

Agenda Item	20(b)
Report No	CIA/32/18

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: City of Inverness Area Committee

Date: 31st May 2018

Report Title: Inverness Common Good Fund Grant and Capital Projects

Report By: Inverness City Area Manager

Purpose/Executive Summary

This report sets out the current applications for grant funding to be determined and the current status of capital projects.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- i. Consider the application for funding
- ii. Scrutinise the current status of capital projects
- iii. Agree not to proceed with the proposed New Starter Unit at Lotland Street

2. Grants and Capital Projects

- 2.1 The current summary of funds available following the Grants Sub-Committee meeting on 14 May 2018 is set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 2.2 **Booklet A** includes details of current grant applications for more than £10,000. Members are invited to consider the following applications:
1. **Visit Inverness Loch Ness (VILN)**: The Grant Sub-Committee recommend approval of a grant of £20,000 towards support to the sales team promoting Inverness for business tourism.
- 2.4 **Appendix 2** details the current status of capital projects.

3. Implications

- 3.1 Resource – Funding is provided by the Inverness Common Good Fund Grants budget for 2018/19

If Members agree not to proceed with the project for Lotland Street, the allocated budget of £175k will be retained within reserved funds.

Legal - There are no Legal implications as a result of this report

Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural) - Applications are considered on merit which includes compliance with Council Policies. The need to ensure that the residents of the former Burgh of Inverness are the main beneficiaries is paramount

Climate Change/Carbon Clever - Consideration is given to ensuring that applications meet reasonable expectations in respect of climate change and carbon clever targets

Risk – There are no known risk implications in respect of this report

Gaelic - Applications if successful will be required to meet expectations set by Council Policy in this regard.

Designation: Inverness City Area Manager, Principal Project Manager

Date: 17 May 2018

Author: David Haas, Jason Kelman

Background Papers:

APPENDIX 1

**Inverness Common Good Fund
Available Resource for Allocation**

£

Budget Balance Available - Grants	315,000
Underspend from 2017/18	203,289
	518,289

Committee Date	Category	Award	Total for meeting	
(Committed from previous financial years)	Grants < £10k	141,981		
	Grants > £10k	61,308	<u>203,289</u>	315,000
14/05/18 Grants Sub Committee	Grants < £10k	42,682	<u>42,682</u>	272,318
Recommended for Approval	Grants >£10k	20,000	<u>20,000</u>	252,318

Budget Balance Available - Conference Funding	40,000
Underspend from 2017/18	8,180
	48,180

Committee Date	Category	Award	Total for meeting	
(Committed from previous financial years)	Convention		<u>8,180</u>	40,000
14/05/18 Grants Sub Committee	Grants < £10k	4,750	<u>4,750</u>	35,250

Capital Projects Funded by Inverness Common Good Fund

1 General

- 1.1 This appendix provides project status information for current key capital projects funded by the Inverness Common Good Fund, including financial progress details, as of 14 May 2018.

2 Capital Programme Update

- 2.1 The current status of each individual project is summarised below.

2.2 Conservation of External Fabric Phase 2, Town House, Inverness

- 2.2.1 The external works contract was completed on the 10 November 2017 and the internal refurbishment and lighting works was completed 9 February 2018. The defects period will end on the 10 February 2019.

The final account agreed in principal but one item requires to be looked into again.

It should be noted that through cost savings and careful management of resources throughout the contract we have managed to pay for the three additional items at a cost of £150,800 mentioned in previous committee reports within the existing budget.

The final account is currently being drawn up and will be reported at the next committee.

Agreed Total Council Funding	£2,097,908
Anticipated Final Account	£2,083,054

2.4 Conservation of External Fabric Phase 3, Town House, Inverness

- 2.4.1 Separate committee report on this project.

2.5 New Starter Unit, Lotland Street, Inverness

- 2.5.1 A design team has been appointed and the first design team meeting has taken place several different surveys has been discussed and are currently being undertaken.

Concerns were raised in the early stages of potential issues of building on this site, after preliminary investigations it was agreed that a recommendation should be made to the committee not proceed any further. The main problem being that the potential contamination problem may use a large percentage of budget. The building will be built within the potential area of historical significance and the design team agreed the risk was too high to risk the

budget on. There were also a number of smaller issues when added to the two main concerns above the risk is too high to proceed.

Agreed Budget £175,000

3. Governance

- 3.1 These projects are funded by the Inverness Common Good Fund and monthly Contract Monitoring reports will be issued to the Inverness City Manager, in line with governance arrangements.