

Agenda Item	8b
Report No	CIA/19/23

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: City of Inverness Area Committee

Date: 5 June 2023

Report Title: Inverness Common Good Fund Grant Applications Over £10,000

Report By: Executive Chief Officer Communities and Place

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 This report sets out the current applications for grant funding over £10,000 to be determined.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:

- i. Consider the applications for funding.

3. Implications

3.1 Resource - Funding is provided by the Inverness Common Good Fund budget for 2023/24. Members are reminded that the overall Grants Budget was reduced from £0.275m in 2022/23 to £0.161m for 2023/24. In addition, the budget was allocated with £0.121m for Poverty and Inequality projects and £0.040m for all other requests. The Sub-Committee have taken steps to carefully assess each application as to which category it falls to ensure proper allocation of funds takes place.

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

3.3 Community (Equality, Poverty, Rural and Island) - 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. The ringfencing of funds specifically to address poverty and inequality will have a positive equality and socio-economic impact.

- 3.4 Climate Change / Carbon Clever - Consideration is given to ensuring that applications meet reasonable expectations in respect of climate change and carbon clever targets.
- 3.5 Risk - There are no known risk implications in respect of this report.
- 3.6 Gaelic - Applications if successful will be required to meet expectations set by Council Policy in this regard.

4. Grant Applications

- 4.1 The current summary of funds available following the Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee meeting on 15 May 2023 is set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 4.2 **Booklet A** includes details of current grant applications for more than £10,000. Members are invited to consider the following applications:
 - i. **FLOW Photofest:** The Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee recommend approval of a grant of £6,000 (original request £12,100) from the City Vibrancy Budget towards FLOW Photofest 2023 – International Photography Festival.
 - ii. **Highland Third Sector Interface:** The Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee deferred this application as the Sub-Committee felt there may other sources of funding the application could apply to. However, the subcommittee also believed this application was worthy of some support however wanted assurances that other funding streams are being sought and that the common good fund would not be asked for year-on-year funding going forward. The Inverness city area manager subsequently discussed matters with the applicant who confirmed their intention this funding support be limited for this financial year only. In addition, reviews of the core partners within the Inverness partnership are being sought with a view to seeking further funding support directly from them noting that this project has already helped a number of city partnership initiatives to date. The Inverness City Area Manager will update further at the meeting and it is proposed that this application is reconsidered following that.
 - iii. **Flexible Childcare Services Scotland:** The Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee recommend refusal of a grant of £15,578 as the Sub-Committee considered that approval of this grant did not fit the general criteria as the application sought to replace existing funding streams just lost, with funding from the ICGF and this would set a precedent which could be unsustainable.

Designation: Executive Chief Officer Community and Place

Date: 22 May 2023

Author: David Haas, Inverness City Area Manager

Background Papers:

APPENDIX 1

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

£

Budget Balance Available			
Grants to Poverty & Inequality		121,000	
Grants - Other		40,000	161,000
Carry Forward from 2022/23			259,473
			420,473

Committee Date	Category	Award	Total for meeting	
(Committed from previous financial years)	Grants < £10k	108,661		
	Grants > £10k	150,812	<u>259,473</u>	161,000
15/05/22 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee				
Poverty & Inequality	Grants<£10k	22,770		
Other Grants	Grants<£10k	25,000	47,770	113,230

Inverness Common Good Fund - City Vibrancy Available Resource for Allocation

Budget Balance Available - City Vibrancy	216,000
Civic Hospitality C/F from 2022/23	15,773
Conference Funding C/F from 2022/23	20,580
Partnership Working C/F from 2022/23	8,000
City Promotions C/F from 2022/23	3,000
	263,353

Committee Date	Category	Award	Total for meeting	
(Committed from previous financial years)				
	Civic Hospitality	15,773		
	Conference Funding	20,580		
	Partnership Working	8,000		
	City Promotions	3000	47,353	216,000
24/11/22 City of Inverness Area Committee				
	Grants<£10k	9,700		
	Grants>£10k	101,572	111,272	104,728
15/05/23 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee				
	Civic Hospitality	34,657	34,657	70,071
05/06/23 City of Inverness Area Committee - Recommended for Approval				
	Conference Funding	6,000	6,000	64,071