



Glasgow City Council
City Administration Committee

Item 9

2nd December 2021

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

Contact: Michelle Mundie

PLACE BASED INVESTMENT PROGRAMME – THE PLACE FUND

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of the report is:

- to inform Committee of the Scottish Government's Place Based Investment Programme, and specifically the Place Fund;
- to accept the Scottish Government's 2021/22 grant offer letter to the Council of £3,699,000;
- to update Committee on Council's proposed programme.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that Committee:

- (1) notes the contents of this report.
- (2) agrees to accept the Scottish Government's Place Fund grant offer of £3,699,000;

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 and town centre revitalisation and seeks to build on the successful work of the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) and Town Centre Capital Fund (TCF)
- 1.2 Local government is a key partner in delivering the Place Based Investment Programme and Scottish Government and Council Leaders have agreed that Local Government will receive a share of the funding over 5 years to support and advance place-based investment and build on the strong partnership currently existing through the RCGF and the TCF.

2 Policy Themes

- 2.1 A key element of the Place Based Investment Programme is the Place Fund. This fund will be 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.
- 2.2 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.

3 Funding Award

- 3.1 In May 2021, Scottish Government announced £38m of funding for 2021/22, to be allocated across all local authorities. Allocations were 'Based on distribution methodology agreed by COSLA Leaders and Scottish Ministers with 80% distributed based on the total population and number of towns, and 20% distributed based on deprivation'. (SG Guidance Note).
- 3.2 Based on this methodology, the Council has been allocated £3,699,000 for 2021/22. Committee is requested to accept this allocation.
- 3.3 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.

4 Proposed Funding Streams

- 4.1. Based on Scottish Government's stated themes, and Council's key strategies and development priorities, NRS officers have been developing a thematic programme of projects.
- 4.2 The following themes are being developed:
- **Transformational Town Centre works**- this will be for significant changes within town centres (particularly those within peripheral estates) where they are failing to serve the needs of local communities but market failure is a barrier to capital investment required to address these issues;
 - **20 Minute Neighbourhoods** – improvements to public realm and place with particular focus on encouraging active travel choices within town centres and linking to Liveable Neighbourhoods' activities;
 - Food Inclusion – building on previous work for Pantries as funded through the TCF. This is to enable additional capital based works to address sustainable food choices;
 - Supporting previous Town Centre Fund themes of investment.
- 4.3 These programmes of activity will be delivered in partnership with local communities. In furtherance of this, there will be an open grant call for activities relating to the above and a programme of projects will be presented to relevant Committees in early 2022.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 Scottish Government's Place Based Investment Programme, and specifically the Place Fund, provides an opportunity to develop locally-focused improvements to neighbourhoods across the city. The 2021/22 Place Fund allocation will offer opportunities to improve town centres, public realm, active travel options, and food inclusion.

6 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. Individual EQIA screenings will be undertaken for the individual projects as appropriate.

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 will contribute to meeting net zero.

Privacy and Data Protection impacts:

None.

7 Recommendations

7.1 It is recommended that Committee:

- (1) notes the contents of this report; and
- (2) agrees to accept the Scottish Government's Place Fund grant offer of £3,699,000.