

# talled Spaces - A wee space... for a wee while

## **BARRAS STALLED SPACES SCHEME – GUIDANCE DOCUMENT**

### **1.0 BACKGROUND**

The Calton Barras Action Plan was approved by the Council's Executive Committee on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2012, with £3.5m of capital funding allocated from the capital expenditure programme to deliver the Action Plan over a 5 year period. An additional £1.5m has been secured through the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF).

The main focus of the Action Plan is the physical regeneration of the Calton Barras area in recognition of the challenges it faces and its strategic importance to the City. The proposed investments aim to create a healthier and more sustainable neighbourhood adjacent to the city centre by promoting a place-making approach whilst enhancing access to employment opportunities, green space, local facilities and services.

### **2.0 BARRAS OPPORTUNITIES**

The development of the Barras as a creative industries and recycling hub, building on the area's location, low rental costs, flexible spaces and the existing cultural activities is a key proposal in the Action Plan. It is recognised that the location of the Barras, immediately to the east of Glasgow Cross and within walking distance of the Merchant City, presents significant opportunities particularly in terms of encouraging movement from the city centre and increasing vibrancy. However many of the streets and spaces in and around the Barras are in poor condition, all of which act as barriers to movement and impact on walkability and on the quality of place.

With appropriate investment, that combines public realm improvements, revitalisation of the markets and new enterprise, the Barras could again be one of the city's 'must-visit' neighbourhoods which, in turn, would attract developer interest and assist with the economic revival of the wider Calton Barras area.

Early interventions, such as the Barras Shopfront Improvement Scheme, have assisted in improving the overall appearance of key routes and the Barras Vacant Floorspace Grant Scheme has successfully returned six properties to viable use. However it is considered that further interventions, particularly focused on internal streets and spaces, will help address the Council's wider placemaking ambitions for the area.

### **3.0 THE BARRAS MASTERPLAN**

Against this background, the Barras Masterplan was commissioned to provide a means of influencing future development and interventions through a placemaking approach that retains the market/retail function but allows for the introduction of different uses over time to create a unique, vibrant market and mixed use destination immediately to the east of Glasgow Cross.

The final draft of the document was completed in February 2016 and the Council is working to progress physical improvements to the public realm. The Barras Stalled Spaces scheme aims to support a programme of complementary actions that will enhance the trading environment, attract new activities and create a positive trajectory for the Barras market.

## 4.0 BARRAS STALLED SPACES SCHEME GUIDANCE

The Barras Stalled Spaces scheme is being rolled out as a one-off grant scheme (with two submission dates) to support community-led innovative projects in the Barras Market Area (Map). The scheme follows existing procedures in place for the Glasgow City Council Stalled Spaces scheme with slight variation in criteria. Details in the sections below.

The total pot for the Barras Stalled Spaces scheme is £30,000. The maximum grant is £4,500 and minimum grant is £500. All grants must be spent by end of financial year or March 31, 2018.

### 4.1 Key Aims

- To support a programme of complementary actions as identified in the **Barras Masterplan**;
- To create opportunities for groups and organisations to carry out initiatives which enhance and promote the Barras market, improve and activate underutilised open spaces in the area and revitalise the public realm by introducing street art and innovative improvements to building façades and shopfronts;
- To generate a positive impact on the appearance of the area, improve access to facilities and their use by local community;
- To engage and involve local people in making a difference in their neighbourhood.

### 4.2 Areas of focus

The Barras Stalled Spaces scheme covers five priority areas within the Barras market area, listed below. Applications to the scheme must identify which of these areas the proposal covers.

1. Land earmarked for development but stalled;
2. Underutilised open space;
3. Elevations of buildings or shopfronts visible from a street;
4. Streets or other public spaces;
5. Non site-based activities (marketing and events) that promote the Barras market and have a longer term impact.

For projects to be supported, information on ownership must be available and permission to use the site must either be agreed upon or under discussion at the time of application. A written permission to use / lease will be required before any grants are released.

### 4.3 Types of Projects

Below are some examples of the type of projects which may be supported:

- A local organisation working with artists to create a mural on the gable end of a building to add interest to the streetscape;
- A community scheme to repaint shopfronts/shutters to create an attractive environment;
- A signage/way finding project or heritage trail;
- The creation of a Barras map;
- A one off event that will create interest in the market and bring in new audiences;
- A temporary market which enhances the existing offer and provides an opportunity for new traders to learn skills.
- A growing project to create and maintain hanging baskets or planters;
- The creation of a temporary performance space or play area;
- The use of a vacant site as a temporary recycling area.

#### 4.4 Who Can Apply?

Community and voluntary organisations that are either based in the Barras market area (Map) or are working in partnership with groups, organisations, businesses or individuals based in the Barras market area are eligible to apply. Organisations should:-

- be not-for-profit and should not allow anyone to profit from being associated with the organisation;
- have a managing body, management committee, or a similar body which meets regularly;
- have elected office bearers e.g. chairperson, secretary and treasurer;
- have a Governing Document (e.g. a constitution) that has been approved by the organisation and signed by an office bearer;
- have a bank account with at least 3 unrelated signatories.

#### 4.5 Applying for the Barras Stalled Spaces Scheme

You may apply for up to a maximum of £4,500. This may be used to realise your idea by purchasing equipment or materials or for sessional fees for work that needs to be done on a site. These are just examples.

If the idea you have for a local initiative is likely to cost less than the minimum amount you can apply for, you may consider getting together with another group or organisation to work together on a joint proposal. If you have any queries on this, please contact us.

Applications must be submitted by the deadline dates (see 'Timescales' below) to allow proper and full consideration including the assessment and scoring process. Interested groups are encouraged to get in touch for pre-application discussion and advice.

Once a decision has been taken you will be informed of the outcome in writing. If assistance is agreed there will be standard conditions, and in some cases there may be specific additional conditions applied to your offer of assistance. Your organisation must agree to these conditions.

#### 4.6 Timescales

**This is a one-off grant scheme for the Barras market area with two deadlines: Spring & Autumn. The specific dates will be notified on the webpage. The scheme does not affect the existing Glasgow City Council Stalled Spaces programme which will continue to operate on a twice yearly basis.**

All applicants will be notified of the outcome within 5-6 weeks. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing outlining where the proposal failed to meet funding criterion.