

ITEM No ...3.....**REPORT TO: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE - 25 OCTOBER 2021****REPORT ON: SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NATURE RESTORATION FUND 2021/2022****REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES****REPORT NO. 285-2021****1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To gain Committee approval for Scottish Government Nature Restoration Fund Projects.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that approval be given for the projects below at:-

Project Reference and Project Description	Contractor	Amount	Fees	Total Amount
C210026 Improve area identified as biodiversity grassland within Dawson Park	Neighbourhood Services	£13,695	£1,370	£15,065
C210027 Improve areas identified as biodiversity grassland at Magdalen Green	Neighbourhood Services	£15,794	£1,579	£17,373
C210028 Improve biodiversity grassland areas at Lochee and Myrekirk Parks	Neighbourhood Services	£9,500	£950	£10,450
C210031 Biodiversity Interpretation for all biodiversity and naturalized grassland areas and perennial meadows	P&G Blacksmiths	£20,000	£2,000	£22,000
C210029 Dredging silt from the upstream pond to protect the open water habitat, amenity and historical value of Den O Mains, Phase 1	Neighbourhood Services	£7,242	£724	£7,966
C210030 Increase Biodiversity at Stobsmuir ponds	Neighbourhood Services	£25,156	£2,516	£27,672
C210032 Increase Biodiversity in Cemeteries - various	Neighbourhood Services	£3,852	£385	£4,237
C210033 Tree planting at Kelly Field Park	Neighbourhood Services	£3,852	£385	£4,237

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Executive Director of Corporate Services has confirmed that funding for the above projects is available through the Capital Plan 2021-2026 as detailed on the attached sheets.

4. MAIN TEXT

4.1 Dundee City Council has received a proportion of £5m allocation of the newly established Nature Restoration Fund (NRF) available to Scottish Local Authorities. Dundee's allocation is £109,000 of capital funding to be spent in 2021-22.

4.2 The purpose of the NRF is to support actions that help nature recover across Scotland. To deliver this the NRF will run across two themes:-

- 1) Making Space For Nature (urban focused nature based solutions for biodiversity and climate change)
- 2) Helping Nature Recover (rural focused biodiversity enhancement, climate resilience and reinstatement).

The funding allocated is to support new, or to enhance existing, approaches that further biodiversity and which adhere to the following criteria:

Essential

- Deliver positive effects for biodiversity and enhance local ecosystems AND / OR
- Address the climate emergency and its impacts through mitigation and adaptation and by promoting nature based solutions

Desirable

- Promote the health and well-being of local communities and reduce inequalities

4.3 It is proposed to take forward a number of capital projects contained within the Biodiversity Action Plan and which fulfil the criteria set out in 4.2. The funding will enable identified biodiversity actions to be implemented in a shorter timeframe or at an extended level. However, these projects are required to be completed within this financial year. Further details are outlined at Appendix 1.

4.4 The proposed projects build on existing work, particularly the biodiversity grasslands/naturalised grasslands initiative, which has been the subject of a public survey carried out at the end of 2020. Dialogue with interested community organisations also continues. The funding will enable the enhancement of identified grassland areas in parks and open spaces which will benefit biodiversity. Other projects include the improvement of Stobswell and Den O Mains ponds to increase and protect their biodiversity value.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This report has been subject to an assessment of any impacts on Equality & Diversity, Fairness & Poverty, Environment and Corporate Risk. A copy of the Impact Assessment is available on the Council's website at www.dundeecity.gov.uk/iia/reports.

6. CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Council Management Team have been consulted in the preparation of this report and are in agreement with its contents.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.

Elaine Zwirlein
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

Tony Boyle
Head of Environment

01 October 2021

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Appendix 1

<u>CLIENT</u>	<u>NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES</u>	<u>NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES</u>
PROJECT NUMBER	C210026	C210027
PROJECT	Improve area identified as biodiversity grassland within Dawson Park	Improve areas identified as biodiversity grassland at Magdalen Green
PROJECT INFORMATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove topsoil and replace with good quality subsoil Seed the area with a mix of annuals, perennials and fine grasses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove topsoil and replace with good quality subsoil in the eastern corner section Seed the area with a mix of annuals, perennials and fine grasses Use a mixture of native bulbs, bought 'in the green' to create a spring meadow along the northern bank of the park
ESTIMATED START DATE	November 2021	November 2021
COMPLETION DATE	March 2022	March 2022
TOTAL COST	£15,065	£17,373
FUNDING SOURCE	Capital Plan 2021-26 - Health, Care and Wellbeing – Nature Restoration Funding.	Capital Plan 2021-26 - Health, Care and Wellbeing – Nature Restoration Funding.
BUDGET PROVISION & PHASING	2021/2022	2021/2022
ADDITIONAL FUNDING	None	None
REVENUE IMPLICATIONS	There are no major issues	There are no major issues
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	None	None
TENDERS	Neighbourhood Services £15,065	Neighbourhood Services £17,373
RECOMMENDATION	Acceptance of offer	Acceptance of offer
SUB-CONTRACTORS	None	None
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None	None

<u>CLIENT</u>	<u>NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES</u>	<u>NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES</u>
PROJECT NUMBER	C210028	C210031
PROJECT	Improve biodiversity grassland areas at Lochee and Myrekirk Parks	Biodiversity Interpretation for all biodiversity and naturalized grassland areas and perennial meadows
PROJECT INFORMATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut lift and scarify the areas to prepare a suitable seed bed • Sow yellow rattle seed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide robust, sculptural signage with a brief description e.g. "please excuse the weeds we are feeding the bees" and a QR code that will link to detailed information about the site and overall project
ESTIMATED START DATE	November 2021	November 2021
COMPLETION DATE	March 2022	March 2022
TOTAL COST	£10,450	£22,000
FUNDING SOURCE	Capital Plan 2021-26 - Health, Care and Wellbeing – Nature Restoration Funding.	Capital Plan 2021-26 - Health, Care and Wellbeing – Nature Restoration Funding.
BUDGET PROVISION & PHASING	2021/2022	2021/2022
ADDITIONAL FUNDING	None	None
REVENUE IMPLICATIONS	There are no major issues	There are no major issues
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	None	None
TENDERS	Neighbourhood Services £10,450	Neighbourhood Services £2000 P & G Blacksmiths £20,000
RECOMMENDATION	Acceptance of offer	Acceptance of offer
SUB-CONTRACTORS	None	None
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None	None

<u>CLIENT</u>	<u>NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES</u>	<u>NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES</u>
PROJECT NUMBER	C210029	C210030
PROJECT	Dredging silt from the upstream pond to protect the open water habitat, amenity and historical value of Den O Mains, Phase 1	Increase Biodiversity at Stobsmuir ponds
PROJECT INFORMATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove silt from the upstream pond within the den 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish emergent vegetation within the top pond, either through floating islands or creating planting pockets with stone and planting bags Forestry work on the island to increase the area available for nesting and loafing wildfowl Woodland wildflower planting under trees to the west of the top pond
ESTIMATED START DATE	November 2021	November 2021
COMPLETION DATE	March 2022	March 2022
TOTAL COST	£7,966	£27,672
FUNDING SOURCE	Capital Plan 2021-26 - Health, Care and Wellbeing – Nature Restoration Funding.	Capital Plan 2021-26 - Health, Care and Wellbeing – Nature Restoration Funding.
BUDGET PROVISION & PHASING	2021/2022	2021/2022
ADDITIONAL FUNDING	None	None
REVENUE IMPLICATIONS	There are no major issues	There are no major issues
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	None	None
TENDERS	Neighbourhood Services £7,966	Neighbourhood Services £27,672
RECOMMENDATION	Acceptance of offers	Acceptance of offers
SUB-CONTRACTORS	None	None
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None	None

<u>CLIENT</u>	<u>NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES</u>	<u>NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES</u>
PROJECT NUMBER	C210032	C210033
PROJECT	Increase Biodiversity in Cemeteries - various	Tree planting at Kelly Field Park
PROJECT INFORMATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of bird and bat boxes at all cemeteries across the city • Tree planting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planting the trees that remain in Camperdown Nursery at Kellyfield Park
ESTIMATED START DATE	November 2021 March 2022	November 2021 March 2022
TOTAL COST	£4,237	£4,237
FUNDING SOURCE	Capital Plan 2021-26 - Health, Care and Wellbeing – Nature Restoration Funding.	Capital Plan 2021-26 - Health, Care and Wellbeing – Nature Restoration Funding.
BUDGET PROVISION & PHASING	2021/2022	2021/2022
ADDITIONAL FUNDING	None	None
REVENUE IMPLICATIONS	There are no major issues	There are no major issues
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	None	None
TENDERS	Neighbourhood Services £4,237	Neighbourhood Services £4,237
RECOMMENDATION	Acceptance of offer	Acceptance of offer
SUB-CONTRACTORS	None	None
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None	None