

Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership

Public Meeting, Monday 21 August 2017

Neighbourhood Environment Programme 2017/18

Item number	5.5
Report number	
Wards	5 – Inverleith

[Executive summary](#)

This report updates the board on progress with the 2016/17 Neighbourhood Environment Programme (NEP), and presents for approval recommended projects for the 2017/18 programme.

Report

Neighbourhood Environment Programme 2017/18

Recommendations

- 1.1 That the partnership board note the position with regard to the 2016/17 Neighbourhood Environment Programme (NEP)
- 1.2 That the partnership board agree to the recommendations for the 2017/18 NEP programme as detailed in 3.9 below, and consider which option in 3/7 they would prefer to progress

Background

- 2.1 In January 2017 the neighbourhood partnership agreed to the projects detailed in 3.1 and 3.7 as the 2016/16 Inverleith NEP
- 2.2 For 2017/18 Inverleith has a NEP budget of £58,206 for Housing Revenue Account projects, and £112,000 (including carry forward from 2016/17) for Roads and Footpaths projects. HRA NEP projects must be carried out on HRA land, essentially around Council houses

Main report

HRA NEP

- 3.1 Progress against Inverleith NP's 2016/17 HRA NEP is noted in the table below:-

Location	Project	Estimate	Actual Cost	Status
Easter Drylaw Park	Footpath improvements	£4,400	£4,000	complete
Easter Drylaw	Soft landscaping	£6,500	£5,900	complete

Place/Loan				
Wester Drylaw Drive	Fencing	£10,400	£9,500	complete
Saunders Street	Fencing	£1,600	£1,500	complete
Easter Drylaw Place sheltered housing	Upgrade fencing and drying green	£21,000	£21,000	On site
Easter Drylaw Way sheltered housing	Fencing	£15,000	£15,200	Complete
Maidencraig Court	Fencing	£3,100	£2,800	complete
Total		£62,000	£59,800	

- 3.2 Assuming spend is as estimated on the project still to complete this gives a spend of £59,800 against the HRA NEP budget of £62,326
- 3.3 The only outstanding NEP proposal project from previous years is a major project to carry out regrading and other improvements at Maidencraig Court car park, estimated to cost over £30,000. As such it would be subject to a mini-tender competition, which would provide a detailed specification and costs should the neighbourhood partnership wish to proceed with this project.
- 3.4 Officers have also identified further backgreen and fencing improvements in Easter Drylaw Way sheltered housing to upgrade footpaths similar to those completed in 2016/17. This is estimated to cost around £18,200.
- 3.5 A walkabout with Drylaw Community Council representatives took place at the beginning of August, which focussed on a range of relatively minor revenue-related matters. It is hoped to arrange a further walkabout in the near future to identify further potential NEP projects.
- 3.6 A resident in Drylaw Row has identified a potential project in converting the abandoned and overgrown the area behind 14 Wester Drylaw Row into a community garden and childrens play area. It is proposed that this is discussed further with the community council and local residents to establish if there is wider community support for this proposal, and if so that a NEP project is drawn up. The board may wish to reserve an element of NEP funding to progress this during 2017/18.
- 3.7 In terms of currently identified NEP projects this gives a potential HRA NEP as follows:-

Location	Project	Estimated cost
Easter Drylaw Way	Upgrade footpaths	£18,200

sheltered housing		
Maidencraig Court	Upgrade car park	£35,000 - £40,000
Total		£53,200-£58,200
HRA NEP budget		£58,206

It is recommended that the board either agree to the above projects going forward as the 2017/18 HRA NEP, or consider delaying a decision on the Maidencraig Court car park until there is greater clarity on whether any further projects will be brought forward by Drylaw Telford Community Council.

Roads & Footpaths NEP

- 3.8 As noted in the report to Inverleith NP in January 2017, a number of operational difficulties had resulted in delays in completing the 2015/16 Roads & Footpaths NEP. The table below notes progress against both 2015/16 and 2016/17 NEPs:-

Location	Project	Estimate	Actual cost	Status
Buckingham Terrace (2015/16)	Junction closure	£5,000		Ongoing consultation with objectors
Drylaw Crescent/Gardens	Footpaths	£32,000	£50,000	complete
Drylaw pathway	CCTV enabled lampposts	£5,000		Carried forward
Maidencraig Crescent	CCTV enabled lampposts	£2,500		Carried forward
Telford Road/House O' Hill Road/Drylaw Crescent	Junction improvements	£25,000		Carried forward
Warriston Path	Resurfacing and lighting	£28,500		Carried forward
Easter Drylaw Drive	Footpath resurfacing	£35,000		Carried forward
Wester Drylaw	Footpath	£15,000		Carried

Place	resurfacing			forward
Easter Drylaw Park (2016/17)	Off-road parking	£8,000		Carried forward
Wester Drylaw Drive	Footpath resurfacing	£41,000	£70,000	complete
Inverleith allotments	Improve path	£2,000 - £3,000		Carried forward
Telford Drive/Place	CCTV enabled lamposts	£2,000 - £4,000		Carried forward
		total	£120,000	
		budget	£182,000	
		carried forward	£62,000	

3.9 It is recommended that the 2017/18 Roads & Footpaths NEP comprises the outstanding projects above from previous years. If all were completed this would result in spend of around £127,000-£131,000 against a budget of £112,000. Any potential overspend will be managed within mainstream Roads budgets.

Measures of success

4.1 NEPs deliver locally prioritised environmental and roads and footways improvements which would not otherwise attract capital funding. Successfully completing NEP projects should contribute to increasing the percentage of residents who express satisfaction with their neighbourhood as a place to live and who feel that they are able to have a say on things happening in their local area.

Financial impact

5.1 As detailed above.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

6.1 There are no significant risk, policy, compliance and governance implications arising out of this report.

Equalities impact

- 7.1 The work of NPs contributes to the delivery of the Equality Act 2010 general duties of advancing equality of opportunity, eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and fostering good relations. This is evidenced through engagement strategies and plans which involve working with all partners and members of the community.

Sustainability impact

- 8.1 NEP projects improve the quality of the local environment.

Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 NEP applications are received from constituted community groups, community councils and elected members. Previous years' NEP proposals have been discussed and prioritised by a sub group of the neighbourhood partnership comprising community representatives, and this year have been discussed directly with Drylaw Telford Community Council.

Background reading/external references

The Neighbourhood Partnership website includes information about the work of the Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership www.edinburghnp.org.uk/Inverleith.

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