



## Item 4

16th November 2022

**Glasgow City Council**

**Calton Area Partnership**

**Report by Stephen Egan,  
Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability  
Contact: Stephen Egan Ext: 75604**

### **Options for use of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within Calton**

#### **Purpose of Report:**

To provide the Partnership with:

1. Options for investment of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within Calton as set out within section 3 of this report; and
2. Advise as to next steps.

#### **Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Partnership

- (1) notes this report; and
- (2) approves funding for its preferred options for the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund to allow for early action and delivery of projects.

Ward No(s): 9

Citywide:

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

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Glasgow City Council 2022/23 budget allocated £1.5 million to Area Partnerships across the city for investment in Parks and Open Spaces. £80,000 of this has been allocated to Calton. The following projects are options for the committee to consider taking forward.
- 1.2. It should be noted that factoring in procurement and tendering procedures that timescales for development of projects, allocation of spend, and delivery on the ground will vary across the current and next financial year. Whilst project budgets have been proposed based on costs for similar work elsewhere in the city in recent years, with usual contingencies we note current market volatility across a range of products, for example with tarring costs recently reported as increasing by 18%.
- 1.3. It is noted that there are seasonal windows for certain projects involving planting and habitats, namely:
  - 1.3.1. September and April - seasonal windows for delivery of meadow creation
  - 1.3.2. November -February - seasonal window for delivery of woodland creation and/or woodland management works on the ground

## 2. Local Engagement

- 2.1. Officers from across the Council Family have been working with local communities over the last 18 months to build participation and engagement around the use of open spaces, with this work taking an increased importance and a digital form over the last 2 years. This engagement has taken a number of different strands, and has arrived at some early greenspace actions, as well as exploring longer term ideas. This report seeks to provide a summary of engagement to date, details options for these early actions and sets out a timeline for delivery of these options once a decision is made.
- 2.2. As part of Glasgow's Food Growing Strategy, we have been inviting communities across Glasgow to share with us their ideas for land they consider to be potentially suitable for food growing.
- 2.3. In May 2020, 917 responses were received from Citizens in relation to survey in relation to the Ecological Emergency, with the top 5 ranked priorities for action being:
  - Support planners and developers to step up protection and enhancement of green space and biodiversity
  - Work with other public sector land owners to maximise green corridors and pollinator ways through the city
  - Increase connections across the city between green spaces, for both people and wildlife Allocate more open space for nature in the city
  - Increase planting of native trees and plant species on and around active travel routes

Options for investment, for consideration by the Area Partnership, have been informed by the engagement work set out above set out above, and where selected for action, will form the subject of further engagement.

### 3. Suggested Projects for Area Partnership to Consider

- 3.1 Whilst it is recognised that engagement with communities does not follow any external timescale, it is understood that many greenspace investment works are tied to certain seasons of the year. Where capital funding has been allocated, it is noted that projects will involve time being set aside for the preparation of contract documents, procurement activity and lead in times for the delivery of materials.
- 3.2 At the meeting of the June Area Partnership, the Partnership requested that a further breakdown of details on the 3 options be provided. These have been subsequently listed below.

3.2 Options have been costed as follows:

The following are a suite of projects for Area Partnership to consider. Chosen projects should total: <b>£80,000</b>				
Option Number	Location	Proposal	Quantity	Potential Budget
1	Dechmont Street Play Area extension and Greenspace	Contribution towards wider package of funding to support full refurbishment, with developer contributions for amenity and play (£23,617 for trees, benches and a small element of carpet replacement) and Scottish Government funding for Play Area Renewal Fund (£22,333 to replace the fencing with a more colourful and child-friendly design-existing fencing would be recycled). Proposal will engage with stakeholders about the potential to extend the play area westwards to take in the adjacent paved		

		<p>area.</p> <p>Items costed include:</p> <p>Additional Swings New Russell Twist New Inclusive Springie</p> <p>- carpet safety surfacing within the extension to the play area</p> <p>New Wheelchair-accessible Carousel</p>		<p>£9500 £36,000 £1000</p> <p>£17,500</p> <p>£10,000</p> <p><b>£74,000</b></p>
2	Bluevale Street	<p>Funding for Reidvale Housing Association to replace the planters they maintain- includes an allowance for 8 no. Pollinator-style planters at £432 each. Bring forward options to reduce access for flytipping at this location- includes an allowance for a stopping up order @ £1724 if this is considered to be feasible and of benefit. Site visit to confirm locations will be arranged should funding bid be successful</p>		£5180
3	Glenisla Street greenspace	<p>Plant native bulbs and enhance existing planting</p>		£630
4	Maukinfold Road greenspace			£190

4. At the meeting of the September Area Partnership, the Partnership requested a report on progress for the projects funded by the Investment Fund last year. It is noted that a tender has been issued for Tobago Street Play Area and surrounds, with a return date of the end of November 2022. We would expect the successful contractor to provide a programme for the works, once they are appointed in December 2022, and anticipate that this work will be done as part of a wider list of sites being delivered by this contractor between Q1 and Q4 2023. The procurement process for Helenslea Park Play Area and Queen Mary Street Play Area is expected to commence Q2 2023 with works likely to take place between Q4 2023 and Q4 2024, and arrangements will be made for local stakeholders to receive sketch designs for their comment in November 2022.
5. At the meeting of the September Area Partnership, the Partnership requested further information on plans for the Bridgeton/Dalmarnock Street Park. Interim arrangements had previously been made for the play equipment and MPGC fence to have been painted, graffiti removed from surfaces, damaged safety carpet was repaired and weeds scraped and cleared. The damaged gate was repaired and a new rocker piece of equipment has been ordered. In relation to the larger capital investment project for this location, this service plans to contact ward members week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> November with proposals to use developer contributions nearby to supplement Scottish Government funding for play area refurbishment and the £48,100 previously committed from GCC capital. Once all funding is approved, it is our intention to engage with local stakeholders regarding designs during Q2 2023, with a view to works being carried out in 2024.
6. At the meeting of the September Area Partnership, the Partnership requested information on any options which may have been reviewed for this fund, but not included within papers. I note that a number of locations were submitted to officers for consideration, with land ownership checks then identifying that the land in question was not under the ownership or management of Glasgow City Council, with this then increasing project timescales in terms of contacting landowners to obtain their agreement and commitment both for works and for the ongoing maintenance. It was considered that there were sufficient options available for investment in Glasgow City Council owned or managed parks and greenspaces. Both our Friends of Parks Forum and Greenspace Scotland are in a position to provide local greenspace groups with funding newsletters which can keep them updated in relation to funding opportunities should this be of assistance. These locations include:
  - Cuthelton Street Greenspace
  - Whitby/West Whitby Street Greenspace
  - Burgher Street Greenspace
  - Barrowfield GreenspacesIn addition, a submission was received for the greenspace to the south of Gallowgate, and we have asked for further information in relation to specifics, and for Helenslea Park, which we would intend to review again in relation to any further works once the current phase is complete.

## 7. Policy and Resource Implications

### Resource Implications:

*Financial:* This paper outlines options for how capital investment identified as part of the 2022/23 budget process by Glasgow City Council can be allocated within Calton

*Legal:* None

*Personnel:* None

*Procurement:* Early Actions will be procured via existing GCC frameworks

**Equality Impacts:**

*EQIA carried out:*

*Outcome:* -

**Sustainability Impacts:**

*Environmental: It is considered that the early actions set out in paragraph 3 would contribute to the recommendations of the Climate and Ecological Emergency working groups, and to the Local Biodiversity Action Plan*

*Social:*

*Economic:*

**8. Recommendations**

8.1 It is recommended that the Partnership

- (1) notes this report; and
- (2) approves funding for its preferred options for the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund to allow for early action and delivery of projects.