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Participation Agreement Between Glasgow City Council and Victoria Park Community Trust

INTRODUCTION

Decision Notice in Terms of Section 24 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015- updated further to the previous decision notice previously issued.

In respect of the Participation Request submitted by Victoria Park Community Trust on 8th December 2021:

Glasgow City Council agrees to the Participation Request submitted by Victoria Park Community Trust relating to Victoria Park.

The ground covered by the participation request includes the whole of the park under GCC management, including areas currently under Glasgow Life management; the Nature Walk (from the expressway underpass in the south to the top of Westland Drive in the north) and the area of land between Victoria Park Drive South and the expressway which is historically part of the park. The areas described above are shown on the plan produced by VPCT (Area of Ground covered by VPCT Participation Request dated 01 February 2022) and attached to this document.

The Fossil Grove building and contents are the sole responsibility of the Fossil Grove Trust both in its present form and, still to be established, SCIO. The Fossil House building, contents and associated infrastructure will not be affected by the VPCT Participation Request process.

It is noted that groups, especially those with Memorandum of Understanding, can operate independently. VPCT has its own communications routes with the members and will always be aware of what members actions are being taken within Victoria Park. However, members do not need permission from VPCT for their own actions but will work in partnership with VPCT eg Whiteinch Community Council may apply for Area Partnership funding for an independent project.

It is also noted that Whiteinch Community Council has the statutory role in terms of planning/licensing applications for Victoria Park.

Outcome Improvement Process:

Glasgow City Council will facilitate collaborative working between Victoria Park Community Trust, the relevant Council departments and any other relevant bodies, namely by:

BACKGROUND

- A. GCC is the local authority for the City of Glasgow.
- B. Victoria Park is within the City of Glasgow.
- C. Victoria Park Community Trust is the recognised Community Trust for Victoria Park. It is registered as a 2 tier SCIO and comprised of members affiliated

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with local groups and the community who in turn are responsible for the appointment of the Trustees. The following organisations and Community Councils may be represented: Whiteinch, Scotstoun, Jordanhill and Broomhill Community Councils, Friends of Victoria Park, Glasgow Eco Trust, Fossil Grove Trust, Butterfly Conservation Group This representation may be expanded to include new member groups.

- D. The parties wish to collaborate in the development and maintenance of Victoria Park as a community green space and to see it flourish in line with the Parks Vision. It is the intention of both parties to adopt the VPCT "Vision for the Park" once appropriate consideration has been given by the local Area Partnership.

For any applications made to People Make Glasgow Communities (PMGC) for Assets within Victoria Park, both the VPCT and NRS Parks Development will be provided opportunity for comment on any such applications

* <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/23699/Parks-Vision>

1. The Participation Agreement

- 1.1. The Agreement aims for the parties to collaborate on the development and management of Victoria Park as a community green space and see it flourish in line with the Parks Vision.
- 1.2. The parties wish to ensure that Victoria Park will provide high quality, accessible facilities which are freely available and meet the recreational, leisure, health, educational and environmental needs of the community.
- 1.3. Victoria Park will be managed by an effective collaborative partnership that recognises and protects the park's historic and landscape significance for the benefit of its local communities and visitors in an inclusive, imaginative, and environmentally friendly manner that encourages biodiversity. The effectiveness of the collaboration will be reviewed by both parties quarterly and adjustments to collaborative practices be implemented if deemed required by either party.
- 1.4. GCC recognises Victoria Park Community Trust as the representative body comprised of membership groups from the community and shall liaise with Victoria Park Community Trust as such at quarterly meetings.
- 1.5. GCC acknowledges the need for Glasgow Life (GL) as tenant and key stakeholder in maintaining close working relations with the VPCT. GL will continue to engage in good faith with the VPCT on any decisions which significantly affect the function or appearance of land and property within their leased boundary.
- 1.6. GCC will inform Victoria Park Community Trust on any proposed developments within Victoria Park. GCC will engage with Victoria Park Community Trust (and other appropriate bodies) on events that require a Permission to Use (PTU) from GCC that takes place within Victoria Park and any other activity that alters the physical appearance of, or access to Victoria Park.
- 1.7. GCC will consider feedback from Victoria Park Community Trust on events or activities within the park.

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- 1.8. The content of any engagement and feedback from Victoria Park Community Trust will not be binding on GCC.
- 1.9. GCC have the right to engage with other community groups or organisations on any particular event or activity and will outline the scope of such engagements with VPCT, subject to GDPR and any matters of commercial sensitivity.
- 1.10. GCC will undertake an annual review of all events or activities with Victoria Park Community Trust that have taken place since the last review. This will be undertaken by a named council officer(s) and an agreed member(s) of the Trust. The review will be published as a standard document at the Trust's AGM.
- 1.11. Victoria Park Community Trust will facilitate communications with their members and the local community and will coordinate responses from their members and the local community.
- 1.12. Victoria Park Community Trust shall be able to bring forward proposals for Victoria Park, which align to the VPCT Vision. Any grounds for discontinuing a proposal will be recorded and passed onto the members of VPCT.
- 1.13. The parties will co-operate in a spirit that is open and honest, aligns with good community engagement principles, aligns with OSCR's guidance and adheres to community empowerment legislation. An agreed process of mediation will be established within the 1st year of the agreement that will be designed to overcome significant and hard to resolve disagreements.

2. Victoria Park Community Trust aims:

- 2.1. To promote, encourage and secure the recreational and educational value of the area, its historical, architectural, landscape and ecological qualities in conjunction with the local authority and other relevant bodies.
- 2.2. To advance community development and regeneration by:
 - 2.2.1. Undertaking community engagement, communication and by encouraging the community to propose suggestions for park projects and improvements.
 - 2.2.2. Engaging and involving the local community in environmental issues and action, through information exchange and practical activities.
- 2.3. To advance and protect heritage by promoting the history of the park along with the history and heritage of the local area and community and to advance the education of the public.
- 2.4. To promote and encourage the environmental protection, improvement, and conservation of Victoria Park and to help conserve, enhance and improve the landscape, biodiversity, and sustainable use of the area for the benefit of people and wildlife through liaison with the local authority and groups.
- 2.5. To increase and formalise engagement with the local community on the use of Victoria Park with regard to the events that take place in the park and other activities that alter the appearance of or accessibility to the park.

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2.6. To improve communication between Glasgow City Council and the local and wider community with regard to the use of Victoria Park.

3 GCC aims:

3.1 To see Victoria Park flourish as green space in alignment with the policies and strategies of GCC, including but not limited to the Parks and Greenspace Vision, Glasgow Food Growing Strategy, Local Biodiversity Action Plan, Pollinator Plan and Glasgow's Tourism and Visitor Plan.

3.2 The provision of and maintenance of the park for the purpose recreation and leisure through promoting and improving the park's facilities, thereby encouraging increased use.

Signed on behalf of Glasgow City Council:

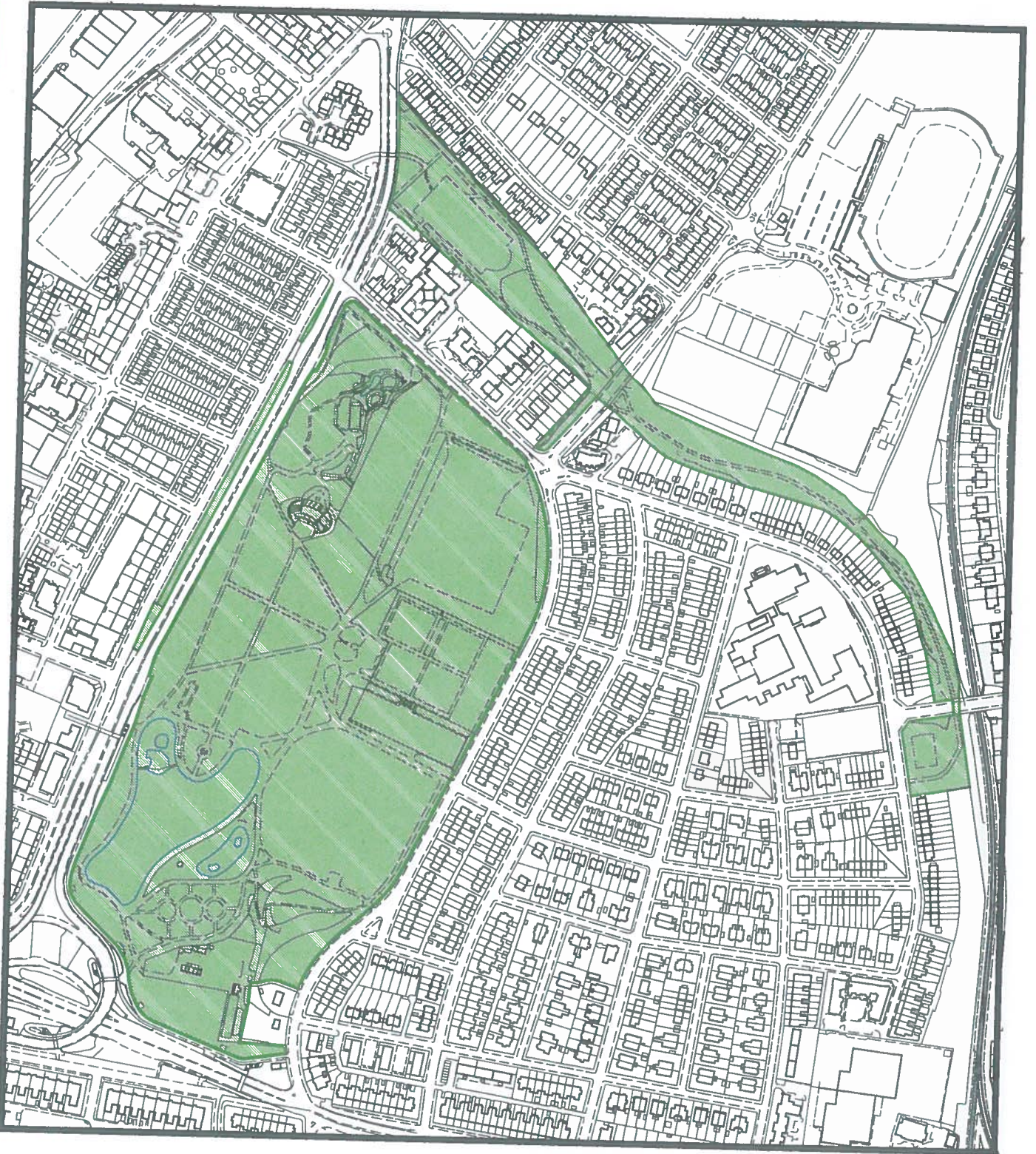


(RACHEL SMITH, LANDSCAPE DESIGN +
DEVELOPMENT MANAGER)

Signed on behalf of Victoria Park Community Trust:



Dated 27/10/22



AREA OF GROUND COVERED BY VPCT PARTICIPATION REQUEST ■ VICTORIA PARK GLASGOW

DIAGRAM 001 FEBRUARY 2022