

Notice of Meeting and Agenda Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 23 May 2023	10:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

MARK CONAGHAN
Head of Corporate Governance

Membership

Councillor Andy Steel (Convener): Councillor Michelle Campbell (Depute Convener):

Councillor Alison Ann-Dowling: Councillor Stephen Burns: Councillor Graeme Clark: Councillor Andy Doig: Councillor Neill Graham: Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes: Councillor Colin McCulloch: Councillor Jamie McGuire: Councillor Marie McGurk: Councillor Iain McMillan: Councillor John McNaughtan: Councillor Iain Nicolson: Councillor Jim Paterson:

Hybrid Meeting

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democratic-services@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Items of business

Apologies

Apologies from members.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare an interest in any item(s) on the agenda and to provide a brief explanation of the nature of the interest.

- | | | |
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| | Report by Chief Executive. | |



To: Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

On: 23 May 2023

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Green/Freeports - update

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report offers members an update on the recent bid (summer 2022) by Glasgow City Region (GCR) partners to gain a Green/Freeport designation from the Scottish and UK Governments.
- 1.2 An announcement on two such designations in Scotland was made in early 2023 confirming the selected locations as Firth of Forth (Edinburgh / Grangemouth) and Moray Firth (Inverness / Black Isle).
- 1.3 Since the announcement further discussions have taken place with the governments about the potential for an Investment Zone designation within GCR as part of an allocation of such designations in Scotland. A decision on Scottish Investment Zones is awaited.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the Board:

- i. Note the outcome of the decision by the Scottish and UK Governments on Green/Freeport designations in Scotland;
 - ii. Note that there is the potential for an Investment Zone designation being confirmed within Glasgow City Region during 2023 and that the implications of any such decision will be subject to a future Board report;
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3. Background

- 3.1 In June 2022 Board approved the submission of the GCR bid for a Green/Freeport designation as it affected Renfrewshire. This included the designation of land around Glasgow Airport, Netherton Farm, Inchinnan Business Park and Westway Industrial Estate.
- 3.2 The bid had been made by the eight GCR local authorities in conjunction with a private sector consortium consisting of Glasgow Airport, Peel Ports and J&D Stirling (Mossend rail freight hub).

4. Green/Freeport assessment

- 4.1 Five Green Freeport bids were received on the closing date of 20 June 2022. These were from:
- Clyde (GCR);
 - Firth of Forth;
 - Inverness and Cromarty Firth;
 - North East Scotland (Aberdeen and Peterhead)
 - Orkney
- 4.2 Assessment of the bids was undertaken jointly by the Scottish Government (SG) and UK Government (UKG).
- 4.3 Although the Orkney bid failed on one of the Pass/Fail questions considered in their application, the governments agreed the bid should proceed to full assessment alongside the other four bids.
- 4.4 The five bids were assessed against a range of criteria in accordance with the published prospectus for Green/Freeport bids, including promotion of regeneration, job creation and decarbonisation. A summary of how each of the five bidders fared against these criteria is set out in Appendix 1 of this report.
- 4.5 All four other bids (apart from Orkney) were considered deliverable and appointable by the Assessment Panel.
- 4.6 A cross-government group of senior officials (forming the Green Freeports Programme Board) oversaw the process. They approved a list of appointable candidates to be submitted to Ministers for final selection.
- 4.7 Scotland's Deputy First Minister met with the UK's Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and the Secretary of State for Scotland to discuss the appointable bids.
- 4.8 Ministers agreed that the priorities for additional considerations were:
- prioritising proposals with a "high" assessment for the decarbonisation criterion when choosing between similar appointable applications;
 - reserving the right to ensure a fair spread across Scotland;
- 4.9 Minister selected the **Firth of Forth** bid as the clear highest scoring bid overall. They noted that the **Clyde** and **Inverness / Cromarty Firth** bids achieved scores that were comparable.

However, when they took into account the additional considerations (see above) from the published prospectus they decided to select **Inverness / Cromarty Firth** as their second Green/Freeport location for Scotland.

5. Investment Zones

- 5.1. UKG Budget Statement (March 2023) stated that a minimum of 4 Investment Zone designations were being considered for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. England already has a process for local authorities and regions to bid for such designations.
- 5.2. Meetings have taken place recently between SG and UKG about Investment Zone designations for Scotland.
- 5.3. Feedback to date is that there will be one or two in Scotland. The process for confirming is these is likely to be allocative rather than competitive, with an agreed set of metrics being applied to the selection process.
- 5.4. There is some consideration being given by the Governments to whether a geographic or thematic approach should be applied to such selections. If thematic then (for instance) it could be for net zero and cover multiple geographies, with partnering between different regions.
- 5.5. The scale of such designations (circa 600 hectares) is like that for the allocated Green/Freeports and the fiscal incentivisation on offer for potential investment in these locations is also along similar lines.
- 5.6. A decision on any such Scottish designations is likely to be made in summer 2023. Any implications for Renfrewshire will be the subject of future reports to Board.

Investment Zones in England

- 5.7. So far, the UKG have shortlisted eight locations in England for potential Investment Zones. All of these are based on city-regions.
- 5.8. These city-regions and their constituent local authorities have been invited to submit Investment Zone proposals for a specific area within their boundaries. Zones are expected to be set across a “sensible economic geography” to facilitate effective collaboration between industry and academia (universities). If proposals choose to take up the government’s tax incentive offer, they must be located in dedicated tax sites.
- 5.9. This is a very similar approach to the one taken in Scotland for the (now completed) bidding process for Gren/Freeport status.
- 5.10. With the English Investment Zone proposals, the financial incentives offered to investment in this location is comparable to that offered for Green/Freeports and includes
:
 - Stamp Duty Land Tax relief;
 - Exemption from business rates
 - Enhanced Capital Allowances – 100% first year allowance

- Enhanced Structures and Buildings Allowance
- Lower employer National Insurance Contributions

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** - No financial implications.
 2. **HR and Organisational Development** – None.
 3. **Community Planning**
 - Our Renfrewshire is thriving – The green/freeport and investment zone concept offers an opportunity for increased economic activity and job creation in Renfrewshire.
 - Reshaping our place, our economy, and our future – Renfrewshire already has a significant cluster of manufacturing companies and an international freight airport and therefore, the green/freeport concept and investment zone offers the potential to attract additional manufacturers and their supply chain to the area;
 4. **Legal** – None.
 5. **Property/Assets** – The Council-owned AMIDS site was put forward for inclusion in one of the tax sites included in the green/freeport bid for GCR.
 6. **Information Technology** - None.
 7. **Equality & Human Rights**
The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because for example it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
 8. **Health & Safety** – None.
 9. **Procurement** – None.
 10. **Risk** – None.
 11. **Privacy Impact** – None.
 12. **COSLA Policy Position** – None.
 13. **Climate Risk** – None.
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List of Background Papers

- (a) *Freeports (Greenports) board report; Leadership Board; June 2021*
- (b) *Green Freeports in Scotland: bidding prospectus; Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities; UK Government; March 2022*
- (c) *Clyde Green/Freeport bid - update; Economy & Regeneration Board; June 2022*

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Appendix 1

Assessment Matrix for Scottish Green/Freeport Bids; 2022 / 2023

	Policy Criteria				Delivery Criteria	
Green Freeport	Criterion A: Promote regeneration and high-quality job creation	Criterion B: Promote decarbonisation and a just transition to a net zero economy	Criterion C: Establishing hubs for global trade and investment	Criterion D: Fostering an innovative environment	Criterion E: Deliverability of proposal effectively at pace	Criterion F: Level of private sector involvement in the proposal
Clyde Green Freeport	HIGH	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	MEDIUM/HIGH	HIGH	HIGH
Firth of Forth Green Freeport	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH
Inverness and Cromarty Firth Green Freeport	HIGH	MEDIUM/HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM/HIGH	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
North East Scotland Green Freeport	MEDIUM/HIGH	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	HIGH	MEDIUM
Orkney Green Freeport*	MEDIUM/LOW	MEDIUM	LOW	LOW/MEDIUM	LOW	LOW



To: Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

On: 23 May 2023

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Levelling Up Fund Bid 2022 – Renfrew Community Hub Update

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on feedback received on the Council's unsuccessful bid to the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund, which focussed on the delivery of a community hub within Renfrew town centre.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board:
- (i) Notes the content of this report and associated appendices.
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3. Background

- 3.1 The Levelling Up Fund (LUF) was announced by the UK Government in 2020 to support investment in infrastructure and assets that improve everyday life across the country. The funds are targeted at high value, local investment priorities including transport schemes, town centre regeneration and cultural / heritage assets.
- 3.2 In late 2021 the Council were successful in securing £38.7m from the first round of the fund, supporting delivery of the AMIDS South project. A report to the Leadership Board on 1 December 2021 advised that officers were considering additional proposals which could align with future calls for bids to the fund. The Board of 14 June 2022 subsequently approved the submission of an application to the second round of the fund, supporting the delivery of a new community hub within Renfrew, focussed on the Renfrew Victory Baths and former Police Chambers. The application was submitted on 28 July 2022.
- 3.3 The outcome of the Round 2 LUF process was announced on 19 January 2023 and the Council received confirmation that the Renfrew bid had been unsuccessful. The UK Government subsequently provided feedback on 10 March 2023, a summary of which is provided in section 7 below.

4 Renfrew Community Hub Project

- 4.1 The Round 2 LUF bid was developed in line with the ambitious regeneration agenda of Renfrewshire Council and its partners, focussed on positive place-based outcomes for Renfrewshire's town and villages centres. Central to this approach is to advance the evolution of our centres, ensuring that they thrive as the economic recovery from the pandemic continues.
- 4.2 In this context officers considered a range of options for a bid in Renfrew, concluding that the strongest opportunity lay with a focus on the Victory Baths and the former Renfrew Police Chambers, in recognition that both buildings are in need of significant investment to secure their long-term legacy and use. A proposal was subsequently developed for a new community hub within Renfrew town centre.
- 4.3 The proposals focussed on returning the former Renfrew Police Chambers to positive use and enhancing facilities at Victory Baths, including:-
- A Swim centre, with enhanced pool facilities, spa and wellness centre
 - A dance, gymnastics and fitness centre for all ages and groups
 - A relocated library and learning centre with digital facilities
 - New community space across the hub
- 4.4 The key objective of the project was to address the long-term challenges of vacant and underused civic assets within the town, supporting their restoration, securing their long-term legacy and acting as a catalyst for a wider transformation of Renfrew town centre as a modern, 21st century place which is central to the community.
- 4.5 The Board of 14 June 2022 noted that significant work was undertaken by officers to support the ambitious proposal, alongside key partners such as OneRen, the local community and other stakeholders. This included public consultation events which demonstrated strong community support.
- 4.6 In total the project was costed at £21.3m, £19.2m of which was asked from LUF to support the delivery of the project.

5 Levelling Up Fund

- 5.1 LUF is a competitive fund established by the UK Government, with funding distributed to places across the UK on the basis of successful project selection. The Fund has set aside at least £800 million across Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland over four years from 2021-2022 to 2024-2025. LUF aims to invest in local infrastructure that has a visible impact on people and their communities.
- 5.2 The Renfrew Community Hub proposal was submitted under the "Regeneration and Town Centres" theme, which closely aligned with the funding requirement to upgrade vacant and underused buildings, regenerate sites and bring public services and accessible community spaces into town centres.

6 Round 2 LUF Decision

- 6.1 Successful bids to Round 2 of LUF were announced on 19 January 2023 and it was confirmed that the Council had been unsuccessful in receiving funding for the Renfrew Community Hub project.

- 6.2 In total, 111 areas across the UK were awarded a share of £2.1 billion from Round 2. This included £177.2 million for projects in Scotland over 10 local authority areas. In Round One, a total of £171 million was allocated to 8 Local Authorities for Scottish projects (including AMIDS South in Renfrewshire). Cumulatively, 18 Local Authorities in Scotland have received funding so far from LUF, totalling £348.9m.
- 6.3 The assessment and decision-making process was based on a sequential approach which took account of other investment in local areas, including grants from the first round of the fund, to encourage a spread of funding. In this context no Local Authority in Scotland who received funding in Round 1, including Renfrewshire Council, was successful in Round 2. A full list of all Scottish Local Authorities who received funding in Rounds 1 & 2 are detailed in Appendix 1.
- 6.4 A full explanatory note on the assessment and decision-making process was published by the UK Government at the same time as the bid announcements. Full details can be found here: [Levelling Up Fund Round 2: explanatory note on the assessment and decision-making process - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/levelling-up-fund-round-2-explanatory-note)

7 Round 2 Feedback

- 7.1 The UK Government provided feedback on the Council's Round 2 bid on 10 March 2023. Full details of the feedback can be found in Appendix 2. In summary the following key points were identified:
- The assessors highlighted that the Council had submitted a strong bid that built upon a comprehensive and well thought out stakeholder engagement process, scoring highly on a number of key elements. In particular, the strategic rationale for the development was noted as being particularly strong, as a clear case for investment was presented, which was backed-up by comprehensive engagement with key stakeholders.
 - Some areas of the Economic Case were highlighted as those where additional information and analysis may have been beneficial, for example in highlighting local issues that the project sought to address such as economic, social and health benefits.
 - Overall the bid was noted as being well-presented and providing confidence over the project's deliverability, however further information in relation to the outcomes, outputs and impacts may have been beneficial.
- 7.2 Officers recently met with representatives of the Scottish Team of the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUC) to discuss the feedback, clarify areas for improvement and to consider opportunities for future bids. DLUC representatives again indicated that the Council had submitted a strong bid which aligned strongly with the key aims of LUF.

8 Next Steps

- 8.1 Given the feedback outlined above, it is considered that the project may still have potential to be successful in a future LUF round bid. Such a bid will however be subject to the parameters of any future LUF rounds.
- 8.2 Currently the UK Government have not indicated whether there will be a further round of funding for LUF or timescales for this.

The DLUC have however indicated that there is approximately £1 billion of LUF funding left to be allocated and it is expected that Scotland could receive around £90m of this allocation. It is anticipated that any future LUF bidding rounds would be subject to one of the following parameters:

1. Open funding i.e. any local authority can apply regardless of whether they received LUF money in either Rounds 1 or 2
2. The funding round would only be open to those local authorities who were unsuccessful in Round 2 (including Renfrewshire).
3. The funding round would only be open to those local authorities who did not receive funding in either Rounds 1 or 2.

8.3 The Council will continue to liaise with DLUC in respect of any updates on whether Round 3 is proceeding and associated guidelines. Once any announcement is made, Officers will consider future options in respect of the Renfrew CommunityHub and whether it would be prudent to apply again. A future paper to the Board will be presented to receive approval on any future course of action.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – No additional finance is sought at this stage.

2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None.

3. **Community/Council Planning** – None.

4. **Legal** – None.

5. **Property/Assets** – None.

6. **Information Technology** – None.

7. **Equality & Human Rights**

- (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report.

8. **Health & Safety** – None.

9. **Procurement** – None.

10. **Risk** – None.

11. **Privacy Impact** - None.

12. **COSLA Policy Position** – Not Applicable.

13. **Climate Risk** – Not Applicable.

Appendices

- (a) Local Authorities Receiving Funding from LUF Rounds 1 and 2
- (b) UK Government LUF Bid Feedback – Renfrew Community Health and Learning Hub

List of Background Papers

- (a) Levelling Up Announcement. Leadership Board, 1 December 2021
- (b) Levelling Up Fund 2022 – Renfrew Community Hub. Economy and Regeneration Board, 14 June 2022.

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Appendix 1: Local Authorities Receiving LUF funding in either Rounds 1 or 2

Local Authority	Project title	Amount	LUF category
Renfrewshire	AMIDS South (Travel Links Project)	£38,725,218	1
Shetland Islands Council	Fair Isle Ferry Infrastructure Project	£26,762,313	3
North Ayrshire	Infrastructure Improvement B714	£23,693,443	1
Aberdeenshire Council	Cultural Tides: North Sea Connections in Aberdeenshire	£20,000,000	3
East Ayrshire Council	Cultural Kilmarnock	£20,000,000	1
Aberdeen City	Aberdeen City Centre Masterplan	£20,000,000	2
Falkirk	Westfield Roundabout	£20,000,000	1
West Dunbartonshire	Artizan Shopping Centre, Glencairn House and connecting Dumbarton	£19,900,000	1
Highland	Inverness Zero Carbon Cultural Regeneration	£19,856,253	3
Fife Council	River Leven Regeneration, Glenrothes and Central Fife	£19,410,000	2
Inverclyde Council	Greenock Central	£19,390,000	1
Stirling Council	Stirling Forthside Redevelopment	£19,052,300	2
Dumfries and Galloway Council	Reactivating Galloway	£17,698,660	1
City of Edinburgh	Granton Gasholder (Waterfront Cultural Regeneration)	£16,482,845	3
Dundee City Council	Green Transport Hub and Spokes	£14,400,000	1
Glasgow City	Pollock Stables and Sawmill (Heritage and community Centre)	£13,050,500	1
East Lothian Council	Former Cockenzie Power Station Site Remediation and Preparation Works	£11,267,841	2
North Lanarkshire Council	Delivering on Cumbernauld's Town Vision	£9,225,000	1
Total		£348,914,373	

Appendix 2: Renfrewshire LUF Feedback

LUF20456 - Renfrew Community Health & Learning Hub

Renfrewshire | Scotland | Cultural | £19,208,167

Bid Summary:

The Renfrew Community Health & Learning Hub comprises the re-development and extension of 2 no Listed Buildings into a new Town Centre Community Health & Learning Hub incorporating a range of community facilities including: provision for swimming, dance-gymnastics, library, community space.

The project is developed to put the 'heart' back into Renfrew Town Centre, restore civic pride, build confidence and social cohesion, rejuvenate and re-purpose two prominent and at risk Listed Buildings and promote a more participatory, inclusive, and successful place. It will be a catalyst for regeneration and transformation of Renfrew as a destination town within the metropolitan area.

Headline:

This was a strong bid across all areas assessed. Key elements that could be strengthened include; providing a "do nothing" option and giving more clarity on its impact on addressing local problems. We have provided more specific feedback below. This has been drafted to be as clear and helpful as possible to inform future funding applications.

Assessment Overview

Strategic Fit:

This was a strong bid that built upon a comprehensive and well thought out stakeholder engagement process.

It was positive to see that the team had taken time to work with relevant stakeholders on identifying the challenges, agreeing the optimum set of facilities within the hub, and then converting this into a set of practical deliverables that enjoy widespread support.

Similarly, the case for investment was very detailed and persuasive clearly setting out the rationale for the proposals and their anticipated outputs, outcomes, and impact

The alignment with national and local context was also comprehensive covering all the key policies, strategies and plans that were relevant to this proposal.

Overall, the strategic fit section of the bid was very strong with minimal weaknesses.

Economic Case:

The evidence used gave quite a comprehensive of coverage of the bid and came from trusted data sources. However, some evidence had not been compared to national and other regional averages, which would have provided a clearer image of local issues and in particular, the scale of local issues. The bid provided a Theory of Change (TOC), however, to improve, outputs could have been quantified along with some outcomes and impacts. A counterfactual option of do nothing was provided and explored and a full business case with an appraisal of long list options provided.

Evidence of the demand for a dance/activity centre was well demonstrated, however the analysis and evidence directly linking the bid to the local problems faced was slightly limited and unclear. This could have been strengthened. HMT Green book guidance was followed, however the inclusion of additional evidence to support the assumptions made would have strengthened the bid.

Costs for each option and year were outlined, along with the specific costs for the preferred options. However, the bid incorrectly assumed 0% inflation for the year 22/23, inflation figures were sourced from multiple sources and methodology was unclear and inconsistent with the inflation forecast presented in the table.

Although displacement may be low for the dance studio wellbeing value, it was assumed that 60% of UK adults were active and thus already gaining this wellbeing benefit, as the specific value was not just for dance participation but being active. There also was a risk of double counting using the wellbeing benefit for two activities; this should have been discussed but there was no framework to remove this.

Deliverability:

Overall, this was a thorough and mostly well-presented bid which helped give confidence over the project's deliverability. There were some key issues to highlight, however.

There were no financial projections for when the facility became operational in its new form which would have been beneficial to see, above and beyond the chief financial officer commitment of the council to the scheme.

The timetable for moving from the project's current status to having the construction contractors on site appeared ambitious, which would pose a risk to the grant conditions being met by 31 March 2025.

Approximately 40% of the capital cost envelope and therefore 36% of the grant requested was attributable to risk, contingency and inflation allowances. Although this did not appear unreasonable given the heritage nature of the buildings, the relatively early stage of the project, and the prevailing economic environment, the mechanics of how the assumptions were applied to the costs were not particularly transparent.

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) section explored the outputs, outcomes, and impacts. Governance and resourcing high-level summaries were provided. Potential data sources were slightly unclear but were explained more in the M&E plan specific document, whilst potential data collection methods were fully explored. To improve, the objectives of the M&E activity could have been more clearly outlined.



To: Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

On: 23 May 2023

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Year 1 Report

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the first official year of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UK SPF) in Renfrewshire. The plan for the UK SPF was previously outlined in the Board Report of 22nd August 2022.
- 1.2 As planned, Renfrewshire Council commenced activity in 2 of the 4 thematic areas (Local Business and Multiply) in January 2023 with the other two themes commencing 1st April 2023 (Communities and Place and People and Skills).
- 1.3 The report summarises the UK Shared Prosperity Fund activity to the end of the financial year 22/23 and provides details of the 'credible plan', to the UK Government requesting carry forward of 22/23 underspend into 23/24.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board notes the content of this report and:
 - (i) the request to carry forward year 1 underspends into year 2;
 - (ii) the request to move £220,000 from Multiply underspends in 22-23 to People and Skills in 23-24;
 - (iii) the new requirements to support the Clyde Climate Forest project at the sum of £19,400 over two years (2023-25)

3. Background

- 3.1 The Shared Prosperity Fund is a UK wide programme to replace EU funded programmes and to help the levelling up of the UK economy. Three years of funding have been announced for 2022-25 and Renfrewshire Council have been awarded £6,290,987 phased over three years. Within this figure £1,086,395 is specifically allocated to the Multiply Programme.
- 3.2 At the Economy and Regeneration Board meeting on 23rd August 2022 the board agreed:

- that the SPF Regional Investment Plan will be developed as a Glasgow City Region (GCR) plan in conjunction with all 8 Member Authorities and with all necessary approvals at both regional and local level being in place prior to final submission at the end of August 2022.
 - To approve an outline set of SPF funded proposals at Renfrewshire level which met the Fund's objectives.
- 3.3 Formal approval of the GCR plan was received in December 2022 with funding released to Glasgow City Council, on behalf of the City Region, thereafter.
- 3.4 As part of the conditions of grant a report on activity and finance to the end of the financial year 22/23 is required. The report should also provide the UK Government (UKG) with the details of the 'credible plan', requesting carry forward of 22/23 underspend into 23/24.

4. Activity and Finance 2022-23 (Renfrewshire)

- 4.1 Renfrewshire Council activity is running to plan with the Multiply and Local Business (themes) commencing activity in January 2023 and People and Skills and Communities and Place commencing in April 2023.
- 4.2 During the first quarter £57,046 has been spent and claimed from SPF. The balance is requested to be accrued and spent in the 23-24 financial year. Progress includes:
- People & Skills: Started on 1st April 2023, all staff in post and all activity now being delivered. No expected issues or delays, expect 100% spend.
 - Local Business: two staff still to be recruited, but otherwise all running to plan. Possible slight underspend on staffing but will increase grants as a result.
 - Communities and Place: key projects all identified and staff recruitment in process.
 - Multiply: The Multiply Co-ordinator is in post; college programmes have commenced (although with lower interest than expected); and a wide range of community-based provision has been co-commissioned through the Local Employability Partnership with delivery already started.
- 4.3 With only a few months to spend in the 2022-23 financial year then the remaining Renfrewshire allocation has been requested to move into the 2023-24 financial year as outlined below:

Underspend (capital) £	£66,000.00	Reprofile	£66,000.00
Underspend (revenue) £	£545,328.00	Reprofile	£545,328.00
Underspend (Multiply) £	£291,694.00	Reprofile (Multiply)	£291,694.00

Table 1: SPF underspends 2022-23 Renfrewshire

4.4 A number of amendments have been outlined in the critical plan:

- **Communities and Place:**

Projects were previously listed under 7 interventions, this has now been streamlined to 4 (removing S5, S6, S8). All budgets and outcomes / outputs have also changed to reflect this.

- **Multiply:**

Given the additional flexibility offered by UKG in relation to Yr1 Multiply underspend, Renfrewshire Council will allocate £220k underspend to People and Skills as follows:

S48: Remove £20k underspend and allocate to People and Skills S32

S51: Remove £200k underspend and allocate to People and Skills S32

The overall outputs and outcomes for Multiply have been reduced accordingly.

- Reduction of match funding from £2,496,000 to £1,733,000 – primarily the removal of place-based investment match and a slight downsizing of the employability and business match funds.

5. Clyde Climate Forest and 'Ninth' Partner

5.1 The Clyde Climate Forest (CCF) will see 18 million trees planted in both urban and rural parts of Glasgow City Region over the next decade. The Clyde Climate Forest covers the eight regional local authorities of East Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, Glasgow, North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, South Lanarkshire and West Dunbartonshire.

5.2 The CCF has been endorsed by the Council Leaders of all eight authorities and will connect and enhance the woodland network across local authority boundaries benefiting people, wildlife and climate.

5.3 Following the instruction of the GCR CEOs' (16 March '23) options have been developed for UKSPF to fund the ongoing delivery of the Clyde Climate Forest (CCF) project. The £200,000 budget required has been allocated on a pro-rata basis (based on City Deal methodology) across the MAs and been remitted to the GCR Programme Management Office (PMO) to manage.

Member Authority	Percentage split	£200k funding (2 years)
East Dunbartonshire Council	5.90%	£11,800
East Renfrewshire Council	5.20%	£10,400
Glasgow City Council	34.10%	£68,200
Inverclyde Council	4.30%	£8,600
North Lanarkshire Council	18.50%	£37,000
Renfrewshire Council	9.70%	£19,400
South Lanarkshire Council	17.40%	£34,800
West Dunbartonshire Council	4.90%	£9,800

Table 2. CCF funding split by GCR Member Authority

5.4 With the approval of GCR Cabinet (9 May '23) the GCR PMO will operate as the 'ninth' partner in GCR UKSPF and will be responsible for the management and reporting of the CCF project.

5.5 A grant agreement is being developed with The Green Action Trust (GAT), as the agent for the ongoing delivery of the CCF.

6. Next Steps

6.1 The Renfrewshire 2022-23 report has been submitted to GCR to be combined with the other 7 reports from the other Managing Authorities. With the approval of the GCR CEG and GCR Cabinet, the 6-monthly report will be submitted to UKG on Tuesday 9 May.

6.2 UKG have indicated the GCR UKSPF Year 2 allocation (£19,284,451) will be transferred to GCR on approval of the 'credible plan' after which funds can be released to the local authorities.

6.3 Further reports on the progress of the UK SPF will be brought back to board in due course as the delivery plan proceeds.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – No additional finance is sought. All funding is accounted for within existing Council budgets. The report provides an update on the UK SPF.

2. **HR & Organisational Development** – SPF Funding will support a number of Council posts.

3. **Community/Council Planning** –

- **Jobs and the Economy** – Implementation of the recommendations of the report could support more investment and jobs within the local economy.

4. **Legal** – None.

5. **Property/Assets** – None.

6. **Information Technology** – None.

7. **Equality & Human Rights**

- (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report.

8. **Health & Safety** – None.

9. **Procurement** – None.

10. **Risk** – Risk Action plans are in place for UK SPF.
11. **Privacy Impact** - None.
12. **COSLA Policy Position** – Not Applicable.
13. **Climate Risk** – UK SPF will support the councils Net Zero Business Grants programme

List of Background Papers

UK Shared Prosperity Fund Update; Economy and Regeneration Board, 23rd August 2022

Author: Ruth Cooper, Economic Development Manager

Email: ruth.cooper@renfrewshire.gov.uk



To: Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

On: 23 May 2023

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Making of Ferguslie – Update

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Economy and Regeneration Board of progress on delivery of the 'Making of Ferguslie Park' framework and Place Plan, including preparation of the Ferguslie 'Green Line' study which further develops the future place vision for the neighbourhood.
- 1.2 A copy of the Ferguslie Green Line Study can be viewed on the Renfrewshire Council webpage at <https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/themakingof>.
-

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board:
- (i) Notes strong progress in 'early win' actions supporting delivery of the Making of Ferguslie, as set out in section 4.
 - (ii) Approves the Ferguslie 'Green Line' study as the basis for further development and delivery of the plan, including the preparation of bids for major capital funding streams, as set out in section 6.
 - (iii) Authorises the Head of Economy and Development to undertake appropriate consultation and publicity with the local community and stakeholders to support further delivery of the plan.
 - (iv) Notes that further progress on delivery of the plan will be reported to the Board as appropriate.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Communities, Housing and Planning Board of 30 October 2018 approved the preparation of a development framework for Ferguslie Park, supporting wider housing investment within the area.
- 3.2 The 'Making of Ferguslie' framework and Place Plan was subsequently developed in partnership with the local community and stakeholders through a series of consultation workshops and events over 2020 and 2021, with the finalised document approved by the Leadership Board on 1 December 2021.
- 3.3 The plan provides the basis for collaborative action by local residents, community groups and stakeholders, supported by the Council and Community Planning Partners, to deliver aspirations for Ferguslie Park over the next five to ten years.
- 3.4 The plan sets out a vision for Ferguslie Park as a '20' minute neighbourhood - well connected with a variety of local greenspaces, facilities and activities which support a healthy and sustainable place. In this context it sets out a range of actions to reimagine underused land, enhance greenspaces, encourage creativity and support existing community initiatives.

4. Making of Ferguslie – Progress

- 4.1 Strong progress has been made on the delivery of initial phases of the plan and in particular actions which support 'early wins' to demonstrate progress. These include:-
 - New Homes for the Community – Work is nearing completion on the construction of 101 new Council homes at the site of the former St Fergus Primary School at Blackstoun Road. The investment provides new modern, energy efficient homes for the neighbourhood and is an early signal of positive change for the area.
 - Sculpture House – The refurbishment of Craigelea House at Blackstoun Road as an artist-in-residence studio and social space responds directly to the community priority of a space for arts, crafts and events within the plan. The project has returned an underused property to a positive use and led by the Sculpture House Collective, a group of artists who worked with local residents during the place planning work over 2020 and 2021, builds upon established relationships to provide inclusive cultural activities and opportunities for learning across the neighbourhood.
 - Darkwood Community Growing Space – A new growing space on underused land adjacent to the 'Village Green' at Darkwood Crescent. Providing 20 raised beds, the project will create a space to learn, socialise and grow food that will enhance the capacity of community meals and market initiatives being run by local groups. Construction of the space is anticipated in late spring 2023, supported by the Scottish Government Place Based Investment Fund being delivered by the Regeneration and Place Team.

- Candren Burn Feasibility Study – SEPA have identified Candren Burn as a water body which could offer potential for improvement and through their Water Environment Fund are supporting Council officers to develop an initial feasibility study. The study aligns strongly with the place making aspirations of the plan and outcomes could provide multiple benefits, including improvements to the physical and ecological condition of water body and enhanced climate resilience. The study is anticipated to commence later this year and will be subject to consultation with local residents.
- Community Assets – Work has been progressed to consider further opportunities for community use of Council owned buildings within the neighbourhood, such as St Ninian's Church Hall, including condition surveys to ensure that buildings are fit for purpose. While at an early stage, work is ongoing with local groups to consider these opportunities through the Community Asset Transfer process.
- 'You Decide' – Two projects within Ferguslie Park were successful as part of the Council's 'You Decide' initiative, supporting local communities to identify capital projects within their neighbourhoods. The projects, which focus on improving access at Glencoats Park and the provision of additional play equipment at South Candren play area, align closely with the plan and complement ongoing delivery.

5. Ferguslie 'Green Line'

- 5.1 The Green Line is the key placemaking intervention within the Making Of framework and the central spine for the neighbourhood. A multi-functional space and green corridor, a key role of the Green Line is to support the reuse of vacant and derelict land within the neighbourhood, providing for high quality public realm and a focal point for activities. The Green Line will also support active travel routes enhancing connections within the neighbourhood and beyond.
- 5.2 Initial proposals for the Green Line have been developed to progress this key intervention and to further develop the place vision for the neighbourhood. Informed by the guiding principles and actions within the Making of Ferguslie plan, the Ferguslie Green Line study identifies designs for a series of character areas which include:-
 - Neighbourhood Centre – Reuse of existing vacant land for active recreational uses, including a cycle 'pump' track and new games area, with enhanced connections to existing facilities around the Tannahill Centre;
 - Sports Centre – Reimagining of land for informal recreation, aligning with existing sports uses within this area, including formalising existing designated Core Path Routes, creating a 'trim trail' and opportunities for outdoor exercise, with environmental enhancements and management of land for biodiversity;

- Candren – Reuse of vacant land as a nature reserve with environmental enhancements and management for biodiversity. Proposals include the potential to investigate the feasibility for ‘daylighting’ the Candren Burn, as set out in section 4 above;
- Belltrees – Reuse of area for ‘natural play’, with environmental enhancements and management for biodiversity. The opportunity may also exist to introduce additional residential uses to provide active frontage and surveillance for the area, with enhancements to key gateways at Millarston.

5.3 The study sets out a phased approach to delivery with a focus on the Neighbourhood Centre and Belltrees character areas as initial priorities. This aligns with the outcomes of the Making of Ferguslie in tackling long term areas of vacant and underused land within the neighbourhood.

6. Funding

6.1 Opportunities for future delivery of the plan have been informed by a review of major Scottish and UK capital funding programmes. These were reported to the Board on 14 June 2022 and include the Place Based Investment Fund, Vacant and Derelict Land Fund and Shared Prosperity Fund.

6.2 In particular, the report of 14 June 2022 highlights the opportunity for the submission of bids to the Vacant and Derelict Land Fund to support delivery of the Making of Ferguslie. In this context it is anticipated that a bid will be submitted to the next round of the Fund in June 2023 to support delivery of projects identified within the Green Line Study.

6.3 Budgets from the Council’s 2022/23 PBIF allocation have supported the delivery of early actions set out in section 4 above and an indicative budget of £100,000 from the Council’s 2023/24 Shared Prosperity Fund allocation has been identified to further support the positive outcomes to date. It is anticipated that the opportunity for further allocations from SPF and PBIF to support delivery of the plan will be explored over the coming years.

6.4 Positive discussions have also progressed with external funding partners and key agencies on potential opportunities to support delivery. As identified in section 4 above, funding has been secured from SEPA’s Water Environment Fund to explore the feasibility of enhancements at Candren Burn and early engagement with Sustrans is underway in respect of active travel opportunities.

6.5 Opportunities for private sector investment to support delivery of the plan, for example to provide residential or other appropriate land uses within the Tannahill area, will also continue to be explored.

7. Next Steps

7.1 To support further progress and delivery of actions from the Making Of Ferguslie, detailed designs are being progressed for the priority character areas of the Neighbourhood Centre and Belltrees identified in the Green Line study, in consultation with local residents, community groups and key stakeholders.

- 7.2 Outcomes from this process will support further delivery of community priorities using allocated funding streams and providing the basis for preparation of bids to the major capital funding programmes identified in section 6 above, presenting the opportunity to deliver the plan at scale. Delivery will continue to be progressed in partnership with the local community and key stakeholders.

8. Progress and Reporting

- 8.1 Progress on delivery of the framework will be reported to the Board on a rolling basis and future projects brought forward for the Board's consideration.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – None.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None.
3. **Community Planning** –

Creating a sustainable Renfrewshire for all to enjoy – The plan supports the empowerment of local communities to become more involved in shaping their places.

4. **Legal** – None.
5. **Property/Assets** – None.
6. **Information Technology** – None.
7. **Equality & Human Rights** -

- (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.

8. **Health & Safety** – None.
9. **Procurement** – None.
10. **Risk** – None.
11. **Privacy Impact** – None.
12. **Cosla Policy Position** – None.
13. **Climate Risk** – The framework will encourage sustainable neighbourhoods, sustainable links and enhancements to green space.

Appendices

- (a) The Making of Ferguslie (<https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/themakingof>)
- (b) Ferguslie Green Line Study (<https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/themakingof>)

List of Background Papers

- (a) Housing Investment Strategy for the Tannahill Area, Ferguslie Park. Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board, 30 October 2018.
- (b) Tannahill Area, Ferguslie Park – Update. Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board, 27 October 2020.
- (c) Tannahill Area, Ferguslie Park – Housing Regeneration Update. Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board, 18 May 2021.
- (d) The Making of Ferguslie Park – Development Framework. Leadership Board, 1 December 2021.
- (e) Regeneration Funding Bids Update. Economy and Regeneration Board, 14 June 2022.
- (f) Lease of Craigielea House, Blackstoun Road, Paisley. Infrastructure, Land and Environment Board, 15 June 2022.

Author: *Euan Shearer, Regeneration and Place Manager*



To: Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

On: 23 May 2023

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Scotland Loves Local Update

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the Scotland Loves Local scheme in Renfrewshire in respect of take-up and spend since its launch in 2021 and the Council's recent decision to fund the scheme for financial year 23/24.
-

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board:
- (i) notes the content of this report;
-

3. Background

- 3.1 The Scotland Loves Local campaign is a national initiative designed to encourage all those who live in Scotland to think and spend local. It was conceived as a way of ensuring that money in communities stays local for longer in regions across Scotland. Like any other gift card, users can choose the amount of money to load on the card. The only difference with this scheme is that it can only be spent within the recipient's own local authority area – giving them an opportunity to support the businesses around them. Businesses in the local area need to sign up to be eligible for the scheme.

4 The Scheme in Renfrewshire

- 4.1 The Council signed up to the scheme in May 2021, which provided the Council with access to 5,000 physical gift cards, funded by the Scottish Government for a pilot period until December 2022.

- 4.2 Cards have been used to support various Council initiatives and promotions, including the Council's support of Renfrewshire's Business Awards, the Roccos.
- 4.3 Currently there are 123 businesses signed up to the scheme. These include a wide range of retailers including supermarkets, cafes, restaurants and pharmacies. A full list is provided within Appendix 1.
- 4.4 The scheme is administered by Miconex (who oversee the scheme nationally) who fully manages all operational functions of the gift card scheme. This includes fulfilling orders, managing Renfrewshire's Loves Local website, managing merchants and providing customer service.
- 4.5 In total to date, £31,873 has been spent within Renfrewshire as a result of the scheme. Over half (54%) was spent in supermarket chains. A full break down of spend per retailer is found within Appendix 2.
- 4.6 The pilot period ended on 31st March 2023 (with Miconex subsidising the scheme between January and March 2023). To keep the scheme running in Renfrewshire, the Council's Economic Development Team has provided funding from existing budgets for the annual licence fee of £9,000 to Micronex for financial year 2023/24. This will give the Council access to 5,000 physical cards per annum to distribute, as well as allowing people to purchase e-cards online. There is scope for the Council to purchase additional physical cards if required.
- 4.7 The fee also covers platform and operating costs as well as access to Miconex's Customer Success Team who will work with the Council to support and grow the scheme. The Council also have the ability to veto certain operators and can target specific retailers to join up. To ensure businesses across Renfrewshire join Scotland Loves Local, internal resource from the Regeneration & Place and Economic Development Teams will work with Miconex to facilitate business engagement. To generate continued buy-in and an even spread across Renfrewshire's towns and villages, a programme of active engagement will be required and will need to be sustained long-term. Organisations such as Paisley First and the Johnstone Business Consortium will be encouraged to actively promote the scheme in their respective areas.

5 Conclusion

- 5.1 The Council is fully supportive of the Scotland Loves Local Scheme and are keen to see it grow significantly across Renfrewshire.
- 5.2 A further report will be brought to Board to update members on its uptake and spend over this current financial year and whether there is value in continuing the scheme into financial year 2024/25.

Implications of the Report

- 1. **Financial** – No additional finance is sought. All funding is accounted for within existing Council budgets.

2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None.

3. **Community/Council Planning** –

- **Jobs and the Economy** - the scheme has the potential to secure additional income for Renfrewshire based businesses, which in turn could support more investment and jobs within the local economy.

4. **Legal** – None.

5. **Property/Assets** – None.

6. **Information Technology** – None.

7. **Equality & Human Rights**

- (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report.

8. **Health & Safety** – None.

9. **Procurement** – None.

10. **Risk** – None.

11. **Privacy Impact** - None.

12. **COSLA Policy Position** – Not Applicable.

13. **Climate Risk** – Not Applicable.

List of Background Papers

None.

Author: Euan Shearer; Regeneration and Place Manager; Tel 0141 6184664.

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Appendix 1: Renfrewshire businesses currently signed up to Scotland Loves Local Scheme

Merchant Name	Merchant Address
Adom Afro Paisley	46 High Street Paisley
Aldi 009 - Paisley	4 Fulbar Rd, Paisley PA2 9AP, UK
Aldi 012 - Erskine	1A, Bridgewater Shopping Centre, Erskine PA8 7AA, UK
Aldi 055 - Renfrew	41 High St, Renfrew PA4 8QP, UK
Aldi 085 - Johnstone	Patons Mill Rp, High St, Johnstone PA5 8FB, UK
Anderson's Jewellery Workshop	38 High Street, Renfrewshire, PA7 5HR
Argos A4155 Paisley Linwood	Unit D, The Phoenix Retail Park, Linwood Road Paisley PA1 2AB
Aspire Academy	17 Kelvin Avenue Hillington Industrial Estate Glasgow G52 4LT
Aspire Academy Glasgow/Aspire Ind Services	17 Kelvin Avenue Hillington Industrial Estate Glasgow Glasgow City G52 4LT
Aspire Industrial Services Ltd	17 Kelvin Avenue Hillington Glasgow Scotland G52 4LT
Bailey's Antiques	34 High Street Paisley
Barrhead Travel service - Braehead Shopping Centre	Unit 1, Intu Braehead Shopping Centre, King's Inch Road, Glasgow G51 4BN
Baru Paisley	7B Moss Street Paisley
Bears by Sue Quinn	Threadbear, 25 Lawn Street, Paisley PA1 1HD
Bella by Bella Beauty	26 Glasgow Road Paisley
Bianco e Nero	27 Gauze Street Paisley
Body Beautiful	172 Braehead road paisley Paisley Pa2 9qd
Boots - Braehead Shopping Ctr - Kings Inch Road	68 Braehead Shopping Ctr, King's Inch Rd, Glasgow G51 4BP, UK
Boots - High Street - Paisley	23 High St, Paisley PA1 2AF, UK
Boots - Kings Inch Road - Glasgow	68 King's Inch Rd, Glasgow G51 4BP, UK
Boots - Neilston Road - Paisley	6 Neilston Rd, Paisley PA2 6LN, U
Boots - Netherhill Road - Paisley	66 Netherhill Rd, Paisley PA3 4RL, UK
Boots Pharmacy - 142 Paisley Road - Renfrew	142, 144 Paisley Rd, Renfrew PA4 8DA, UK
Boots Pharmacy - Central Road - Paisley	28 Central Rd, Paisley PA1 1EH, UK
Boots Pharmacy - Clippens Road - Linwood	Clippens Rd, Linwood, Paisley PA3 3PU, UK
Boots Pharmacy - High St - Johnstone	52C High St, Johnstone PA5 8AN, UK
Boots Pharmacy - Livery Walk	15 Livery Walk, Bridge of Weir PA11 3NN, UK
Boots Pharmacy - Penilee Road - Paisley	5 Penilee Rd, Paisley PA1 3ES, UK
Brew	3 County Sq, Paisley PA1 1BN, UK
Brick Lane Studios Paisley	7 Weir St, Paisley PA1 1HJ, UK
Brick Lane Studios/The Diane Mitchell Music School/Brick lane Studios	Brick Lane Studios 7-9 Weir Street Paisley Renfrewshire Pa34dw
Cafe Fairfull	12A High Street Paisley

Merchant Name	Merchant Address
Cafe Su	Cafe Su Unit4 InShops ThePaisley Cemtre 23 High St PA1 2AF
Caffe Lusso	4 School Wynd, Paisley PA1 2DB
Caleb Outlet	14B New St, Paisley PA1 1XY, UK
CANCER RESEARCH UK GBR - Greenock	32 W Blackhall St, Greenock PA15 1UE, UK
CANCER RESEARCH UK GBR - Johnstone	Units 1&2, 40-41 Houston Court, Johnstone, PA5 8DL
CANCER RESEARCH UK GBR - Paisley	43 Causeyside Street, Paisley, Renfrewshire, PA1 1YL
Caprice Cafe Paisley	11 Gilmour Street Paisley
Castelvecchi	10 New Street Paisley
Cathay cuisine Chinese take away	16C Broomlands street Paisley Scotland PA1 2 LU
Caulders Garden Centres Erskine	Caulders Erskine Erskine Bridge Bishopton Erskine PA7 5PU
Claire Reid Hairdressing	7 Mill Street Paisley
Comicrazy	45 Old Sneddon Street Paisley
Coverstitch	The Paisley Centre, 23 High Street, Paisley
Domino's Pizza - Bridgewater Shopping Centre	Erskine Domino's Pizza Unit 9 Bridgewater Shopping Centre Erskine Scotland PA8 7AA
Domino's Pizza - Gauze Street	Paisley Domino's Pizza 41 Gauze Street Paisley Scotland PA1 1 1EX
Domino's Pizza - Johnstone	11 Laihcartside Street Johnstone PA5 8BY
Domino's Pizza - Renfrew	9 High Street Renfrew PA4 8QL
Ecigarette Outlet	35 Causeyside Street Paisley
Elixir Lounge	Upper Floor, 12 New Street, Paisley
Ellen Adams Hair	24 Glasgow Road Paisley
Exotic kitchen paisley	23 Causeyside Street Paisley Scotland PA1 1UH
Exotic kitchen Paisley	Exotic kitchen paisley 23 causeyside street Paisley Scotland PA1 1UH
FARMFOODS HILLINGTON 249	UNIT 1 EARL HAIG ROAD, HILLINGTON RETAIL PARK G52 4LY
FARMFOODS PAISLEY 255	29 CAUSEYSIDE STREET PA1 1UL
FARMFOODS RENFREW 250	5/6 HIGH STREET PA4 8QL
Finishing Touches	7 Johnston Street Paisley
Food At Underwood	Unit 1A 35 Underwood Road Paisley Paisley PA3 1TQ
Francis hair salon	3 Johnston Street Paisley
Frangelinos Family Fish & Chip Shop	26 High Street Paisley
Gael Home Interiors	4 Orchard Street Paisley
Gantry	12 New St, Paisley, PA1 1XY
Gillan Green Grocers	The Paisley Centre, 23 High Street, Paisley
Golddust House Fashion & Accessories	26 High Street Paisley
H. Samuel - Braehead	38, Braehead Shopping Centre, Glasgow G51 4BP,
HandCrafted Coffee	5 High Street Lochwinnoch PA12 4DB
Harrods Drycleaners	8 Castle Terrace, Bridge of Weir, PA11 3EF

Merchant Name	Merchant Address
Harvies Tobacconist	20 Moss St, Paisley PA1 1BL, UK
Helen's Alterations Ltd	7 Lochleven Road
Hiltons Hair & Beauty	8A St Mirren St, Paisley PA1 1UA, UK
HMV/Sunrise Records and Entertainment Limited trading as HMV	UNIT 167, BRAEHEAD CENTRE, KINGS INCH ROAD, GLASGOW, G51 4BN
HOT Tanning Salon - 25199664	1470 Paisley Road West Glasgow G521sr
Houston Kiltmakers	67 High Street Paisley
Iceland 782-Paisley	86/74 Glasgow Road, Paisley, Strathclyde PA1 3PN
ICELAND JOHNSTONE	1 Houston Square, 56/61 High St Johnstone, Paisley PA5 8QG
ICELAND PAISLEY PIAZZA 1330	Unit 55, Piazza Shopping Centre, Paisley PA1 1EH
InCube Shop	9b Gilmour Street
Indian By Nature Paisley/Obsession of India	32 Moss Street Paisley
IVAD Gifts	29 Gauze Street Paisley
Jewelfare	44 High Street Paisley
John Mckay Jewellers Paisley	53 Moss Street Paisley
Johnstone Convenience Store	19 high street Johnstone Glasgow UK PA58JU
Justyna Bespoke Tailoring & Alterations Ltd	150 Fenwick Road
Katy hair&beauty salon	27 Wellmeadow Street
Kenneth Edward Hair Salon	45 Causeyside Street, Paisley PA1 1YN
Kiddie Boutique	Unit 106 Braehead shopping Centre G51 4BS
Kiddie Boutique /Baby boutique by Claire	Unit 106 Braehead Shopping centre Kings inch road Glasgow Glasgow G51 4bs
Kilts 4 u	2 Erskine Square Hillington Glasgow Glasgow G52 4BJ
Kooks Hairdressing	22 New Street Paisley
Lidl GB JOHNSTONE 1270	10 High Street, Johnstone PA5 8JX
Lidl GB PAISLEY NORTH 1725	Renfrew Road Retail Park, Wallneuk Road, Paisley PA3 4BF
mackenzie property and building services	18 oldhall rd, ralston, paisley pa1 3hl
Marks and Spencer - Odstock Road - Paisley	Odstock Road, Paisley PA3 2ST, UK
Marks and Spencer Foodhall - Renfrew Retail Park - Paisley	Unit 1, Renfrew Retail Park, Wallneuk Rd, Paisley PA3 4BF, UK
Marks and Spencer Simply Food - Braehead Shopping Centre	King's Inch Road Braehead Shopping Centre, Ripley, By-Pass, Glasgow G51 4BP, UK
Marks and Spencer Simply Food - Glasgow Airport	Glasgow Airport Priority Security, Glasgow Airport, Paisley PA3 2SW, UK
McLaughlan and Co Jewellers	22 New Street Paisley
Meat In The Middle	4 New Street Paisley
Menace Continental Children's Wear	56B Causeyside Street Paisley

Merchant Name	Merchant Address
Metalworx Paisley	42 High Street Paisley
Morrisons Bed Centre	24 Lawn Street Paisley
Mrs Party Ltd	5 Johnston Street Paisley
Mrs Party Ltd	5 Johnston St, Paisley PA1 1XQ
MULTAN Business Ltd	21 Causeyside street Paisley Renfrewshire Scotland
MULTAN Business Ltd	16f Bridge street Linwood Renfrewshire Scotland
Munchies at Leisureland	57 High Street Paisley
Musclebound	14A New Street Paisley
News Express Paisley	39 Causeyside Street Paisley
Newsrack Paisley	69 High Street Paisley
Noah Home and Gifts Ltd	Braehead Shopping Centre Kings Inch Road Glasgow G51 4BN
Nomads Coffee Shop	63 High Street Paisley.
O'Neills Services	Unit 43B The Piazza Centre, Paisley
One O One 32 Kilbarchan Road	32 Kilbarchan Rd, Johnstone PA5 8RF
Orchard Clinic	Orchard Clinic 16 Orchard Street Paisley Renfrewshire PA1 1UZ
Paisley Photoshop	10 Silk Street Paisley
Paisley Picture Framers	56 Causeyside Street
Paisley Trophy Centre	5 George Place Paisley
Perfume Shop 66 Kings Inch Road	Perfume Shop , Unit 160 Braehead Shopping Centre , Kings Inch Road G51 4BS
Piccolo Mondo - Renfrew	63-65 Hairst St, Renfrew PA4 8QU
Print and Copy It	61 High Street Paisley
Print Centre (GREENLAW GRAPHICS LTD)	31 Gauze Street Paisley
PROFIX	67 Causeyside Street PROFIX Paisley Renfrewshire PA1 1YT
Pure Spa and Beauty- Renfrew	Pure Spa and Beauty David Lloyds Arklestone Road Renfrew Renfrewshire PA4 0RA
Rainbow Turtle	7 Gauze Street Paisley
Remode	43b High Street Paisley
Riverside Beauty	Crowne Plaza, Congress Road Glasgow Renfrewshire G3 8QT
RSA Your Local Shop	27 Moss Street Paisley
Sainsburys - Kings Inch Road	110 Kings Inch Dr, Glasgow G51 4BT, UK
Schuh Braehead, Glasgow	
SEMI CHEM 003319 - Johnstone	Unit 1, 9 William Street, Johnstone
SEMI CHEM 3479 - Paisley	44-46 Central Way Piazza
SEMI CHEM 003517 - Renfrew	93 Paisley Road
Sinclair's of Paisley	30A High Street Paisley
Skystar Stores	225-229 Saracen Street Glasgow Glasgow City Council G22 5JW
Smyths Toys	Unit 22 Phoenix retail park Linwood Linwood road Glasgow Paisley PA12AB
Snappy Shopper - Online Only	
Snt scot ltd trading as ice & cream	38A east Hamilton street Pa15 2td
Spar - Erskine	Bargarran Shopping Centre, Erskine PA8 6BS
Spar - Lochwinnoch	The Cross, Main St, Lochwinnoch PA12 4AH

Merchant Name	Merchant Address
Specsavers - Braehead	110 Kings Inch Drive, Glasgow, G51 4BT
St Vincent's Hospice	Midton Road Howwood Johnstone Renfrewshire PA9 1AF
Stack and Still	Braehead Shopping Centre Unit 1C, King's Inch Rd Glasgow Scotland G51 4BP
Star 84	Leisureland, 57 High Street, Paisley PA1 2AN
Subway - Paisley	Subway 20 High street Paisley Renfrewshire PA12BS
Summits outdoor	36 moss street paisley PA1 1BA
Sunset Beach - Hairst Street	59 Hairst Street Renfrew PA4 8QU
Sunshine Electrical	3 Johnston Street Paisley
Taste Buds	22A Lawn Street Paisley
The Bankhouse	7 Gilmour Street Paisley
The Grumpy Monkey Coffee House	22 Moss Street Paisley
The Keg	15B Gilmour Street Paisley
The Lane Paisley	7 Shuttle Street Paisley
The Lion's Paw	1 Morrison Place, Main Street, Bridge of Weir, pa11 3nu
The Nail and Beauty Zone LTD/PURE Spa & Beauty	PURE Spa & Beauty, David Lloyd, Arklestone Road, Cockleshill Park, Renfrew PA4 0RA
The Ugly Duck	38 High Street Paisley
ThreadEx	33b causeyside street, paisley pa11ul
ThreadEx Beauty Salon	Paisley Centre, 23 High Street, Unit 19k, Paisley pa12aq
ThreadEx Nail & Beauty	Piazza Centre, 15 Central Road, Kisok E, Paisley pa11el
Tom Baird Opticians	5 High Street Paisley Paisley Renfrewshire PA1 2AE
Tresspass - Braehead	UNIT 103 BRAEHEAD SHOPPING CENTRE KINGS INCH ROAD G51 4BN
TURNER RETAIL LTD/spar Glenburn	spar 170 BREAHEAD ROAD Paisley Renfrewshire PA2 8QD
What IF Paisley	25 Moss Street Paisley
White Cart Co	30B High Street Paisley
Wholesale Domestic Equipment compnay	400-406 Hillington Road, Hillington Estate, G52 4BL
With Love Flowers	48 Causeyside St, Paisley PA1 1YH, UK
WM Morrisons Ltd - Erskine Bridgewater SC GBR	Bridgewater Shopping Centre, Renfrew PA8 7AA
WM Morrisons Ltd - Johnstone GBR	30 Napier Street, Johnstone PA5 8SF
WM Morrisons Ltd - Paisley Anchor Mills GBR	Anchor Mill, Paisley PA1 1GZ
WM Morrisons Ltd - Paisley Falside Rd GBR	Falside Road, Paisley PA2 6JE
WM Phelps Butchers	41 Causeyside Street Paisley
Yellow Slate Design	8 Browns Lane Paisley
Zambretto Italian	42-46 Old Sneddon St, Paisley

Appendix 2: Scotland Loves Local (Renfrewshire) - Spend per business to date

Retailer	Number of times used	Spend
W M MORRISON STORE	203	£4,880.60
ALDI 9 777	77	£2,902.82
BOOTS UK ECOMM	67	£2,846.48
ONE O ONE CONVENIENCE	135	£2,259.13
MARKS&SPENCER PLC SF	49	£2,108.86
Snappy Shopper	68	£1,949.67
SAINSBURYS SUPERMA	40	£1,740.75
ICELAND	40	£1,314.15
Zambretto Italian	17	£1,245.99
MARKS&SPENCER PLC SACA	33	£1,042.18
ALDI 45 777	23	£906.58
ARGOS LTD	10	£671.48
ALDI 12 777	23	£622.50
DOMINOS	13	£529.17
ALDI 55 777	14	£517.70
SMYTHS TOYS LINWOOD PA	14	£516.94
FARMFOODS 249	13	£467.91
FARMFOODS 255	13	£441.72
WHITE CART	13	£429.60
SP SUNSET BEACH STOR	10	£424.39
BOOTS	15	£388.54
SAINSBURYS S/MKTS	25	£383.83
SEMI CHEM 3479	13	£381.41
The Ugly Duck	7	£272.10
ALDI 14 777	4	£259.16
FARMFOODS 250	9	£217.03
BOOTS 0583	11	£200.80
DOMINOS PIZZA	6	£166.13
ROWCOT LTD	2	£150.00
The Bankhouse	2	£105.90
WHOLESALE DOMESTIC	1	£105.00
HILTONS HAIR AND BEAUT	1	£100.00
MORRISONS BED CENTRE	1	£100.00
WITH LOVE FLOWERS	1	£100.00
ALDI 29 777	1	£96.74
IVAD GIFTS	6	£94.32
GAEL HOME INTERIORS	1	£88.96
ALDI 33 777	2	£87.73
CAFE FAIRFULL	5	£87.40
Claire Reid Hairdress	2	£85.00
GREENLAW GRAPHICS LTD	1	£84.00
ALDI 76 777	3	£72.95
M AND A CASTLEVECCHI	4	£70.00
SQ *WHAT IF	2	£56.00

Retailer	Number of times used	Spend
LIDL GB PAISLEY NORTH	2	£54.77
BREW	4	£43.25
The Grumpy Monkey	2	£31.00
PRINT & COPY I.T.	3	£30.00
CAULDERS ERSKINE	1	£27.00
Taste Buds	1	£19.45
SQ *HANDCRAFTED COFFEE	1	£15.00
BOOTS 5723	1	£14.97
BIANCO NERO	2	£11.70
BOOTS 5719	2	£10.98
ALDI 20 777	1	£10.59
HMV-BRAEHEAD	1	£10.00
TOM BAIRD	1	£10.00
SumUp *ReMode Renfrew	1	£5.00
THE KEG	2	£5.00
LIDL GB JOHNSTONE	1	£2.77
		£31,873.10



To: Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

On: 23 May 2023

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Town Centre Vacancy Taskforce - update

1. Summary

- 1.1 The report outlines current officer thinking on this initiative and recommends next steps for Board approval

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the Board:

- i. Approve the Taskforce scope and remit as outlined in the report and agree the next steps as set out in section 8;
 - ii. Notes that the recommendations of the Taskforce will report back to a future Council Board;
-

3. Background

- 3.1 In January 2023 the Economy and Regeneration Board was presented with an amendment seeking that:

“a **Town Centre Vacancy Taskforce**, consisting of relevant officers, be formed with a specific remit to examine the barriers to occupancy and letting, bringing forward potential policy changes that assist in removing identified barriers, promoting vacancies which were market ready and identifying actions for those which were not.”

- 3.2 This amendment was agreed by the Board and the Head of Economy & Development was asked to consider the amendment and report back to the Board in due course.

3.3 When it comes to defining “town centres”, Renfrewshire’s adopted Local Development Plan (2021) has the following planning policy allocations:

- *Strategic Centres* – Paisley and Braehead;
- *Core Town Centres* – Linwood; Renfrew; Johnstone; Erskine

4. Objectives of Town Centre Vacancy Taskforce

4.1 The following objectives have been drawn up by officers in response to the Board’s decision to create a Taskforce:

- Agree the principal challenges facing Renfrewshire town centres (listed above) in 2023, noting that this will almost certainly differ between centres;
- Identify the barriers to occupancy / letting of currently vacant ground floor commercial units;
- Produce a strategy for the promotion of occupiable vacant units for each centre, noting that interventions may vary between the six centres;
- Produce an action plan for those vacancies which are not market ready [action plans may need to vary by centre]
- Establish “task and finish” bespoke groups for each of six centres, reporting to a core Steering Group of senior officers;

5. Taskforce Steering Group and Stakeholder participation

5.1 The intention would be to keep the Steering Group of the relevant officers for the Taskforce to a small number to ensure it can maximise ability to liaise and co-ordinate outputs.

5.2 The proposed Steering Group membership is outlined below, and all these officers have been made aware of this request and indicated their support for the initiative. Other officers can be asked to contribute as and when required as the initiative develops.

- *Head of Economy and Development (lead officer)*
- *Head of Finance;*
- *Streetscene Manager*
- *Regeneration and Place Manager;*
- *Principal Estates Surveyor;*
- *Housing Regeneration and Development Manager;*

5.3 The list of stakeholders which the Steering Group will engage with to meet the objectives set out above include:

- Paisley First
- Johnstone Business Consortium
- a selection of agents currently marketing vacant premises in each centre (for Braehead and Erskine, which are principally in single ownership, this would be one agent);
- a selection of potential occupiers (including some engaged in Start-Up Street initiatives in Renfrewshire);
- a sample of owners of property not yet in occupiable condition in terms of barriers to their investment;

6. Potential incentivisation

- 6.1 Members may recall that Board agreed a report in March 2023 seeking to set aside £250,000 from the Local Authority Covid Economic Recovery Fund to invest in vacant town centre property across Renfrewshire.
- 6.2 Our intention would be for the Taskforce to come forward with recommendations as to how this funding should be directed to assist in meeting the objectives outlined. This would be the subject of a future report to Board for their approval.

7. Scale of vacant properties by Renfrewshire centre

- 7.1 At March 2023 it is estimated that there are approximately 40 ground floor commercial units across Renfrewshire's town centres which are vacant and immediately available to occupy. A summary of these by centre is set out in Table 1 (below). Members will appreciate these numbers are reflective of the date of last survey, as units may have been occupied or become vacant since this data was gathered.
- 7.2 It is estimated that there will be a similar number (or more) which are vacant but not in a condition to be occupied. This latter statistic will need to be confirmed during the work of the Taskforce.
- 7.3 This assessment only includes those premises in public street facing premises within designated town centres. It does not include those within purpose-built shopping centres such as Piazza Centre, Paisley Centre or Braehead. The Taskforce in due course will have to reach a view on whether to recommend that any incentivisation proposals apply to such centres. It also does not include any properties owned by the Council as the Council is already aware of all the issues regarding those. Most Council owned ground floor commercial properties are located in Johnstone town centre.

Centre	Number of vacant and immediately available to occupy ground floor premises
JOHNSTONE	11 properties
PAISLEY	23 properties
RENFREW	6 properties
ERSKINE	No applicable properties in town centre as all occupiable properties currently operating as such
LINWOOD	No applicable properties in town centre as all occupiable properties currently operating as such

8. Next steps

- 8.1 An initial meeting of the Taskforce Steering Group has taken place and stakeholder consultation is expected to commence shortly.
- 8.2 A report will be brought back to the August 2023 meeting of the Board to confirm the proposed strategy and recommendations for how the incentivisation process could operate. At the same time, we will be able to update on the outcome of the stakeholder consultation and the latest position regarding the vacancies for each centre.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – Any financial implications would be within existing approved budgets.
 2. **HR and Organisational Development** – None.
 3. **Community Planning**
 - Our Renfrewshire is thriving – delivering more vibrant town centres will increase economic activity reduce vacancy. This will improve perceptions and increase footfall in centres.
 - Reshaping our place, our economy, and our future – by facilitating investment in our town centres we will help create new businesses with employment opportunities for our residents and potential supply chain connections for our existing businesses;
 4. **Legal** – None.
 5. **Property/Assets** – Any Council owned vacant commercial properties that are immediately available for occupation are marketed by the Council on an ongoing basis. It is not expected that these will be included in any incentivization initiative.
 6. **Information Technology** - None.
 7. **Equality & Human Rights**

The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because for example it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
 8. **Health & Safety** – None.
 9. **Procurement** – None.
 10. **Risk** – None.
 11. **Privacy Impact** – None.
 12. **COSLA Policy Position** – None.
 13. **Climate Risk** – None.
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List of Background Papers

- (a) Local Authority Covid Economic Recovery Funding; Economy & Regeneration Board; 14 March 2023
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(Tel: 0141 618 4664)



To: Economy and Regeneration Policy Board

On: 23 May 2023

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Regeneration Funding Bids Update 2023

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report updates the Board on progress in respect of external funding bids and delivery of key regeneration projects and presents the programmes being developed in 2023.
-

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board:
- (i) Approves the list of proposed RCGF bids for 2024 for Renfrewshire;
 - (ii) Notes the progress and continuing actions to deliver projects from the range of regeneration funds identified in the report.
-

3. Background

- 3.1 In recent years the funding of regeneration projects has been reliant on support from national government (and other external sources), often with 'match-funding' coming from the Council. A report to the Economy and Regeneration Board of 14 June 2022 outlined the range of external capital funds available and programmes under development.
- 3.2 In this context and over the past year officers have continued to progress various regeneration projects, programmes and strategies with the support of external funding from the UK and Scottish Governments as well as statutory bodies such as Visit Scotland and SEPA. This has supported our efforts to regenerate and revitalise our town centres, support our communities and promote sustainable economic growth and development across Renfrewshire.
- 3.3 This report details the various funding streams which the Council have accessed and applied to over the past 12 months.

4 Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (Scottish Government)

- 4.1 The Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) is one of the longest running funds available to local authorities having been offered annually since 2014. Renfrewshire Council has previously secured support from this fund for the Russell Institute, Paisley Learning and Cultural Hub and Paisley Museum.
- 4.2 The RCGF has also supported projects led by community led organisations (with the grant being passed to the Council to manage), such as those promoted by Linwood Community Development Trust, Active Communities, Johnstone and most recently the PACE Youth Theatre in Paisley.
- 4.3 The RCGF is an annual competitive fund open to all 32 Scottish local authorities. The fund is always heavily subscribed, meaning that many projects that are put forward are not funded.
- 4.4 Officers are now considering applications to Stage 1 of the 2024 scheme. The projects proposed are shown below and have been identified on a similar basis to those previously reported to Board for the Place Based Investment Programme (PBIP), again seeking to align with existing Council strategies and community led proposals and plans.

Table 2 Proposed 24/25 RCGF Application Projects

Potential RCGF Projects	Location	Summary
Erskine TC Improvements	Erskine	Creator of incubator / business space within Erskine TC.
Foxbar Community Growing Space - £240K	Foxbar, Paisley	Development of a new community growing space at the site of the former St Paul's PS site in Foxbar, supporting delivery of a key priority from the community led Foxbar Local Place Plan. The project supports wider regeneration outcomes in relation to promoting active lifestyles, contribution to net zero targets and community food growing.
Castle Semple – Extension to visitor centre	Lochwinnoch	Applied for previously but not successful. Application to be tweaked and consider recent consultation / visioning.
Ferguslie Park – The Making Of	Ferguslie, Paisley	Development at 'Neighbourhood Centre' zone including Pump (cycle) Track, supporting delivery of a key priority from the community led 'Making of Ferguslie' Local Place Plan.

- 4.5 In addition, officers are currently progressing work to review and refresh the Council's town centre strategies, with an initial focus on Johnstone and Erskine. Officers are also continuing to work with the owner of the Paisley Centre in terms of their plans for redevelopment. Outcomes from this work will support a series of priorities, actions and projects which are anticipated to form the basis of applications to future rounds of RCGF.

5 Place Based Investment Programme (Scottish Government)

- 5.1 Since 2019 the Council have used funding from the PBIP (and its previous iteration, the Town Centre Regeneration Fund) to accelerate capital investment, supporting delivery of actions within our town centre strategies, community led regeneration proposals and community led place plans such as the Making of Ferguslie, to accelerate the Council's overall placeshaping agenda.
- 5.2 Through this fund the Council have supported and delivered a wide range of projects across Renfrewshire including community led projects such as the creation of a community well-being hub and bike shop, restoration of various listed buildings and vacant commercial units as well as enhancements to public realm.
- 5.3 The Council's 22/23 PBIP funding totalled £1.038m, with £720k expected for 2023/24. The following table sets out the projects allocated for 2022/23, which continue to closely align with progressing the Council's placeshaping strategy as identified above.

Table 1 Place Based Investment Fund Projects 2022/23 awards, summary update at May 2023

Project summary	Design	Tender	On-site	Complete
1. Dunlop Crescent, Renfrew – refit of vacant shop unit	✓	✓	June 2023	September 2023
2. Future Paisley – Sculpture House - Support for restoration of Craigielea House in Ferguslie to create an artist in residence studio and community social space	✓	✓	✓	✓
3. Prominent Building Repair – Urgent repairs to former Renfrew Police Station	✓	✓	✓	✓
4. Lighting Programme - extending work on town centre lighting - buildings, lanes and spaces using LED technology				
i. Paisley Abbey	June 2023	August 2023	September 2023	November 2023
ii. Tweedie Hall	June 2023	August 2023	September 2023	November 2023

Project summary	Design	Tender	On-site	Complete
5. Houston Arcade - refit of vacant shop units	✓	✓	June 2023	September 2023
6. Ferguslie Park – Delivery of early actions from Making of Ferguslie Local Place Plan, including development of new community growing space	✓	✓	May 2023	June 2023
7. Public Realm - new pavements on Paisley High Street as part of the TH CARS heritage programme	✓	✓	✓	June 2023
8. PACE Youth Theatre – Works to redevelop former Mannequins night club into a new community theatre	✓	✓	June 2023	September 2023

6 Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund (Visit Scotland)

- 6.1 In March 2022, the Council successfully applied to Visit Scotland to receive funding from the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund (RTIF) to produce an infrastructure plan for Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park. The plan focuses primarily on Castle Semple but also includes Muirshiel Country Park and strategic linkages to Renfrewshire's towns and villages.
- 6.2 The plan (expected to be completed in May 2023) will be used as the basis for funding applications and delivery of future infrastructure to alleviate visitor pressure points, enhance experience and bolster Renfrewshire's rural destination offer. Key projects within the plan include potential new bike hub and changing space at the Castle Semple Visitor Centre and a play space at the Muirshiel Country Park Visitor Centre.

7 Water Environment Fund (SEPA)

- 7.1 SEPA have identified Candren Burn within Ferguslie Park as a water body which could offer potential for improvement and are keen to work with the Council to develop an initial feasibility study, with financial support from their Water Environment Fund (WEF). The role of the Regeneration and Place team in supporting development of such a study was noted by the Board on 14 June 2022.
- 7.2 The feasibility study aligns strongly with the place making aspirations of the 'Making of Ferguslie' Local Place Plan and outcomes could provide multiple benefits, including improvements to the physical and ecological condition of water body and enhanced climate resilience. The study is anticipated to commence later this year and will be subject to consultation with local residents.

8 Vacant and Derelict Land Investment Programme (Scottish Government)

- 8.1 The Vacant and Derelict Land Investment Programme (VDLIP) is a multi-year Scottish Government fund which supports the transformation and reuse of long term vacant and derelict sites.
- 8.2 A report to Board of 14 June 2022 noted the opportunity for the submission of a bid to the fund to support delivery of the Making of Ferguslie Local Place Plan, in view of the significant areas of vacant and underused land within the Ferguslie Park area.
- 8.3 A separate paper to the 23 May 2023 Economy and Regeneration Board provides an update on the Making of Ferguslie and in this context it is anticipated that a bid will be submitted to the next round of the fund in June 2023 to support delivery of the plan.

9 Levelling Up Fund (UK Government)

- 9.1 Last year the Council submitted a Round 2 bid to the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund (LUF) to develop a community hub in Renfrew. This was ultimately unsuccessful and further details on the bid and next steps can be found in the Levelling Up Fund Bid 2022 – Renfrew Community Hub Update paper which has been submitted under separate cover to the Economy & Regeneration Board.

10 Heritage funding (Historic Environment Scotland, National Lottery Heritage Fund)

- 10.1 Last year the Council submitted applications to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) and Historic Environment Scotland (HES) to fund the development phase of the '*Renfrewshire Villages Loop: Kilbarchan to Johnstone. Reviving Dynamic Heritage*' project. Unfortunately, these applications were unsuccessful with the funders having concerns over the scale and deliverability of a two-centre vision for the project.
- 10.2 Officers have subsequently held discussions with both funders, who have indicated that Johnstone could benefit from an area-based scheme to complement the emerging review and refresh of the Johnstone Centre Strategy. In this context HES have encouraged the Council to consider submitting an Expression of Interest for Johnstone to the next round of Heritage & Place Programme funding, the dates of which are due to be announced in May 2023.
- 10.3 In Kilbarchan, subject to further investigation of the works required and a sustainable end use for the building being identified, HES have indicated scope for the Council to submit an Expression of Interest for the Steeple Buildings to their newly launched Historic Environment Grants Programme.

This would potentially align with the recent Council motion to investigate further the feasibility of the transformation of the Steeple Hall into an outreach Museum linked to Paisley Museum which will complement activities at the Weavers Cottage.

11 Shared Prosperity Fund (UK Government)

- 11.1 The Council have received funding from the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF). Further details can be found in the UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Year 1 Report paper which is dealt with in a separate Board report.
- 11.2 The Regeneration and Place Team are leading on the Communities and Place element of the fund, and it is planned to use funding to supplement the Council's new Sustainable Communities Fund; to fund strategy and feasibility work; and help deliver elements of projects such as the Ferguslie "Making Of" neighbourhood plan.

12 Next Steps

- 12.1 The range of projects and funding applications identified within this report will be progressed by officers to support the Council's wider placeshaping agenda and associated strategies, plans and community led regeneration activity, as set out above. Additional sources of external funding will also continue to be investigated as they become available.
- 12.2 Progress on funding applications and delivery of associated actions will be reported to Board at regular intervals and as appropriate.

Implications of the Report

- 1. **Financial** – No additional finance is sought. All funding is accounted for within existing Council budgets and external funding.
- 2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None.
- 3. **Community/Council Planning** –
Creating a Sustainable Renfrewshire for all to enjoy – delivery of projects and submission of funding applications supports the Council's wider placeshaping agenda, improving quality of place, our neighbourhoods and town centres.
- 4. **Legal** – None.
- 5. **Property/Assets** – None.
- 6. **Information Technology** – None.

7. Equality & Human Rights

- (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights

have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report.

- 8. **Health & Safety** – None.
- 9. **Procurement** – None.
- 10. **Risk** – None.
- 11. **Privacy Impact** - None.
- 12. **COSLA Policy Position** – Not Applicable.
- 13. **Climate Risk** – Not Applicable.

List of Background Papers

- (a) Regeneration Funding Bids Update 2022. Economy and Regeneration Policy Board, 14 June 2022.

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