeted interventions to projects and to themes as these arise.

The open call for grant applications, used in 5 out of 6 years, has enabled community based and third-sector organisations to lead on regeneration initiatives in their area. This has ensured that projects were tailored to local need and demand, in line with the Place Principle and themes such as Community Wealth Building. The case studies included within this report demonstrate the how funding from both programmes has enabled organisations to expand provision, strengthen local engagement, and enhance services based on the needs of their communities.



Urban Roots - Toryglen

Analysis

Challenges

Several projects, mainly larger scale ones including those led by Council, have encountered delays. These have occurred for reasons such as capacity, consents, and match funding. The absence of funding in 2024/25 also impacted programme delivery.

Delivery has also been disrupted by delays in receipt of grant from the Scottish Government, as well as the formal approval and acceptance of grant and the proposed funding programmes as part of Council's committee process. Future programmes may benefit from more robust early-stage assessment and streamlined internal processes to avoid these potential delays.

Furthermore, the timescales involved in many grant agreements between Council and community organisations has resulted in project delays. These issues have arisen due to reasons such as site ownership, consents, and capacity of the recipient organisation. This has been reflected in feedback received from community organisations who have identified this as a common issue. In addition, single year funding awards to grant recipients, and the requirements to procure, plan, and deliver projects within these timeframes has proved challenging, resulting in delays.



Hamiltonhill Green Infrastructure Project

Analysis

Economic Impact

Across both funding programmes, Council has received a total of £15.506m. This funding has attracted an estimated £75m+ of additional investment, much of which has been directed into some of Glasgow's most deprived neighbourhoods. This has created and supported an estimated 900 construction jobs over the duration of the programmes. Taken annually, the programmes have supported an estimated 130 jobs ([Scottish Enterprise Impact Appraisal and Evaluation Guidance](#)).

In addition to construction employment, up to 100-120 FTE additional jobs have been created within the projects developed ([Employment Density Guide 3rd Edition](#)).

Funding by Themes

Broadly, across both funding programmes, allocations were made on the basis of five main themes:

- Transformational Town Centre Works
- 20 Minute Neighbourhoods
- Food Inclusion
- Built Heritage
- Small scale Community Grants

Numerous projects touched on multiple themes, however, for the purposes of this report, projects have been classified to one main theme. A list of projects and themes can be found in the appendix to this report.

Funding by Themes: Town Centre Fund 2019/20 – 2020/21

Community Grants (including the ‘Animating Spaces’ theme) accounted for 17 out of 31 total projects supported across the Town Centre Fund. Despite this, this theme had the lowest total grant award. This reflects the ‘Animating Spaces’ funding call in which grants awards were capped at £20,000 per project.

Food Inclusion accounted for the next highest number of projects at 11. This represented 27% of the total funding.

Despite only 3 projects being supported under the **Built Heritage Theme**, these made up over half of the total funding awarded. This reflects the scale of interventions required when dealing with buildings of this nature.

Town Centre Fund by Theme

Theme	Count	Funding
Food Inclusion	11	£1,138,769
Community Grants	17	£724,135
Built Heritage	3	£2,386,167
Total	31	£4,249,071

NB: total funding includes a small uplift received from Chief Executives Department which was administered as part of the TCF. Projects funded over multiple years have been counted once

Funding by Themes: Place Fund 2021/22– 2025/26

Food Inclusion accounted for the largest number of projects supported by the Place Fund. 23 projects were supported under this theme over five years, including 16 from the standalone Food System Development Fund. Despite providing the highest number of projects, the total funding award was the lowest out of all the themes, given that the fund was capped at £50,000 per applicant. This cap was put in place by Council in order to support as many projects as possible. The high number of projects supported under this theme highlight both Council’s priority in tackling food insecurity as identified in Glasgow’s Food Plan, but may also point to a continued squeeze on cost-of-living pressures, particularly in more deprived areas of Glasgow.

20 Minute Neighbourhoods, including Local Place Plans, accounted for a total of 19 projects. This also includes projects delivered under Council’s Liveable Neighbourhoods programme such as Festival Park and Letherby Triangle.

Transformational Town Centre Works only amounted to a total of 4 projects but received the most grant. This is explained in part by the significant grant award made for the regeneration of the Castlemilk Braes Shopping Centre which is still ongoing.

Place Fund by Theme

Theme	Count	Funding
Food Inclusion	23	£1,429,421
20 Minute Neighbourhoods (20MN)	19	£3,427,126
Transformational Town Centre Works	4	£4,219,821
Built Heritage	11	£2,263,432
Legal and Technical		£60,200
TOTAL	57	£11,400,000

NB: Projects funded over multiple years are counted once.

Funding by Recipient Organisation: Town Centre Fund

Community Organisations (including Charities, Community Interest Companies, Community Councils or Registered Social Landlords) accounted for by far the largest number of projects supported across two years of the Town Centre Fund. 25 organisations were awarded funding, accounting for 80% of the total number of successful grant recipients.

Despite this, **Council/ALEO** projects were awarded the most total funding in grant terms. Again, this reflects the nature of the type of projects awarded direct grants, such as that of the Parkhead Library and Tollcross Winter Gardens- large scale projects that required a significant degree of capital works.

Town Centre Fund by Recipient Organisation

Recipient Type	Count	Funding
Community Based	25	£1,725,415
Council/ALEO	3	£2,386,167
Private/Other	3	£137,489
Total	31	£4,249,071

NB: All projects funded through the TCF have been completed

NB: Projects funded over multiple years are counted once

Funding by Recipient Organisation: Place Fund

Community Organisations (including Charities, Community Interest Companies, Community Councils or Registered Social Landlords) accounted for the largest number of projects across the five years of the fund (noting that no funding was made available in 2024/25).

A total of 41 applications from Community based organisations were supported, accounting for by far the largest total. This clearly demonstrates Council's alignment with the aims of the fund and of Scottish Government policy objective- ensuring that communities had the opportunity to deliver projects that were tailored to local need and demand, reflecting these aims.

Glasgow City Council or ALEO accounted for the next highest number of projects by grantee type. A total of 14 Council/ALEO projects have been awarded funding through the Place Fund. Although some of these remain incomplete, funding has been crucial in enabling Council to direct resources to key projects.

Place Fund by Recipient Organisation

Recipient Type	Count	Funding	Completed Projects
Community Based	41	£3,520,101	35
Council/ALEO	14	£4,469,699	5
Private	1	£3,350,000	0
Legal and technical		£60,200	N/A
Total	57	£11,400,000	40

NB: Projects funded over multiple years are counted once

Funding by Council Ward

Funding by ward reflects both Council priority, and community capacity. The north and northeast of the city (Springburn/Robroyston, North-east, Shettleston, Canal) shows consistently high activity and these areas represent some of the most densely funded areas in terms of project volume.

There are several wards in which no funding has been awarded. This suggests that work has still to be done to engage and to empower communities in these areas in order to support future place-based regeneration.

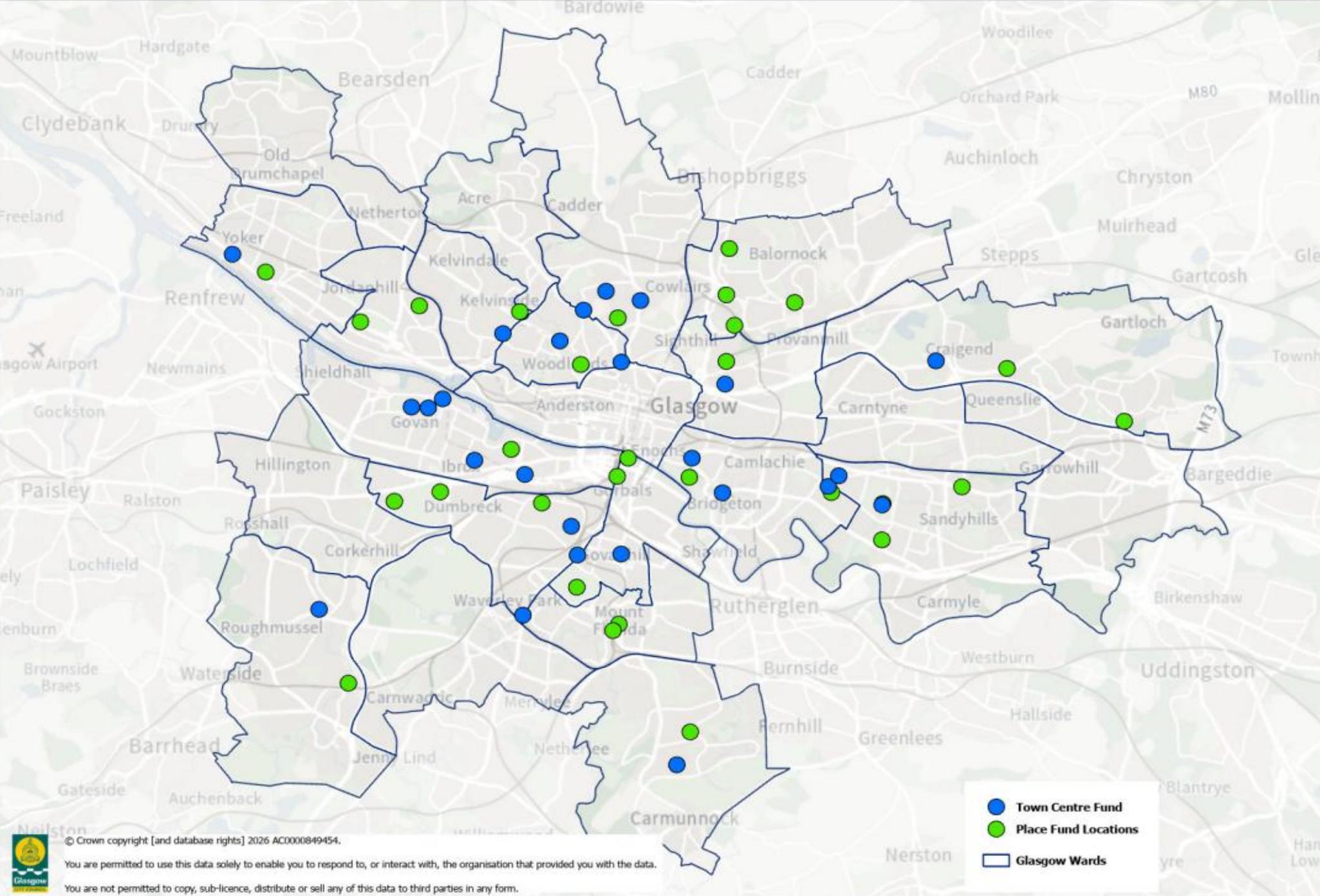
When allocating funding via open grant calls, Council have ensured that funding was prioritised in areas of most need. This was reflected in the scoring systems in which applications from areas of high deprivation was scored more favourably than others.

Ward	TCF Projects	TCF Grant	Place Fund Projects	Place Fund Grant	Total Grant
Linn	1	£98,000	1	£3,350,000	£3,448,000
Newlands/Auldburn	0	0	0	0	£0
Greater Pollok	1	£21,900	2	£400,073	£421,973
Cardonald	0	0	1	£389,135	£389,135
Govan	6	£805,455	2	£237,000	£1,042,455
Pollokshields	5	£79,442	6	£213,673	£293,115
Langside	1	£9,982	3	£981,446	£991,428
Southside Central	3	£238,617	3	£1,171,506	£1,410,123
Calton	3	£485,091	2	£228,267	£713,358
Anderston/City/Yorkhill	0	0	2	£908,500	£908,500
Hillhead	2	£34,489	1	£15,011	£49,500
Victoria Park	0	0	4	£584,269	£584,269
Garscadden/Scotstounhill	1	£77,506	1	£42,900	£120,406
Drumchapel/Anniesland	0	£0	0	£0	£0
Maryhill	0	£0	2	£160,438	£160,438
Canal	5	£462,518	4	£522,856	£985,374
Springburn/Robroyston	0	£0	5	£557,450	£557,450
East Centre	0	£0	1	£49,179	£49,179
Shettleston	3	£1,699,076	5	£481,982	£2,181,058
Baillieston	0	£0	0	£0	£0
North-East	1	£96,000	5	£289,782	£385,782
Dennistoun	1	£127,356	2	£46,333	£173,689
Partick East/Kelvindale	1	£13,639	1	£50,000	£63,639
Yet to be allocated	0	£0	2	£660,000	£660,000
Legal and Technical				£60,200	£60,200
TOTAL	34	£4,249,071	57	£11,400,000	£15,649,071

TCF total grant includes uplift received from Chief Executives Department which was administered as part of the TCF

Projects funded over multiple wards are split on a pro-rata basis for 'Grant'

Town Centre Fund and Place Fund locations



NB: Illustrative only. Projects funded multiple times are represented once. Projects funded across both programmes are represented once and coloured blue

Procedural Improvements

1. Funding Model and Apportionment

Funding in the form of a direct allocation from Scottish Government has provided a number of key benefits, including in long-term planning, development of a thematic programme of projects, and providing the ability to deal with emerging priorities as they are identified. However, the apportionment methodology has not fully reflected Glasgow's scale of need, particularly in deprived areas, in Glasgow. Indeed, despite having around 11% of the national population, Council received 6% of the total Town Centre Fund allocation and 9.74% of the Place Fund allocation. Council officers will therefore continue to request from Scottish Government the following:

- Future direct allocations are provided on the basis of a more robust and up to date methodology which fully reflects the scale of need in Glasgow.
- Earlier confirmation, and receipt of funding, from Scottish Government would allow Council to be more proactive in project identification and would mitigate the risk of delays.
- Confirmation of multi-year funding would allow GCC and project partners to develop a pipeline of projects.

2. Strengthen Support for Community Organisations

As noted from the contents of the report, Community Organisations have successfully delivered a substantial proportion of projects across both funding programmes. However, feedback received from these organisations has highlighted a number of potential improvements:

- Early engagement by officers with organisations to identify risks related to capacity, consent, and technical support, and how these could be mitigated.
- Review of internal processes, including grant agreements, and earlier payment of grant claims, could remove some of the risk and pressure on organisations. It is worth noting that annualised funding does create constraints here.

3. Improve Internal Processes for GCC led Projects

Clearly a number of Council led projects across both funding programmes have encountered delays. Some of these issues have arisen due to problems noted above- including delays in receipt and acceptance of funding from Scottish Government. However, issues have also arisen due to reasons such as capacity, consents, and the complexity of delivering large-scale projects within the required timescales. Officers will look to ensure the following:

- Work more collaboratively across departments to ensure that funding is directed to projects in most need.
- Ensure that projects supported can be delivered within the required timescales by working collaboratively to mitigate potential delays.

Conclusion

Delivery of the Town Centre Fund and Place Fund has made a significant contribution to regeneration across Glasgow. Together, both Programmes have provided over £15m of grant funding- of which over £5.2m was for community based or third sector organisations- and leveraged an estimated £75 million in additional funding. Much of this investment has been targeted at Glasgow's most deprived neighbourhoods, supporting Council's commitment to tackling inequality and promoting economic growth.

A key strength of both funding Programmes has been the flexibility that has allowed a variety of projects to be delivered, from small scale community led regeneration initiatives, to strategic, Council led, large scale capital projects. Community based organisations have played a central role in the success of the programmes, delivering real and meaningful regeneration and demonstrating strong alignment with the Place Principle, Community Wealth Building and wider Council and Scottish Government policy objectives.

Given the limited availability of alternative capital funding for community organisations-particularly funding that supports small and medium-scale physical improvements, the Town Centre Fund and Place Fund have been crucial in enabling community organisations to bring forward projects that would otherwise have been difficult or impossible to deliver.

The programmes have also allowed Council to accelerate key programmes such as Liveable Neighbourhoods, Glasgow's Food System Development, and Local Place Plans. Without Town Centre Fund and Place Fund, these programmes would not have progressed at the rate they have.

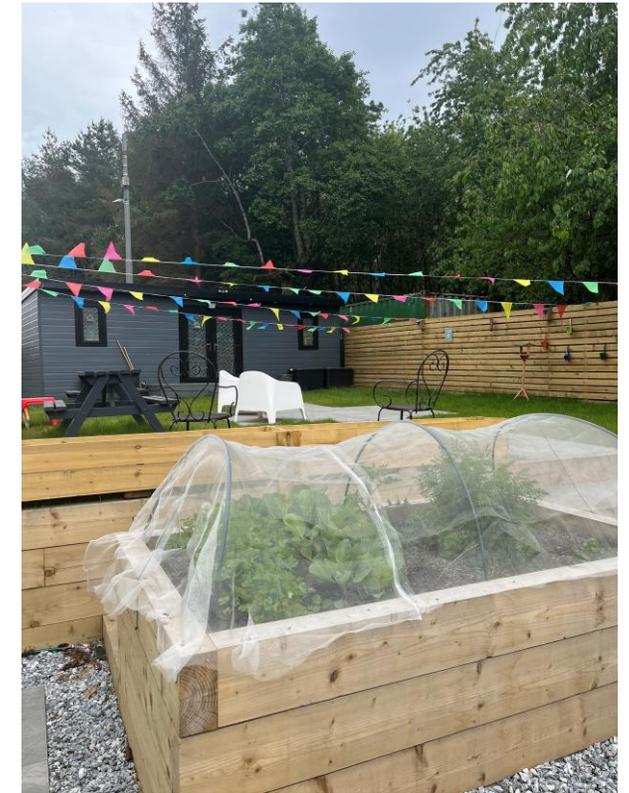


Cranhill – Adam Shaw

Next Steps

As the final year of the Place Based Investment Programme draws to a close, Council will continue to provide support to projects within the programme that remain ongoing. Given the uncertainty around whether the funding will be extended, it will be important for officers to work proactively across the Council service, as well as with community organisations, to identify and secure alternative sources of national funding streams, such as the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund and the Vacant and Derelict Land Fund. This will ensure that Glasgow, and its communities, are well positioned to maximise the benefits of any future investment, and to continue to deliver meaningful regeneration.

Notwithstanding the above, the role of both the Town Centre Fund and the Place Fund has been pivotal in enabling community led regeneration, particularly for the large number of smaller, locally based organisations that deliver services in their communities. This type of capital support cannot be met by other funding streams, and without it, many of these projects would remain unfunded or incomplete.



Denmilne – Adam Shaw

Appendix 1 – Summary of projects funded by Town Centre Fund (2019/20 – 2020/21) and Place Fund (2021 – 2025/26)

Town Centre Fund 2019/20

Project	Project Lead	Theme	Funding	Project Status
Parkhead Library	Glasgow City Council	Built Heritage	£445,091	Complete
Elderpark Library	Glasgow Life	Built Heritage	£550,000	Complete
Tollcross Winter Gardens	Glasgow City Council	Built Heritage	£1,250,000	Complete
Kinning Park Complex	Kinning Park SCIO	Community Grants	£50,000	Complete
Queens Cross Community Cafe	Queens Cross HA	Community Grants	£50,000	Complete
Strathbungo Deep End	Govanhill Baths Community Trust	Community Grants	£20,000	Complete
Possilpark Environment	Possilpark B.I.D	Community Grants	£4,800	Complete
Possilpark Shopfronts	Possilpark B.I.D	Community Grants	£41,884	Complete
Castlemilk Pantry	Scotsman Group	Food Inclusion	£98,000	Complete
Govanhill Pantry	Govanhill Baths Community Trust	Food Inclusion	£212,727	Complete
Parkhead Pantry	Parkhead HA	Food Inclusion	£308,000	Complete
Ruchazie Pantry	Growing 21	Food Inclusion	£96,000	Complete
TOTAL			£3,126,502	

Town Centre Fund 2020/21

Project	Project Lead	Theme	Funding	Project Status
Tollcross Winter Gardens	Glasgow City Council	Built Heritage	£141,076	Complete
Possilpark Shopfronts	Possilpark B.I.D	Community Grants	£344,559	Complete
Elderpark Pantry	Elderpark HA	Food Inclusion	£115,555	Complete
Govan Pantry	Govan Home & Education Link Project	Food Inclusion	£49,900	Complete
North-West Pantry	DRC Youth Project	Food Inclusion	£77,506	Complete
People's Pantry Govanhill	Govanhill Baths Preservation	Food Inclusion	£10,550	Complete
Pollok Pantry	SWAMP	Food Inclusion	£21,900	Complete
Courtyard Pantry	Flourish House	Food Inclusion	£21,275	Complete
Royston Pantry	Spireview HA	Food Inclusion	£127,356	Complete
Civic St Active Travel Hub	Agile City CIC	Animating Spaces	£15,000	Complete
Covered Mart & Hospitality, Moncur St	BAAD	Animating Spaces	£20,000	Complete
Dowanside & Ruthven Lane	Byres Road B.I.D	Animating Spaces	£13,639	Complete
Galgael Market Place	GALGAEL	Animating Spaces	£20,000	Complete
GAMIS	GAMIS	Animating Spaces	£15,340	Complete
Kelvin Square	Websters Theatre	Animating Spaces	£19,489	Complete
Indepen-Dance Wellbeing Centre	Indepen-Dance	Animating Spaces	£20,000	Complete
Kinning Park	Kinning Park SCIO	Animating Spaces	£20,000	Complete
Shawlands Parklets	MyShawlands	Animating Spaces	£19,964	Complete
Albert Cross Mural	Pollokshields C.C	Animating Spaces	£9,460	Complete
Albert Drive Closes	Southside HA	Animating Spaces	£20,000	Complete
Shawlands Pends	Shawlands B.I.D	Animating Spaces	£20,000	Complete
TOTAL			£1,122,569	

Place Fund 2021/22

Project	Project Lead	Theme	Funding	Project Status
Laurieston Community Rooms	New Gorbals HA	TCW	£266,234	On Site- funding drawn down
Hamiltonhill Green Infrastructure	Queens Cross HA	20MN	£304,845	Complete
Queensland Community Park	Southside HA	20MN	£389,135	Complete
Carbon Free Govanhill	Govanhill Baths Community Trust	Food Inclusion	£36,939	Complete
The Braes Shopping Centre	Scotsman Group/GCC	TCW	£2,000,000	On Site
Tollcross Winter Gardens	GCC- Property and Consultancy Services	Built Heritage	£250,000	Complete
Parkhead Pantry Gardens	Parkhead HA	Food Inclusion	£68,982	Complete
Ruchazie Café	Growing 21	Food Inclusion	£126,392	Complete
Threehills Community Supermarket	Feeding Britain/Good Food Scotland	Food Inclusion	£246,473	In operation but works ongoing
Legal & Technical	GCC	N/A	£10,000	Complete
Total			£3,699,000	

Place Fund 2022/23

Projects in *italics* denote projects that were awarded funding in 2021/22.

Project	Project Lead	Theme	Funding	Project Status
<i>Ruchazie Cafe</i>	<i>Growing 21</i>	<i>Food Inclusion</i>	<i>£43,608</i>	<i>Complete</i>
<i>The Braes Shopping Centre</i>	<i>Scotsman Group</i>	<i>TCW</i>	<i>£1,350,000</i>	<i>On Site</i>
<i>Old Dumbarton Road</i>	<i>GCC- Planning</i>	<i>20MN</i>	<i>£900,000</i>	<i>Complete</i>
The Circle Energy & Sustainability	Circle Scotland CIC	20MN	£52,390	On Site- in operation
Possilpark Heritage Shopfronts	Possilpark B.I.D	TCW	£203,587	Complete
Broomfield Centre Upgrade	BCDC	20MN	£83,000	Complete
Hillwood Community Sports Hub	Hillwood Community Trust	20MN	£153,600	Complete
Community Net Zero Hub	South Seeds	20MN	£49,500	On site
Glenavon Community Centre	YoMo Young Movers	20MN	£140,148	Complete
Bridgeton Library Café	Glasgow Life/ Clyde Gateway	Food Inclusion	£178,267	Pre-construction
North-West Community Pantry Allotment Development	DRC Youth Project	Food Inclusion	£42,900	Complete
Legal & Technical Support	GCC	N/A	£20,000	Complete
TOTAL			£3,217,000	

Place Fund 2023/24

Project	Project Lead	Theme	Funding	Project Status
Fossil Grove	GCC- Property and Consultancy Services	Built Heritage	£499,432	Completion March 2026
Mosesfield House	Ng Homes	Built Heritage	£400,000	Pre-construction
Citizens Theatre	The Citizens Theatre	Built Heritage	£382,000	Complete
Tollcross Winter Gardens-Toilets	GCC- Property and Consultancy Services	Built Heritage	£100,000	Pre-construction
Botanic Gardens- Toilets	GCC- Greenspace, Biodiversity and Bereavement Services	Built Heritage	£50,000	Pre-construction
Bellahouston Park-Toilets	GCC- Property and Consultancy Services	Built Heritage	£50,000	Complete
Glasgow Green- Toilets	GCC- Property and Consultancy Services	Built Heritage	£50,000	Pre-construction
Liveable Neighbourhoods	GCC- Liveable Neighbourhoods	20MN	£150,000	Complete
Legal/Technical	GCC	N/A	£30,200	Complete
			£1,711,632	

Food System Development Fund (part of 2023/24 Place Fund award)

Project	Project Lead	Funding	Project Status
Food to Table (North-East/Craigend)	Friends of Ashton	£4,392	Complete
Milton Community Garden	North Glasgow Community Food Initiative	£9,609	Complete
Increased Growing Opportunities (Finnieston)	G3 Growers	£8,500	Complete
Toryglen Growing Together	The Urban Roots Initiative	£18,444	Complete
Woodlands Community Growing Project	Woodlands Community Development Trust	£15,011	Complete
Flat Pack Meals (Tollcross)	The Scottish Pantry Network	£50,000	Complete
Glasgow Community Food Markets (various)	Glasgow Community Food Markets	£24,717	Complete
Park Villa Community Growing Space and teaching Café (Govan)	Park Villa Football Development	£37,000	Complete
Nan McKay Hall Garden (Pollokshields)	Nan McKay Community Hall	£8,856	Complete
Lambhill Stables Community Garden	Lambhill Stables	£4,814	Complete
The Base Grow Project (Maryhill)	YoMo Young Movers	£20,290	Complete
The Hidden Gardens (Pollokshields)	Hidden Gardens Trust	£29,478	Complete
Glasshouse Renovation Project (Partick)	Buddies	£47,120	Complete
Cranhill Market Garden	Cranhill Development Trust	£49,179	Complete
Denmilne Allotment	Denmilne Action Group	£50,000	Complete
Improvements to Site Boundary and Community Facility	Petershill Allotments	£48,450	Complete
TOTAL		£425,860	

Local Place Plan Development Fund (part of 2023/24 Place Fund award)

Project	Project Lead	Funding	Project Status
Broomhill Community Council	Broomhill Community Council	£13,000	Complete
Barmulloch Community Development Company	Barmulloch Community Development Company	£13,000	Complete
Craigton Community Council	Craigton Community Council	£508	Complete
Fuse Youth Café (Shettleston)	Fuse Youth Café	£13,000	Complete
Garthamlock, Craigend & Gartloch C.C	Garthamlock, Craigend and Gartloch Community Councils	£13,000	Complete
Mount Florida Community Council	Mount Florida Community Council	£13,000	Complete
Rosemount Development Trust (Royston & Germiston)	Rosemount Development Trust	£13,000	Complete
Shawlands & Strathbungo C.C & Battlefield & Camphill C.C	Shawlands & Strathbungo, and Battlefield & Camphill Community Councils	£13,000	Complete
Spirit of Springburn SCIO	Spirit of Springburn SCIO	£13,000	Complete
TOTAL		£104,508	

Place Fund 2024/25

No funding was made available by Scottish Government in 2024/25.

Place Fund 2025/26

Project	Project Lead	Theme	Funding	Project Status
Letherby Triangle/Battlefield Rest	GCC Liveable Neighbourhoods	20MN	£800,000	Pre-construction
Festival Park/Lorne Street	GCC Liveable Neighbourhoods	20MN	£200,000	Complete- March 2026
Shawlands, Strathbungo, Dennistoun	GCC Liveable Neighbourhoods	20MN	£100,000	Pre-construction
Carlton Place and South Portland Street Suspension Bridge	GCC- Planning	Built Heritage	£482,000	On site
People Make Glasgow Communities (PMGC)	GCC PMGC	TCW	£400,000	Pre-construction
Food System Development	GCC- Chief Executives Department	Food Inclusion	£260,000	Pre-construction
TOTAL			£2,242,000	