

The Highland Council
CITY OF INVERNESS AREA COMMITTEE
2 June 2015

Agenda Item	4
Report No	CIA/23/15

CITY OF INVERNESS – DEPRIVED AREAS FUND 2015-16

Report by Director of Development and Infrastructure and Inverness City Manager

Summary

Report confirms the decisions taken on the Deprived Area Fund for 2015-16 using the authority delegated to the City Manager at the City Committee on 5th March 2015. This fully expends the funding available in 2015-16.

1. Background

1.1 The City Committee considered a Report from the Director and the recommendations from the Common Good Sub-committee at the CIA meeting on 5th February. The recommendations were approved and powers were delegated to the City Manager in consultation with the City leader and the Chair of the Common Good Sub-Committee to determine the use of the balance of the Funds for 2015-16.

1.2 Three applications have been reconsidered since the meeting and further assessment undertaken. Revised recommendations were submitted to and approved by the City Manager and Members as noted –

Hilton Parish Church £ 6,804 (also applicant to Common Good)

The Leira Trust (Hilton) £ 3,500

Velocity Bicycle Workshop £13,696 – bicycle building and maintenance work with Inverness schools

Details of these applications are to be found in **Appendix One** to this Report.

1.3 These approvals fully commit the Deprived Area Fund available to the City Area for 2015-16. A note is attached at **Appendix 2** of the full list of organisations supported.

1.4 Members may wish to note that the application from Merkinch Enterprise for Community IT Training is not recommended for funding from DAF in 2015-16 but will be assisted through transitional arrangements supporting activity and services affected by the ending of the 2007- 2014 ESF programme.

2. Implications

2.1 The recommendations made are contained within the budget available for 2015-16 and there are no other significant implications.

Conclusion

Members are asked to note the decisions made using delegated powers and the final distribution of the Deprived Area Funds for 2015-16.

Author: Bob MacKinnon

Designation: Employability Team Leader

Date: 28th April 2015

Background Papers:

Report to City of Inverness Area Committee 5th March 2015.

Hilton Parish Church

This application has a mix of activities for engaging with families in the Hilton community, in order to alleviate poverty, strengthen community, increase confidence etc. The application describes two distinct areas of work and is an application for several funding streams. One area of work is with toddlers and children, the other with 15 to 17 year olds. The DAF application applies only to the work with 15 to 17 year olds.

DAF funding is being sought for work with the 15 to 17 year old age group at after school clubs, which has so far focused on revision and homework. These clubs will now include looking at options and the future, offering mentoring for improved academic achievement and all-round well-being for young people preparing them for their next life choices. It is considered that pupils from the area generally fail to attain the same level of academic achievement as their peers in other data zones in the Inverness Royal Academy Associated School Grouping" (DAF application). This has a "knock-on" effect limiting their choices and opportunities post school age. This intervention will be a valuable mentoring support for these young vulnerable people and fits in with Developing Scotland's' Young Workforce.

The Leira Trust

The Leira Trust works with vulnerable parents and their children to encourage positive parenting, parent/child relationship and parental self-esteem. The Trust is at capacity and struggling to keep up with the demand of the service it offers, which is a 42 week course. It addresses the areas of confidence building, household skills, relationships/positive interaction with children, positive language, ability to manage finances, promotion of health eating & nutrition. The parents have guest speakers such as Inverness College and the Money Advice team helping them with personal development and looking at future options such as going to college or into employment. Six parents have recently moved onto FE or training with The Calman Trust, as examples. It has a positive impact on community benefit and moving parents into improved futures including employment.

Velocity - Bicycle Training Workshop.

They are proposing a "Build a Bike" six week course to help develop labour skills, life skills and social skills through practical activity. This is aimed at secondary school pupils, teaching young people skills out of the classroom in a professional work environment at the Velocity workshop. Young people will develop skills relevant to employment, numeracy, problem solving and experience the realities of a work environment. They can also work towards accredited recognised qualifications and units. The project is a good opportunity for identified individuals to develop work ready skills and again fits well with Developing Scotland's' Young Workforce.

APPENDIX TWO

CITY OF INVERNESS AREA

DEPRIVED AREA FUNDS 2015-16

Ref. No.	Applicant Organisation	Recommend 2015-16 £
10791	Merkinch Partnership	63,900
10797	Inverness Blitz	9,500
10842	Hilton Parish Church	6,804
log	The Leira Trust (Hilton Church)	3,500
10844	Inverness Badenoch and Strathspey CAB	refuse
10853	Merkinch Enterprise Information Technology for the unemployed	refuse
10854	Arts in Merkinch	30,000
10855	Merkinch Enterprise Community Newsletter	4,800
10858	TCV Scotland	19,800
10859	Velocity Café and Bicycle Workshop	13,696
10904	For the Right Reasons	8,000
		160,000
	Budget 2014 - 15	160,000