

**Appendix 3: Town Centre Capital Fund – Description of Projects; Links to LOIP and Links to TOM**

**Project 1: Tillydrone Locality – Hayton Road**

**Project Description:**

The purpose of this bid is to take forward the ‘non’traffic’ elements of the project, which will deliver transformative elements to improve footfall and access between two deprived communities and their key retail areas at the Fountain area on Great Northern Road (Woodside) and Hayton Road (Tillydrone). This will help ensure sustainability and the development of vibrant centres in key communities in the city, contributing to wider regeneration work in the areas (Tillydrone Community Campus, Tillydrone Primary School, potential new Cruyff pitch), developing Regeneration Capital Grant Fund bid at Woodside Fountain Centre).

Through the locality plan in Tillydrone, Woodside and Seaton traffic and road safety improvements were identified with the community through Living Streets work connected with a review of the impact of the Diamond Bridge. There was an opportunity to bid to Sustrans through their Streets for All fund: a project proposal was developed and submitted to the transport and capital programme boards and following their approval, the bid was submitted and was successful.

<b>Local Outcome Improvement Plan Themes</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Prosperous Economy</b>	Increasing access to key community assets i.e. Tillydrone Community Hub will allow people to access information and services which will contribute to improving employability skills which support the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 1 – 10% increase in employment across priority and volume growth sectors by 2026.
<b>Prosperous People</b>	Delivering an attractive, quiet, green environment that improves the sense of cohesion and the reduction in traffic in the area that could result in accidents support LOIP Stretch Outcome 3 – 95% of children will reach their expected developmental milestones by the time of their child health reviews by 2026. Reduction in anti-social traffic behaviour through the introduction of a safer space will support the LOIP Stretch Outcome 9 and 10 with fewer people receiving a first ever court conviction and people reconvicted. Improvements to air quality will support LOIP Stretch Outcome 11 – Healthy life expectancy is five years longer by 2026.

<b>Prosperous Place</b>	Walking, cycling and active travel are at the heart of this project which support LOIP Stretch Outcomes 14 and 15: addressing climate change by reducing carbon emissions and 38% of people walking and 5% of people cycling as main mode of travel by 2026
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<b>Design Principles of Target Operating Model</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Customer Service Design</b>	Customers have been involved in the consultation of this project and by not delivering it will have a negative impact from the customer point of view
<b>Organisational Design</b>	This project will make it easier for customers to find the support they need by improving the access to key community facilities
<b>Governance</b>	The proposals for this project have no impact on the TOM
<b>Workforce</b>	The proposals for this project have no impact on the TOM
<b>Process Design</b>	The Community has been involved in the processes for this project which have help identify improvements and opportunities for the area of Tillydrone
<b>Technology</b>	The proposals for this project have no impact on the TOM
<b>Partnerships and Alliances</b>	Partnerships have been formed with Sustrans who have committed funding towards the project, by funding other elements this will strengthen the working relationship. Engagement with local businesses will all be prioritised through this project

## **Project 2: Parklets Development – Huntly Street & Castlegate (an Aberdeen Inspired Project)**

### **Project Description:**

Aberdeen Inspired are proposing a project that is for a comparatively modest sum and supports the City Centre Masterplan as well as the place making priorities of Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeen Inspired in terms of reactivating civic space, increasing urban greenery and promoting public footfall. The numerous benefits include;

- Develop innovative parklet installations for Aberdeen City Centre and beyond
- Place making - improve areas in terms of aesthetics and antisocial behaviour
- City growth - encourage footfall and positive dwell time
- Promote business opportunities
- Promote the reputation of Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeen Inspired
- Enhance civic pride in our area

Union Street has many positive attributes, however, there is a view it lacks suitable civic space for members of the public to linger, in the positive sense. One solution to this issue may be the inception of parklets. Parklets originated in San Francisco and have spread across north American and sections of Europe. They are designed to provide public space to relax and enjoy the atmosphere of the city centre, where parks or other leisure areas are absent, or some degree of regeneration is required. They customarily include natural greenery, street art or some other visual amenity. A parklet may be permanent or designed for quick and easy removal/relocation. The typical design is a platform that extends and enhances the pavement and can provide other amenities such as seating, tables, bike racks, and landscaping. Parklets are very often delivered by Business Improvement Districts in partnership with other organisations. Typical parklet designs can be viewed via the link below.

<https://www.meristemdesign.co.uk/parklets>

Regarding location several options have been considered, including locating on a road, using existing parking space(s) or the pavement. The pavement is the least contentious location for several reasons, including public safety and finance and no loss of parking spaces. Initial consultation has been carried out with local business and feedback, to date, has clearly indicated an appetite for improvement of the Castlegate and the east kerb of Huntly Street, beside the side entrance of 206 Union Street (see attached images), among other areas. As an example, the Huntly Street area can be seen from Union Street, is situated near to outlets selling food and beverages but is generally unsightly and has suffered from antisocial behaviour and crime issues in the past. This can also be said of Castlegate, to a degree, where there is a clear need to reactive civic space. There is a view from local business that a parklet could be the appropriate vehicle to deliver much need regeneration and aesthetic improvement to these areas which have been neglected in the past. Images of the Huntly Street location and a designer's image of what a parklet may look like are attached below.

<b>Local Outcome Improvement Plan Themes</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Prosperous Economy</b>	This project has no impact on the prosperous economy stretch outcomes of the LOIP
<b>Prosperous People</b>	This project has no impact on the prosperous people stretch outcomes of the LOIP
<b>Prosperous Place</b>	This project will create useable space for areas of the city centre that currently need investment and will create a vibrant space for customers to sit and utilise. Using space that is currently used as a layby will contribute to Stretch Outcome 14. "Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions by 42.5% by 2026 by 2026 and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate.

<b>Design Principles of Target Operating Model</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Customer Service Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Organisational Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Governance</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Workforce</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Process Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Technology</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Partnerships and Alliances</b>	Through developing and delivery of this project partnerships with Aberdeen Inspired and Aberdeen City Council will only be strengthened demonstrating a collaborative city wide approach

### Project 3: Suspended Identification Signage (an Aberdeen Inspired Project)

#### Project Description:

Aberdeen Inspired propose to introduce suspended identification signage across various locations within Aberdeen City Centre. The signage will provide a vibrant, creative feel to that location as well as signposting visitors to the specific area. It is expected that the signs will create a feel-good atmosphere for the area with photographic/social media opportunities, promoting the city centre.

A design concept has already been produced and the visuals can be found <https://www.dropbox.com/s/sdkqprci4xypd0b/Design%20Concepts-v1-2.pdf?dl=0>

<b>Local Outcome Improvement Plan Themes</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Prosperous Economy</b>	This project has no impact on the prosperous economy stretch outcomes of the LOIP
<b>Prosperous People</b>	This project has no impact on the prosperous people stretch outcomes of the LOIP
<b>Prosperous Place</b>	This project, through the use of smart energy lighting will contribute to Stretch Outcome 14. "Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions by 42.5% by 2026 by 2026 and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate.

<b>Design Principles of Target Operating Model</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Customer Service Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Organisational Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Governance</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Workforce</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Process Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Technology</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Partnerships and Alliances</b>	Through developing and delivery of this project partnerships with Aberdeen Inspired and Aberdeen City Council will only be strengthened demonstrating a collaborative city wide approach

## Project 4: Intelligent Street Lighting – Phase 2

### Project Description:

The Council is progressing with phase 1 deployment of an innovative Intelligent Street Lighting project, which will deploy across 3,500 streetlights to revolutionise the way we monitor and control our lighting assets. This provides dynamic control under varying conditions, such as decreased lighting levels when adequate to do so, or increased lighting levels for reasons such as events or safety issues. It would be proposed to utilise this fund to progress with phase 2 of the project, which would deploy across 1,000 streetlights within the immediate town centre. This would enable the ability to dynamically control lighting levels to compliment events and the safety of our town centre, whilst monitoring their condition and reacting quicker to maintenance requirements where possible. This would require the full deployment of the Smart City communications technology that is utilised for phase 1 of the Intelligent Street Lighting project, which would in turn, provide a fully deployed network to support other Smart City initiatives around Waste, Flooding and Tourism, as an example.

<b>Local Outcome Improvement Plan Themes</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Prosperous Economy</b>	This project has no impact on the prosperous economy stretch outcomes of the LOIP
<b>Prosperous People</b>	This project, through the introduction of a smarter way to use city lighting and creating a safer city centre will contribute to Stretch Outcome 9; 25% fewer people receiving a first ever Court conviction each year by 2026
<b>Prosperous Place</b>	This project, through the use of smart energy lighting will contribute to Stretch Outcome 14. "Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions by 42.5% by 2026 by 2026 and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate. With smarter lighting this may encourage more walking and cycling contributing to Stretch Outcome 15; 38% of people walking and 5% of people cycling as main mode of travel by 2026.

<b>Design Principles of Target Operating Model</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Customer Service Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Organisational Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM

<b>Governance</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Workforce</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Process Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Technology</b>	This project has a positive impact on the smart cities strategy which will see improvements in the use of smarter lighting.
<b>Partnerships and Alliances</b>	This project builds on from Phase 1 which saw a strong collaborative partnership between Scotland's major cities and the learnings from this will continue to benefit exchange of best practice.

## **Project 5: Union Street Public Realm – Phase 2**

### **Project Description:**

#### Union Bridge Lighting

This proposal is made in accordance with the latest city plans and strategies, taking into consideration creative vision for the city centre. The aim of creative lighting scheme for the Bridge is to promote its character, vibrancy and attractiveness. The Bridge provides pedestrian and vehicular access. On one side of the bridge the Trinity Shopping Centre is located, on the other side, beyond the balustrade, there are views to the Union Terrace Gardens. The purpose of the requested funding is to propose decorative illumination of the Bridge to amplify the area's vibrant atmosphere and guide pedestrians through the bridge. Being visible from afar creates a feature for the night scape panorama. This will also draw people in to admire the bridge's character and heritage.

The bridge could become one of the cultural attractions the City of Aberdeen is associated with.

#### Union Bridge- Additional measures

Redevelopment of Union Terrace Gardens is expected to create significantly greater footfall around the Union Street/Union Terrace area, increasing passive surveillance and revitalising the area around it, including the Union Bridge. It is also intended that more use is made of the revitalised Union Terrace Gardens in the evenings, necessitating a comprehensive lighting strategy that will change perceptions of the area and further increase passive surveillance.

Additional measures could be put in place around the Union Bridge, with each of these measures impacting the goal of suicide reduction in different ways (Public Health England), coming together to form a comprehensive strategy.

1. Increase the opportunity and capacity for human intervention
  - Monitored CCTV surveillance, addition of alarms, analytics
  - Increased foot patrols
  - Increasing community awareness and preparedness to intervene
  - E.g. 'Taxi watch'
2. Increase opportunities for help seeking by the suicidal individual
  - Provision of Samaritans hotline and signage
3. Change the public image of the site
  - Ensure media reporting is in accordance with Samaritans guidance
  - Introduce new amenities to the site
  - Redeveloped UTG will change atmosphere and footfall in the area
  - Inclusion of benches to increase passive surveillance/the perception of surveillance
  - Re-siting of bus stop to the bridge vicinity, increasing surveillance/the perception of surveillance

<b>Local Outcome Improvement Plan Themes</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Prosperous Economy</b>	This project has no impact on the prosperous economy stretch outcomes of the LOIP
<b>Prosperous People</b>	Increasing opportunities for people seeking help in regard to suicide will contribute to Stretch Outcome 4 90% of children and young people will report that they feel mentally well by 2026. This increase in opportunities will also support vulnerable people which will contribute to Stretch Outcome 11 Healthy life expectancy is five years longer by 2026
<b>Prosperous Place</b>	With increased surveillance/perception of surveillance this may encourage more footfall through walking and cycling contributing to Stretch Outcome 15; 38% of people walking and 5% of people cycling as main mode of travel by 2026.

<b>Design Principles of Target Operating Model</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Customer Service Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Organisational Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Governance</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Workforce</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Process Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Technology</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Partnerships and Alliances</b>	Positive – strengthening partnerships with key stakeholders to deliver transformational projects forms part of delivering the TOM.

## **Project 6: Mither Kirk**

### **Project Description:**

Funding is sought for part of the development works at Mither Kirk in the City Centre. For the purposes of the Town Centre Capital Fund the proposed project is for the replacement heating system, the demolition of the boiler house and the creation of a wheelchair ramp to access St Mary's Chapel. These works would then add value to the wider Mither Kirk scheme of which the Open Space Trust needs to raise £5,500,000. The aims and objectives of the project are:

- Heritage
- The city and its people
- A place to meet in a heritage setting
- A visitor attraction
- Serve the community

From the very start of the Mither Kirk Project, the vision has been to use redundant space, in a heritage setting, to provide a place for the people of Aberdeen and visitors to the city to meet, learn and enjoy the experience. A second vision has been to help revitalise this part of the city centre and increase the vibrancy of the immediate area.

In regard to the boiler house demolition and replacement heating system the present boiler house will be demolished, and two replacement heating plants will be installed. One for the Kirk of St Nicholas Uniting and one for the OpenSpace Trust will be located in their respective buildings.

An improved entrance will be created from the turning circle at the top of Correction Wynd to allow wheelchair access from street level into the reception area in the present north aisle of St Mary's Chapel. From this reception area, the rest of the building will be accessed either by taking the lift or walking through one of the original doorways. This will pass the remains of a medieval staircase and lead into what used to be the archaeological dig area, now the Lower Ground floor of the new building.

Disabled access is a priority. Thus, a lift will be installed to give access to all levels of the building. We are mindful also of other forms of disability and as far as possible in a building of this age will meet their needs.

<b>Local Outcome Improvement Plan Themes</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Prosperous Economy</b>	This project has no impact on the prosperous economy stretch outcomes of the LOIP
<b>Prosperous People</b>	This project has no impact on the prosperous people stretch outcomes of the LOIP
<b>Prosperous Place</b>	This project will contribute to Stretch Outcome 14. "Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions by 42.5% by 2026 by 2026 and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate.

<b>Design Principles of Target Operating Model</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Customer Service Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Organisational Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Governance</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Workforce</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Process Design</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Technology</b>	The proposals in this report have no impact on the TOM
<b>Partnerships and Alliances</b>	Positive – strengthening partnerships with key stakeholders to deliver transformational projects forms part of delivering the TOM.

## **Project 7: Archibald Simpson House – Creative Lab Space**

### **Project Description:**

Repurposing the A-listed Archibald Simpson House (ASH) to be a collaborative workspace for the creative and cultural community as part of 3 year pilot to reanimate the area and inform the direction of a permanent new contemporary creative space. The pilot will provide affordable studios, incubator start-ups, exhibition and function event/ market space. This creative lab will generate new business opportunities, a leveraged community network, economic prosperity and resilience building. This 'lab' will also act as a central consultation and thinking space with stakeholders as part of the City Centre Masterplan regeneration of the Queen Street area and help to foster a collaborative cohesive approach to place making.

The intention would be to develop a three-year, two phased project starting from April 2020 using the tested 'Start Up Street' model. The initial phase would be the activation of a 'city lab' within the premises to attract potential tenants and users, test and generate business models through events and activities as well as engage with wider stakeholders such as neighbouring businesses, potential investors, funders, communities and the general public. This will inform the operating model to be put into action for phase 2, a 2 year pilot collaborative space which will have its impacts and output monitored and evaluated through a set of comprehensive key performance indicators to inform a case for full capital redevelopment.

ASH will have a significant impact on Aberdeen's cultural sector as well as the city and its population. Overall impact of the ASH project will be interlinked, woven across many key areas.

Impacts specific to the cultural sector will include:

- Knowledge sharing through collaboration
- Creating a central hub point for cultural activity
- Provision of much need facilities for mid/short term use, access to temporary affordable project and studio space to support emerging talent
- Consolidation of resources and business support to provide resilience for the Creative and cultural sector.

Impacts specific to Aberdeen City include:

- Re-purposing of underutilised commercial and cultural heritage asset
- Talent retention and jobs creation
- Leveraging user base to create further revenue opportunities
- Legitimising Aberdeen as a base for creative industries
- Developing a legacy space for the city and its population
- Support local producers and services

Impacts specific to the general public include:

- Providing a public space to bridge the gap with creative sector and the public to express themselves culturally
- Reviving communities
- Job creation
- Additional local business resource (for example meeting and event space)

<b>Local Outcome Improvement Plan Themes</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Prosperous Economy</b>	This project will contribute to improving employability skills which support the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 1 – 10% increase in employment across priority and volume growth sectors by 2026.
<b>Prosperous People</b>	This project has no impact on the prosperous people stretch outcomes of the LOIP
<b>Prosperous Place</b>	This project has no impact on the prosperous place stretch outcomes of the LOIP

<b>Design Principles of Target Operating Model</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Customer Service Design</b>	The Branding, engagement work and programmes will align with the Customer Service function for the promotion of events and activities.
<b>Organisational Design</b>	None
<b>Governance</b>	Monitoring of budgets and development of new service agreements.
<b>Workforce</b>	None
<b>Process Design</b>	The Creative Lab phase will provide a platform and facility for citizen consultation and design, which in turn can support reduced demand on the Council and support process design.
<b>Technology</b>	Linking to the Customer Service function in effective use of technology to deliver engagement and promotion campaigns.
<b>Partnerships and Alliances</b>	The bid and subsequent programmes will be delivered through partnership working.

## **Project 8: Living Wall – Flourmill Lane**

### **Project Description:**

This project proposed to see the development of a living wall at Flourmill Lane in the City Centre increasing the footfall to the area and bringing an innovative infrastructure project to the City Centre. A Living Wall is one form of 'green infrastructure'; a wall partially or completely covered with greenery that includes a growing medium, such as soil or a substrate. Living walls therefore describes 'vegetation that grows directly onto a buildings' façade or a growing medium supported or attached on the face of the wall. A living wall is also known as a green wall or vertical garden.

Green Infrastructure has many social, economic and environmental benefits and should be thought about at every stage of planning. Living walls can provide a series of benefits for our urban environment including:

**Aesthetic Improvements:** Green walls can be used to reclaim disused sites by providing aesthetic stimulation where it would not otherwise be found. Nature presents a huge variety of colours, textures and pattern and by utilising this diversity we can incorporate hundreds of species of plants to create a living wall while limiting the negative psychological effect associated with property demarcation. Well designed and well maintained green wall can therefore significantly enhance a building's appearance.

**Improved Exterior Air Quality:** Green walls serve as natural air-filters to mitigate air pollution levels by lowering extreme temperatures through photosynthesis, trapping particulate matter and capturing gases. They have been shown to reduce levels of nitrogen dioxide levels by 40% and particulate matter by 60%. Reversing poor air quality is increasingly becoming the forefront of sustainable building design and recent studies have shown that Green Infrastructure can make a big impact on outdoor air quality. The use of vegetation can yield rapid and sustained improvements in air quality in dense urban areas. This green infrastructure is therefore a must when looking to incorporate sustainable technology into the fabric of a building. Also, they provide thermal insulation for buildings which means less demand on power resulting in fewer polluting by-products being released into the air.

**Local job creation:** The creation of green walls would draw upon several disciplines. For example, for their design, installation and maintenance it would involve disciplines such as landscape architects, architects and irrigation consultants etc. Several components involved such as local supply of plant materials, greenhouse production and structural frame fabrication would further create other business activities.

**Improved health and wellbeing:** Studies show that accessibility to nature improves worker satisfaction, concentration, enthusiasm and reduces frustration. Buildings that feature and promote access to vegetation have been documented as having a greater positive human health (Honeyman, 1987). There is a strong link between the access to green infrastructure and raised level of physical activity which in turn improves

individual's health. It can also have a significant impact on mental well-being and cognitive function. Some associated benefits include:

- Increased life expectancy and reduced health problems
- Improved levels of physical activity and health
- Promotion of psychological health and mental well-being

**Noise reduction:** The vegetated surface provided by the strategic urban greenery has been evidenced to reduce noise by blocking out high frequency of sounds. The can also block out low frequency noises when constructed with a substrate or growing medium support.

<b>Local Outcome Improvement Plan Themes</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Prosperous Economy</b>	There may be environmental impacts that affect LOIP outcomes for infrastructure and economic growth.
<b>Prosperous People</b>	Living walls can support the outcomes in LOIP to ensure that people are safe, resilient and safe from harm.
<b>Prosperous Place</b>	Living walls can support the outcomes in LOIP for resilient and sustainable communities.

<b>Design Principles of Target Operating Model</b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Customer Service Design</b>	None
<b>Organisational Design</b>	None
<b>Governance</b>	None
<b>Workforce</b>	None
<b>Process Design</b>	There are many interdependencies in climate change. Incorporating green infrastructure such as living walls at the project development and infrastructure design.
<b>Technology</b>	Opportunities to use technology to improve city resilience can be explored in the development of living walls.
<b>Partnerships and Alliances</b>	The development of living walls can present opportunities to work in partnership with other (i.e. private / third sector) organisations.