

Agenda Item	15c
Report No	CIA/49/18

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: City of Inverness Area Committee

Date: 22 November 2018

Report Title: Inverness Common Good Fund
Grants and Capital Projects

Report By: Inverness City Area Manager

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

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

2. Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:

- i. Consider the applications for funding
- ii. Consider the application from Inverness BID for £59,777 towards the City of Inverness Annual Floral Displays 2019.
- iii. Scrutinise the current status of capital projects
- iv. Agree to the transfer of £35,250 from the Conference Support Budget to the Grants Budget
- v. Agree the extra costs incurred of £9,358 for the Ness Islands Bridge Work, to be funded from the Other Properties Budget.

3. Grants and Capital Projects

- 3.1 The current summary of funds available following the Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee meeting on 29 October 2018 is set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 3.2 **Booklet A** includes details of current grant applications for more than £10,000. Members are invited to consider the following applications:
1. **Blythswood Care:** The Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee recommend approval of a grant of £20,000 towards the Highland Foodbank Inverness 2018/19.
 2. **The Shirlie Project:** The Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee recommend approval of a grant of £24,200 towards the “Bigger Picture School Transition Service” Project.
 3. **ActivNess Ltd:** The Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee recommend rejection of a grant of £13,200 towards the “Active Inverness” Project.
- 3.3 **Partnership Working – Inverness BID:** Members are asked to consider the application submitted by Inverness BID for funding of £59,777 towards the City of Inverness Annual Floral Displays 2019. If the Committee approves the application funding would be from the “Partnership Working” cost centre subject to the approval of the 2019/20 Budget.
- 3.4 **Appendix 2** details the current status of capital projects.
- 3.5 **Conference Budget –** This is showing an underspend because Visit Scotland no longer dedicate a local resource to promoting conferences in Inverness. Whilst discussions are underway to resolve for 2019/20, noting the need to make best use of resources the Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee recommend the transfer of funds to the Grants Budget for this year only. This does not prevent applications for Conference Support being supported from the Grants Budget.
- 3.6 **Islands Bridge Work -** When following the suggested repairs for the bridge leading from Island Bank road to the islands, as listed by structural engineers, A F Crudens, the decking boards had to be removed to access the metalwork beneath. It was only after the Boards were removed that it was discovered that nearly all the boards were defective and needed replaced, which was actioned.

The recently refurbished bridge at the Generals Well needed the same inspection and it was found the boards were in an even worse state with trip hazards and holes appearing in the boards. Not only the boards needed replaced but the wooden struts on to which they are fixed had started to rot.

For the sake of ongoing public safety, the boards and struts were replaced. The extra cost to the refurbishment is £9,358.

Members are asked to agree the extra costs incurred to be funded from the Other Properties Budget.

4. Implications

- 4.1 Resource - Funding is provided by the Inverness Common Good Fund budget for 2018/19.
- 4.2 Legal - There are no Legal implications as a result of this report
- 4.3 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
- 4.4 Climate Change / Carbon Clever - Consideration is given to ensuring that applications meet reasonable expectations in respect of climate change and carbon clever targets
- 4.5 Risk – There are no known risk implications in respect of this report
- 4.6 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: 12 November 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 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee	Grants < £10k	42,682	<u>42,682</u>	272,318
31/05/18 City of Inverness Area Committee	Grants >£10k	20,000	<u>20,000</u>	252,318
06/08/18 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee	Grants < £10k	55,259	<u>55,259</u>	197,059
30/08/18 City of Inverness Area Committee	Grants < £10k	5,250		
	Grants >£10k	90,500	<u>95,750</u>	101,309
29/10/18 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee	Grants < £10k	39,641	<u>39,641</u>	61,668
22/11/18 City of Inverness Area Committee Recommended for Approval	Grants > £10k	44,200	<u>44,200</u>	17,468
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 9 November 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.

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 has been agreed.

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

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

- 2.4.1 Acceptance letter issued on the 23 July 2018. Work commenced on site on 10 September 2018 and the completion date for is 11 September 2020.

Works are progressing well and on programme.

Decant arrangements have been agreed and the first 22 staff members have been decanted for a six month period.

Agreed Total Council Funding	£3,204,083.57
Anticipated Final Account	£3,204,083.57

2.5 Victorian Market, Academy Street Entrance Upgrade

- 2.5.1 Designs have been agreed and the planning application has been submitted. The tenders will be issued November 2018.

It is proposed that works will commence on site Jan 2019.

Agreed Budget	£250,000
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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.