



**Glasgow City Council**

**City Administration Committee**

**Report by Councillor Kenny McLean, City  
Convener for Neighbourhoods, Housing and Public Realm**

**Item 4**

24<sup>th</sup> February 2022

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**PLACE BASED INVESTMENT PROGRAMME – THE PLACE FUND –  
PROPOSED FUNDING ALLOCATIONS**

**Purpose of Report:**

The purpose of the report is:

- to update Committee on Council's proposed programme;
- to inform Committee of the proposed 2021/22 funding allocations, and indicative 2022/23 funding allocations.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that Committee:

- (1) Notes the contents of this report;
- (2) Approves the 2021/22 programme;
- (3) Approves the indicative 2022/23 programme.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

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

## 1 Background

- 1.1 In September 2020, the Scottish Government published its *Programme for Government*. This contained a commitment to establish a Place Based Investment Programme (PBIP) which is intended to link and align place based initiatives and establish a coherent local framework designed to implement the Place Principle. The PBIP will invest £325m across the country to support community led regeneration.
- 1.2 A key element of the Place Based Investment Programme is The Place Fund (TPF). This fund is for local authorities to allocate, working collaboratively with local communities, together with business and the third and public sectors, to support shared local plans and aspirations.
- 1.3 The Scottish Government's guidance note outlines various themes that the Place Fund is expected to address, including:
  - Development of 20-minute neighbourhoods;
  - Town centre regeneration;
  - Community led regeneration and community wealth building;
  - Achieving net zero;
  - Promoting well-being and inclusive economic development which tackles inequality and disadvantage.

## 2 Funding Award and proposed funding streams

- 2.1 In May 2021, Scottish Government announced £38m of funding for 2021/2022, to be allocated across all local authorities. Glasgow City Council has been allocated £3,699,000 for 2021/2022. This award was accepted at City Administration Committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021. (<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/councillorsandcommittees/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=103070>)
- 2.2 Allocations for the subsequent four financial years, 2022/23 to 2025/26 are expected to be based on the same methodology and will be confirmed by Scottish Government in due course. An award of £3,200,000 for 2022/2023 has been indicated by Scottish Government.
- 2.3. As noted in the City Administration Committee paper of 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021, and approved by that Committee, four funding streams were identified as a priority for The Place Fund 2021/2022:
  - Transformational Town Centre works;
  - 20 minute neighbourhoods;
  - Food inclusion;
  - Supporting previous Town Centre Fund themes of investment.

### **3 Application and Assessment Process**

- 3.1 As noted in the previous City Administration Committee paper, an open grant call was made in December 2021. This call was circulated via a wide variety of officers and partners and all local elected members and community councils. The short application form asked applicants to summarise their proposed project; demonstrate alignment with The Place Fund aims; confirm they owned or had permission to use the site in question; were in a position to claim funding in 2021/2022; and to outline costs and funding.
- 3.2 By the closing date of 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022, 56 applications, requesting a total of £13.75m, were received. The Fund was therefore more than £10m, or 3.72 times, oversubscribed for 2021/2022.
- 3.3 Officers firstly assessed applications for alignment with The Place Fund, site ownership and deliverability in 2021/2022. Projects already in receipt of funding from other current funds from Scottish Government's Regeneration Unit (namely Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, Vacant and Derelict Land Fund, and Vacant and Derelict Land Investment Programme) were not prioritised and would be redirected to these funds as applicable. This did not apply to Town Centre Fund projects as this programme is no longer running with Place Fund being its successor.
- 3.4 37 applications were shortlisted requesting £8.2m of funding. They were scored against a set of weighted criteria, including SIMD characteristics, alignment with The Place Fund objectives, community need and demand, and leverage to produce a recommended list of projects to support. Applications requesting funding to deliver projects, as opposed to those requesting facilitation grants to develop projects for the future, were prioritised.
- 3.5 The recommended list of projects and the methodology behind it, was presented to a panel of senior officers on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022. Following discussion at the panel and further checks of the relevant applications, a list of projects recommended for funding was finalised.
- 3.6 Projects recommended for funding and their proposed allocations from The Place Fund in 2021/2022 are described in Appendix A. This appendix also notes projects that require funding allocations to be spread over two years, and one project that is recommended for funding in 2022/2023.
- 3.7 Committee is asked to approve these funding awards for 2021/2022, and provisionally approve the proposed 2022/2023 allocations subject to receipt of further Scottish Government Funding.

### **4 Project delivery and future funding rounds**

- 4.1 GCC will enter into legal agreements with any and all external grant recipients, to ensure timeous and efficient delivery of projects.

A small amount of grant is proposed to be set aside for specialist legal and technical support for projects, as noted in Appendix A. Regular project monitoring reports will be undertaken, and reported both internally and to Scottish Government.

- 4.2 Officers will liaise with Scottish Government regarding the indicative £3.2m Place Fund allocation for 2022/2023. When this is confirmed, officers will open a second call-out/application process for the balance of available grant (i.e. minus commitments summarised in Appendix A). It is intended that this will occur in Spring 2022. It is intended that The Place Fund 2022/2023 will feature similar funding streams to 2021/2022, with a particular focus on Liveable Neighbourhoods.

## 5 Policy and Resource Implications

### Resource Implications:

*Financial:* Glasgow City Council has been allocated £3.699 million additional investment from the Place Fund. This will be administered through GCC as the main partner, working with other partners to deliver on activities.

*Legal:* GCC Legal Services will conduct due diligence on the process to provide partnership grants to organisations to help deliver on the key objectives of this project.

*Personnel:* Personnel resources required to assist in the delivery of the overall programme will be supported through existing project resources.

*Procurement:* No specific procurement matters.

**Council Strategic Plan:** This report supports the following Strategic Plan actions:

6. Support small businesses and encourage business diversity in local high streets across the city, and continue to support Business Improvement Districts.
21. Support communities to develop play opportunities and street play spaces.
23. Work collaboratively at city region level to enhance our support to schools and nurseries, making sure the service

remains accountable at a local level and to this council.

- 55. Prioritise sustainable transport across the city.
- 72. Support the Development of Glasgow as a Sustainable Food City
- 76. Review and provide options for how we can develop a liveable communities policy, linking our approach to Thriving Places, the use of the Place Standard and the City Development Plan.

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

*Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify.*

Yes – generally supportive.

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

No significant impact.

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

The Fund will be targeted at areas of socio-economic disadvantage. Projects will improve the physical environment, address social issues, 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?*

Reduced carbon emissions as a result of a focus on 20 Minute neighbourhoods and local living; promotion of active travel; reduced food miles through local growing initiatives.

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

Yes – all projects will be assessed against how they contribute to meeting net zero.

**Privacy and Data Protection impacts:** None.

## **6 Recommendations**

It is recommended that Committee:

- (1) Notes the contents of this report;
- (2) Approves the 2021/2022 programme;
- (3) Approves the indicative 2022/23 programme