



APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR GRANT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDING AND FUNDING IN KIND FROM THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – Over £10,000 – Common Good Funds

Name of Organisation:

Inverness BID Ltd

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

City Centre of Inverness Annual Floral Displays 2024

Which of the Council's funding streams are you applying to?

(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Inverness Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

£5,000 or under

Under £10,000

£10,000 or over

Total amount applied for: £52,410

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £...

Please detail what funding in kind has been applied for e.g. Council staff time, use of premises or equipment, waiving of fees or administration support

N/A

What type of organisation are you? (please tick all that apply)

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation		Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number		Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number SC339914.....	✓
Other - please specify... ..			

Please remember guidance to completing the application form is available [here](#). Appropriate links to the guidance are situated throughout the form: [This page](#)

For official use only			
Application reference number			

PART 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

Guidance on completing part 1: [ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT](#)

1.1 What is the name of your activity or project?

City Centre of Inverness Annual Floral Displays for 2024

1.2 When will your activity or project take place? (specifically those for which you are seeking an award from The Highland Council)

Start date (month and year).....June 2024.....

End date (month and year).....October 2024.....

Location.....City of Inverness.....

1.3 What activity or project do you want us to support?

For example:

- *Aims of the project and how you are going to do it*
- *Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?*
- *Who will benefit*

Please note that the Council will be unable to provide any resources not specified on this form or supporting information.

Inverness BID Limited (a not-for-profit company) was established in 2008, including to assist with the marketing and development/improvement of the Inverness City Centre economy.

The City of Inverness Annual Floral Displays have been a major feature within the City Centre since 1993 having been originally co-ordinated by The Inverness Project and Highland Council with the total cost of the displays historically fully funded by the Inverness Common Good Fund.

The displays are an important part of creating an attractive and welcoming City for the benefit of residents of the burgh, wider region and visitors alike.

In 2009 the Directors of Inverness Project decided to retire and they requested (with the Highland Council's agreement) that BID take on the role of co-ordinating the arrangements for the city-wide displays.

The role involved liaising with display venues (both in advance and during the 5-month season), organising for the purchase of plants, their propagation, installation of the displays, their watering (at least twice weekly at unsocial times to avoid disrupting the public and businesses), co-ordinating hosting, remedial action, replacement, invoicing and at the end of the term the removal and disposal of the displays.

The equipment used to present the displays (supports/tubs/baskets/brackets/chains etc) was originally provided by Inverness Common Good Fund and these remain its asset. On an ongoing basis the floral project team however inspect, replenish, repair and renovate these items as appropriate and under direction of the BID project manager.

In 2015 the floral displays were, at the request of the Highland Council, extended to

include Bank Street and Huntly Street which have both had new lampposts installed as part of the streetscaping element of the flood alleviation works - these lampposts hold 2 baskets per lamp-post.

In 2018 the project was extended again at the request of the Highland Council to include the upgrading of Drummond & Lombard Streets by the installation of new displays.

The displays are concentrated to create maximum impact and to ensure that the displays give the maximum value for money. There are a large range of flowers used to make the colourful, exciting, attractive and interesting displays.

Particular care is taken to choose plants that provide a wide range of colours but are also hardy to the elements. Native cultivators will be used to ensure that the plants look their best for the full June-October period inclusive.

As always the displays will play an important role in making the City, especially its landmarks, as attractive as possible to enhance the experience in the city centre.

In 2023, the stunning floral arrangements extended to 639 displays (including spares used) and these were hosted. ICGF provided a grant of £64,150 (same level of investment as 2022) including to cover plants, upkeep, watering, installation, maintenance and removal. Inverness City Centre BID and other traders contributed to the city-wide remaining costs to a total investment for all displays of £18,501. The contribution by BID equated to an increase of 25% higher investment contribution than 2022. For 2024, the proposal is a c.13% increase in per display investment by Inverness BID for the City Centre area compared to 2022 investment levels.

Proposals for 2024

BID have lodged two applications for the ICGF to consider for the 2024 arrangements.

This current application is for the city centre core area and BID herein proposes to be responsible for co-ordinating and managing the 2024 arrangements for 395 City Centre floral displays as follows (with 18 spares/other as required each season):

30	ACADEMY STREET/POST OFFICE AVENUE
46	CHURCH STREET
3	UNION STREET
84	HIGH ST & EASTGATE PRECINCT
75	BRIDGE STREET inc NESS BRIDGE/WALK
7	QUEENSGATE
8	DRUMMOND STREET
2	BARON TAYLOR'S
22	CASTLE STREET
12	TOWN HOUSE
50	BANK STREET
29	MILLBURN ROAD
7	BUS STATION
20	STEPHENS BRAE & ST.
18	OTHER & SPARES
413	

The ICGF is responsible for maintaining, replacing and repairing the display equipment (supports/tubs/baskets/brackets/chains etc). Based on previous years a maintenance budget of c.£3.5k has been provided by the Common Good Fund to meet the ongoing and projected costs of this necessary activity which requires to also be allocated for 2024. On a pro-rata basis this equates to £2,345 for the City Centre area.

Contractor and other costs (plants, installation, watering, removal and disposal as well as compost, transportation, wages) for 2024 have risen between 4.5-5.5% including due to inflation and energy price hikes.

A total of £52,140 is sought from ICGF. The balance of funding of £6,195 will be met by the contributions from businesses via Inverness City Centre BID.

1.4 Does your activity or project involve building or landscaping work?

Yes No

If yes please answer both a) and b) below.

a) Does your organisation (Please tick):
Have ownership of the land or building

Yes No

OR

Hold at lease of at least 5 years that cannot be ended by the landlord?

Yes No

b) Is planning permission needed for your project? Tick one option below.

Planning permission not required

Planning permission required and has been granted

1.5 Please tell us how your project or activity will help the Council to meet its Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Make sure that people from different groups* are treated fairly and have equal chances to use services and that there is more equality between groups*;
- Make sure that people from different groups* get on together.

*Groups are people who have “protected characteristics” in the Equality Act: age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and sex.

For example are people with protected characteristics likely to face barriers; how you intend to tackle these barriers; does your project promote inclusion?

There are no barriers to any group benefiting from the Project and a full equality impact assessment is available upon request.

1.6 Where relevant and appropriate please describe any contribution your project may make towards promotion of the Gaelic language?

N/A

1.7 Please tell us if you have spoken to anyone about your application for advice and support – e.g. Local Highland Council Elected Member, Community Council Member, Council Staff, local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) – If yes, please provide details:

██████████, Inverness City Area Manager

1.8 Please tell us about any funding in kind you are seeking from the Council:

Detail i.e. premises, facilities, staff time, waiving of fees	Estimated value
N/A	
N/A	
N/A	

1.9 Please provide a breakdown of how much will your activities/project will cost and how much **Funding you are applying for from The Highland Council:**

Item/Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs £	2024	Year 2* £	Year 3* £
Project Co-ordination, FCR, Administration, Personnel & Overheads		£4,558		
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing (excluding VAT)	Plants (HLH) 413 of 630 ordered	£19,515		
	Installation/Removal of Displays (Sub-Contractor) and related costs	£10,536		
	Watering (HLH) City Centre Displays	£21,358		
	Inspection, painting, repair & renovation of baskets, fittings etc	£2,345		
	Additional brackets, purchase and installation	£293		
Total Project Cost		£58,605		
Total Funding Request or Allocation from ICGF		£52,410		

1.10 **Other funding relating to this project** Please include other funders and own resources and income. Continue on separate sheet if required.

Organisation and status of application	2024	Year 2* £	Year 3* £
Inverness BID Limited (BID/City Centre Business Investment) equating to £15 per display x 395	£6,195		
Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision			
Totals	£6,195		

*See guidance notes for specific funding stream to see if you are able to apply for more than one year of funding.

- 1.11 Please tell us how you know that there is a need for this activity or project and how your approach will meet this need. This might include:
- a. Community support for your project (e.g. surveys, etc.)
 - b. Statistics which show the need for your project (e.g. unemployment figures, crime statistics)
 - c. Evidence from similar projects which shows that they have worked (e.g. research from elsewhere or evaluations of previous local work)

The Project has received Common Good Funding for the past 3 years as follows:

2023 £64,150

2022 £64,150

2021 £61,100

NB above allocations were for whole city area not just the city centre. For comparison – city centre = approx. two thirds of units displayed.

- 1.12 Is this a new or additional activity or project? – Yes No If yes, what change will your activities or project make in your community?

If No, how has your activities or project been funded in the last three years?

Via ICGF and Inverness City Centre BID.

- 1.13 Please tell us how you will know that your activities or project is working and that you are benefiting your community. You only need to provide targets for the years in which your project will operate. See the detailed guidance for examples of targets.

How you will know you have made the change?		
Year 1 Measurable Outcome	Year 2 Measurable Outcome	Year 3 Measurable Outcome
Feedback from individuals, businesses and other users. Number of units displayed and requisite quantitative data. Via Visitor and business survey.		

- 1.14 If it is intended that this activity or project continue beyond the period of Council support, how will it be funded?

The annual Floral Displays are an integral and important initiative to help make Inverness an attractive and welcoming place for residents and tourists alike to be proud of. The displays improve the City ambience which has a long-term effect of improving the local economy and also the mental wellbeing of those who enjoy their presence. Approval ratings (2022) recorded a 90% 'excellent' response.

- 3.3 a) When did your organisation start? Month...March.....Year...2008...
- b) What geographic areas and/or communities of interest (e.g. Young people, people with disabilities, older people, people from an ethnic minority background) does your organisation cover?

Inverness BID limited (a not-for-profit company) was established in 2008 to assist the marketing and economic development of the City Centre area.

The City of Inverness Annual Floral Displays have been a major feature within the city since 1993. They are an important part of creating an attractive and welcoming city for the benefit of residents of the burgh and visitors alike which improves the economic area and the mental wellbeing of those who enjoy their presence.

- c) Is there any restriction on who can join your organisation?

Yes No If yes, what are they and why do you have them?

Businesses based within Inverness City Centre who pay BID levy are automatically eligible for membership and entitled to vote at General meetings. Other businesses in the area are entitled to apply for voluntary membership. Some BID projects extend out with the defined area including in respect of the floral displays.

- d) How many people are on your governing body or management committee? ...15...
- e) Are there Highland Council Elected Members or Officers or Community Councillors on or attending your Management Committee or Board? *(please note that this will not affect your application)*

Yes No

If yes, please provide names:

Highland Council Elected Members	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official / advisory, other
██████████	Director (Allocated)
██████████	Director (Co-Opted)

Community Councillors	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other

Council Officers	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other
██████████	City Manager

3.4 Does or has your organisation receive(d) any other funding from The Highland Council? Please provide information relating to Council funding for the last 3 years:

Yes No

If yes –

a) What is/was it for, and from which Service or Ward budget was it provided?

Year 1: See Appendix A
Year 2:
Year 3:

b) How much funding do/did you receive?

Year 1: See Appendix A
Year 2:
Year 3:

c) Estimated value of existing funding in kind, and from which Service or Ward budget was/is it provided?

Year 1: See Appendix A
Year 2:
Year 3:



APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR GRANT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDING AND FUNDING IN KIND FROM THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – Over £10,000 – Common Good Funds

Name of Organisation:

Inverness BID Ltd

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Wider City of Inverness Annual Floral Displays 2024

Which of the Council's funding streams are you applying to?

(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Inverness Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

£5,000 or under Under £10,000 £10,000 or over

Total amount applied for: £23,631

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £...

Please detail what funding in kind has been applied for e.g. Council staff time, use of premises or equipment, waiving of fees or administration support

N/A

What type of organisation are you? (please tick all that apply)

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation		Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number		Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number SC339914.....	✓
Other - please specify... ..			

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Application reference number			

PART 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

Guidance on completing part 1: [ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT](#)

1.1 What is the name of your activity or project?

Wider City Centre of Inverness Annual Floral Displays for 2024

1.2 When will your activity or project take place? (specifically those for which you are seeking an award from The Highland Council)

Start date (month and year).....June 2024.....

End date (month and year).....October 2024.....

Location.....City of Inverness.....

1.3 What activity or project do you want us to support?

For example:

- *Aims of the project and how you are going to do it*
- *Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?*
- *Who will benefit*

Please note that the Council will be unable to provide any resources not specified on this form or supporting information.

Inverness BID Limited (a not-for-profit company) was established in 2008, including to assist with the marketing and development/improvement of the Inverness City Centre economy.

The City of Inverness Annual Floral Displays have been a major feature within the City Centre since 1993 having been originally co-ordinated by The Inverness Project and Highland Council with the total cost of the displays historically fully funded by the Inverness Common Good Fund. In recent years Inverness BID and other traders have contributed towards and co-invested in the city-wide displays.

The displays are an important part of creating an attractive and welcoming City for the benefit of residents of the burgh, wider region and visitors alike.

In 2009 the Directors of Inverness Project decided to retire and they requested (with the Highland Council's agreement) that BID take on the role of co-ordinating the arrangements for the city-wide displays.

The role involved liaising with display venues (both in advance and during the 5-month season), organising for the purchase of plants, their propagation, installation of the displays, their watering (at least twice weekly at unsocial times to avoid disrupting the public and businesses), co-ordinating hosting, remedial action, replacement, invoicing and at the end of the term the removal and disposal of the displays.

The equipment used to present the displays (supports/tubs/baskets/brackets/chains etc) was originally provided by Inverness Common Good Fund and these remain its asset. On an ongoing basis the floral project team however inspect, replenish, repair and renovate these items as appropriate and under direction of the BID

project manager.

In 2015 the floral displays were, at the request of the Highland Council, extended to include Bank Street and Huntly Street which have both had new lampposts installed as part of the streetscaping element of the flood alleviation works - these lampposts hold 2 baskets per lamp-post.

The displays are concentrated to create maximum impact and to ensure that the displays give the maximum value for money. There are a large range of flowers used to make the colourful, exciting, attractive and interesting displays and over time, these have extended to the wider city areas as shown.

Particular care is taken to choose plants that provide a wide range of colours but are also hardy to the elements. Native cultivators will be used to ensure that the plants look their best for the full June-October period inclusive. For 2024, it is proposed to use the same composition as in 2022.

In 2023, the stunning floral arrangements extended to 639 displays (including spares used) and these were hosted including via an ICGF grant of £64,150 (same level of investment as in 2022) including for installation, maintenance and removal, with additional project costs city wide being met by Inverness BID and other traders.

Proposals for 2024

BID have lodged two applications for the ICGF to consider for the 2024 arrangements. The application herein is for displays, which are outwith the BID area (wider City). If supported, BID proposes to be responsible for co-ordinating and managing the 2024 arrangements, for the further 217 floral displays estimated to be required as follows:

5	TOMNAHURICH STREET
10	CAVELL GARDENS
4	HUNTLY STREET
50	HUNTLY STREET LAMPS
21	CROWN/KINGSMILLS AREA 1
46	CROWN/KINGSMILLS AREA 2
10	CHISHOLMS, HUNTLY STREET
4	HARBOUR ROAD
14	DOUGLAS ROW
2	VIEW PLACE
38	ARDROSS ST
6	GRANT STREET
7	SPARES
217	80 Paid/Invoiced For & 137 ICGF

The ICGF is responsible for maintaining, replacing and repairing the display equipment (supports/tubs/baskets/brackets/chains etc). Based on previous years a maintenance budget of c.£3.5k has been provided by the Common Good Fund to meet the ongoing and projected costs of this necessary activity and a pro-rata portion of this should be allocated for 2024 which for the wider City equates to

£1155.

Contractor and other costs (plants, installation, watering, removal and disposal as well as compost, transportation, wages) for 2024 have risen between 4.5-5.5% including due to inflation and energy price hikes.

For 2024, the Inverness Common Good Fund is therefore requested to contribute the sum of £23,631 with estimated contribution from wider traders @£8,400 (subject to variation).

1.4 Does your activity or project involve building or landscaping work?

Yes No

If yes please answer both a) and b) below.

a) Does your organisation (Please tick):
Have ownership of the land or building

Yes No

OR

Hold at lease of at least 5 years that cannot be ended by the landlord?

Yes No

b) Is planning permission needed for your project? Tick one option below.

Planning permission not required

Planning permission required and has been granted

1.5 Please tell us how your project or activity will help the Council to meet its Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Make sure that people from different groups* are treated fairly and have equal chances to use services and that there is more equality between groups*;
- Make sure that people from different groups* get on together.

*Groups are people who have “protected characteristics” in the Equality Act: age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and sex.

For example are people with protected characteristics likely to face barriers; how you intend to tackle these barriers; does your project promote inclusion?

There are no barriers to any group benefiting from the Project and a full equality impact assessment is available upon request.

1.6 Where relevant and appropriate please describe any contribution your project may make towards promotion of the Gaelic language?

N/A

1.7 Please tell us if you have spoken to anyone about your application for advice and support – e.g. Local Highland Council Elected Member, Community Council Member, Council Staff, local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) – If yes, please provide details:

██████████, Inverness City Area Manager

1.8 Please tell us about any funding in kind you are seeking from the Council:

Detail i.e. premises, facilities, staff time, waiving of fees	Estimated value
N/A	
N/A	
N/A	

1.9 Please provide a breakdown of how much will your activities/project will cost and how much **Funding you are applying for from The Highland Council:**

Item/Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs £	2024	Year 2* £	Year 3* £
Project Co-ordination, FCR, Administration Invoicing, Personnel & Overheads		£3,675		
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing (excluding VAT)	Plants (HLH) 217 of 630	£10,253		
	Installation/Removal of Displays (Sub-Contractor) and related costs	£5,600		
	Watering (HLH)	£11,353		
	Inspection, painting, repair & renovation of baskets, fittings etc	£1,150		
Total Project Cost		£32,031		
Total Funding Request or Allocation from ICGF		£23,631		

1.10 **Other funding relating to this project** Please include other funders and own resources and income. Continue on separate sheet if required.

Organisation and status of application	2024	Year 2* £	Year 3* £
Estimated contribution from traders outside the BID area, who pay towards wider city displays x 80 businesses @£105	£8,400		
Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision (subject to change) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Totals	£8,400		

*See guidance notes for specific funding stream to see if you are able to apply for more than one year of funding.

- 1.11 Please tell us how you know that there is a need for this activity or project and how your approach will meet this need. This might include:
- Community support for your project (e.g. surveys, etc.)
 - Statistics which show the need for your project (e.g. unemployment figures, crime statistics)
 - Evidence from similar projects which shows that they have worked (e.g. research from elsewhere or evaluations of previous local work)

The Project has received Common Good Funding for the past 3 years as follows:

2023 £64,150

2022 £64,150

2021 £61,100

NB above allocations were for whole city area not just the city centre.

- 1.12 Is this a new or additional activity or project? – Yes No If yes, what change will your activities or project make in your community?

If No, how has your activities or project been funded in the last three years?

Via ICGF, traders and Inverness City Centre BID.

- 1.13 Please tell us how you will know that your activities or project is working and that you are benefiting your community. You only need to provide targets for the years in which your project will operate. See the detailed guidance for examples of targets.

How you will know you have made the change?		
Year 1 Measurable Outcome	Year 2 Measurable Outcome	Year 3 Measurable Outcome
Feedback from individuals, businesses and other users. Number of units displayed and requisite quantitative data. Via Visitor and business survey.		

- 1.14 If it is intended that this activity or project continue beyond the period of Council support, how will it be funded?

The annual Floral Displays are an integral and important initiative to help make Inverness an attractive and welcoming place for residents and tourists alike to be proud of. The displays improve the City ambience which has a long-term effect of improving the local economy and also the mental wellbeing of those who enjoy their presence.

- 3.3 a) When did your organisation start? Month...March.....Year...2008...
- b) What geographic areas and/or communities of interest (e.g. Young people, people with disabilities, older people, people from an ethnic minority background) does your organisation cover?

Inverness BID limited (a not-for-profit company) was established in 2008 to assist the marketing and economic development of the City Centre area.

The City of Inverness Annual Floral Displays have been a major feature within the city since 1993. They are an important part of creating an attractive and welcoming city for the benefit of residents of the burgh and visitors alike which improves the economic area and the mental wellbeing of those who enjoy their presence.

- c) Is there any restriction on who can join your organisation?

Yes No If yes, what are they and why do you have them?

Businesses based within Inverness City Centre who pay BID levy are automatically eligible for membership and entitled to vote at General meetings. Other businesses in the area are entitled to apply for voluntary membership. Some BID projects extend out with the defined area including in respect of the floral displays.

- d) How many people are on your governing body or management committee? ...15...
- e) Are there Highland Council Elected Members or Officers or Community Councillors on or attending your Management Committee or Board? *(please note that this will not affect your application)*

Yes No

If yes, please provide names:

Highland Council Elected Members	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official / advisory, other
██████████	Allocated HC Director
██████████	Co-Opt Director

Community Councillors	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other

Council Officers	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other
██████████	City Manager



APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR GRANT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDING AND FUNDING IN KIND FROM THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – Over £10,000 – Common Good Funds

Name of Organisation:

Inverness BID Limited

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Operation Respect - Task Team Easter, Summer and Autumn 2024

Which of the Council's funding streams are you applying to?

(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Inverness Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

- £5,000 or under Under £10,000
 £10,000 or over ✓

Total amount applied for: £13,403.00

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £ None.....

Please detail what funding in kind has been applied for e.g. Council staff time, use of premises or equipment, waiving of fees or administration support

What type of organisation are you? (please tick all that apply)

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation		Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number		Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number SC339914.....	✓
Other - please specify.....			

Please remember guidance to completing the application form is available [here](#). Appropriate links to the guidance are situated throughout the form: [This page](#)

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Application reference number			

PART 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

Guidance on completing part 1: [ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT](#)

1.1 What is the name of your activity or project?

Operation Respect - Task Team Easter, Summer & Autumn 2024

1.2 When will your activity or project take place? (specifically those for which you are seeking an award from The Highland Council)

Start date: April 2024

End date: October 2024

Location: Inverness City Centre.

1.3 What activity or project do you want us to support?

For example:

- *Aims of the project and how you are going to do it*
- *Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?*
- *Who will benefit*

Please note that the Council will be unable to provide any resources not specified on this form or supporting information.

The Operation Respect – City Centre Programme has operated very successfully in the Easter, Summer, Autumn and Winter holiday periods for the past 13 years. The project originally met the objectives of the 2013 -2019 Single Outcome Agreement and now aligns with and compliments many aspects of the current Highland Community Planning Partnership and its vision for Community Justice and a Safer Highland, the Highland Outcome Improvement Plans for Inverness, and the Scottish Government Criminal Justice and Community Safety agendas in that it acts to reduce crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour and provides increased public reassurance and safety. The project for 2024, will align with the ICP and Safe Inverness initiatives.

Integral to the success of these programmes, in support of the General Public and Businesses, has been the operation of the BID Security Task Team on the City Centre streets at key operating periods.

The Task Team have contributed and consistently demonstrated the added value and benefits that are derived from such a crime prevention and public reassurance initiative at peak times of City Centre activity, frequently commented on by residents, visitors and businesses alike. At times, particularly in the Summer of 2023, the Task Team were the only dedicated security and support resource available to respond to issues in the City Centre due to temporary redeployment of the City Centre Police to other areas.

During each of the 2023 seasonal deployment periods, the BID Task Team were also deployed on several occasions in support of Businesses, Staff and Police out-with the normal recognised daily rostered duties to respond to growing concerns and operational demands at identified locations and at various retail outlets being targeted by groups of youths intent on causing anti-social behaviour, disturbance and criminal activity involving shoplifting, alcohol and drug abuse, age restricted products such as vapes, cigarettes, alcohol etc.

The associated costs of these additional deployments were absorbed entirely by Inverness BID given the finite funding parameters in place at ICGF, and no increase in funding was requested to support this activity. However, whilst it is hoped that the intensive work carried out by the Authorities and other Partners in response to this unacceptable protracted behaviour by a small element of youths has now abated, there is the potential that such unplanned deployments will require to be considered in future in response to any given circumstances.

The value and contribution to Inverness is demonstrated further by the support of Police Scotland for the BID Security Task Team project, due to the initiative providing additional City Centre resource with a continuing strong partnership between the agencies and key stakeholders being successfully established and maintained.

The value of operating a two person Task Team, at key times, has been regularly demonstrated by the results recorded by the Task Team during each operating period of Easter, Summer and October, aligned with school holiday periods when they dealt with a total of 328 recorded incidents in 2023 out-with the Operation Respect Festive Initiative which has as yet to be evaluated and reported on separately.

The majority of these incidents were either reported via the Shop Safe Radio system, direct to mobile phone, or encountered directly by the Task Team through their pro-active City Centre patrols. These incidents have covered criminal activity, anti-social behaviour, preventative actions as well as generally assisting the public in providing an ambassadorial and point of contact role which has proved invaluable. For 2024, should the project be supported, it is anticipated that businesses will further be able to report incidents remotely via a new City Centre App that BID are currently pursuing.

The continuance of this project in 2024 is supported by Police Scotland who regularly acknowledge the valuable assistance provided by the Security Task Team to the general public, business and to the Police and other Emergency Services at reported incidents.

The Task Team are seen as an integral part of Operation Respect and to the City Centre and they work in partnership with the relevant Agencies to provide support, assistance and public reassurance to businesses and those who use the City Centre, with the collective aim to provide a hi-vis presence to assist in reducing street violence, disorder, theft, shoplifting and ASB and the Task Team are invaluable with their local knowledge.

With tourism and hospitality being such a major industry for Inverness & the Highlands, such a programme in the Spring, Summer and Autumn of 2024 will continue to offer both positive benefits for the visitors to the area as well as underpinning this vital economic sector throughout the resognised UK holiday periods when Inverness attracts the peak number of visitors to the City which had increased by 23% via the Inverness Coach Ambassador project alone in 2023.

As in previous years, the operating period will again be focused on the two-week Easter holiday break, the nine-week Summer holiday period covering the Scottish and UK School holiday periods from late June through to the end of August and the two-week Autumn holiday period in October 2024.

The total cost of this year's scheme is £21,140 and funding support is requested from the Inverness Common Good Fund to the sum of £13,403 with the balance of £7,737 being contributed and invested as match funding by Inverness BID Limited.

1.4 Does your activity or project involve building or landscaping work?

Yes No

If yes please answer both a) and b) below.

a) Does your organisation (Please tick):
Have ownership of the land or building

Yes No

OR

Hold at lease of at least 5 years that cannot be ended by the landlord?

Yes No

b) Is planning permission needed for your project? Tick one option below.

Planning permission not required

Planning permission required and has been granted

1.5 Please tell us how your project or activity will help the Council to meet its Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Make sure that people from different groups* are treated fairly and have equal chances to use services and that there is more equality between groups*;
- Make sure that people from different groups* get on together.

*Groups are people who have “protected characteristics” in the Equality Act: age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and sex.

For example, are people with protected characteristics likely to face barriers; how you intend to tackle these barriers; does your project promote inclusion?

N/A

1.6 Where relevant and appropriate please describe any contribution your project may make towards promotion of the Gaelic language?

N/A

1.7 Please tell us if you have spoken to anyone about your application for advice and support – e.g. Local Highland Council Elected Member, Community Council Member, Council Staff, local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) – If yes, please provide details:

Inverness City Area Manager

1.8 Please tell us about any funding in kind you are seeking from the Council:

Detail i.e. premises, facilities, staff time, waiving of fees	Estimated value
N/A	

1.9 Please provide a breakdown of how much will your activities/project will cost and how much **Funding you are applying for from The Highland Council:**

Item/Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs £	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Staffing & Management	Security Task Team	£20,090			
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	Communications, Clothing etc	£1,050			
Total Project Cost £		£21,140			
Total Funding Request £		£13,403			

1.10 **Other funding relating to this project** Please include other funders and own resources and income. Continue on separate sheet if required.

Organisation and status of application	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Inverness BID Limited	£7,737			
Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Totals	£7,737			£7,737

*See guidance notes for specific funding stream to see if you are able to apply for more than one year of funding.

- 3.3 a) When did your organisation start? Month...April.....Year 2008.....
- b) What geographic areas and/or communities of interest (e.g. Young people, people with disabilities, older people, people from an ethnic minority background) does your organisation cover?

Inverness BID Limited (a not-for-profit company) was established in 2008 to assist the marketing and economic development of the City Centre area. Businesses in the BID area pay a levy to jointly invest in projects and activities to help create a safe and vibrant centre.

- c) Is there any restriction on who can join your organisation?
 Yes No If yes, what are they and why do you have them?

Under statute Inverness BID Limited (a not for profit company) restricts its membership to those businesses based in Inverness city centre who pay BID levy or who apply for voluntary membership.

- d) How many people are on your governing body or management committee? ...15...
- e) Are there Highland Council Elected Members or Officers or Community Councillors on or attending your Management Committee or Board? *(please note that this will not affect your application)*

Yes No

If yes, please provide names:

Highland Council Elected Members	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official / advisory, other
██████████	Director (Allocated)
██████████	Director (Co-opted)

Community Councillors	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other

Council Officers	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other
██████████	City Area Manager



APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR GRANT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDING AND FUNDING IN KIND FROM THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – Over £10,000 – Common Good Funds

Name of Organisation:

Inverness BID Limited

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Inverness Gull Project 2024

Which of the Council’s funding streams are you applying to?

(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Inverness Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

£5,000 or under Under £10,000 £10,000 or over

Total amount applied for: £13,606 (with additional options for other measures as outlined and for further consideration).

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £ None.....

Please detail what funding in kind has been applied for e.g. Council staff time, use of premises or equipment, waiving of fees or administration support

What type of organisation are you? (please tick all that apply)

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation		Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number		Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number SC339914....	✓
Other - please specify.....			

Please remember guidance to completing the application form is available [here](#). Appropriate links to the guidance are situated throughout the form: [This page](#)

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PART 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

Guidance on completing part 1: [ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT](#)

1.1 What is the name of your activity or project?

Inverness Gull Project 2024

1.2 When will your activity or project take place? (specifically those for which you are seeking an award from The Highland Council)

Start date (month and year).....April 2024.....

End date (month and year).....July 2024.....

Location.....City of Inverness

1.3 What activity or project do you want us to support?

For example:

- *Aims of the project and how you are going to do it*
- *Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?*
- *Who will benefit*

Please note that the Council will be unable to provide any resources not specified on this form or supporting information.

Gull Project Introduction

The Inverness City Centre BID led Gull Project has been successful in reducing the urban gull population. An independent census carried out in May 2019 identified 502 nests occupied by breeding pairs which is 25% less than at the count in May 2016. The success in achieving of this level of reduction is even greater when one recognises that without this intervention programme, the gull population would be expected to grow by 7% per annum.

The long-term nature of this project was recognised in the original discussions with SNH setting up this project (detailed below). Unfortunately the COVID Lockdown in March 2020 meant that the agreed 2020 egg removal programme was unable to proceed as we were unable to obtain permission/access for the contractor's mobile hoist to premises. This was reflected in the 2021 independent census which identified 532 breeding pairs an increase of 6% over the 2019 figure of 502 nests.

The 2021 project was carried out in the normal way and a total of 1357 eggs were removed or destroyed (compared with 1456 in 2019).

In 2022, 987 nests and 2098 eggs were removed or destroyed resulting in an increase of egg removal of over one third.

In 2023, 99 licenses were granted by Nature Scot. 1,963 eggs were destroyed from 30th April – 11th June 2023. Visits to properties were conducted by the specialist team on a fortnightly basis (as recommended by Nature Scot) with each premise receiving 4 visits each. 19 new premises were included in 2023 programme as per 2022 preliminary

survey.

Background

In response to concerns expressed by the public, Councillors and businesses at the number of gulls in the Inverness area and the resultant mess and disturbance they were causing, in late 2011 Scottish Natural Heritage were asked for advice on what could be done to reduce the associated problems. There followed a joint report from the Policy and Advice Manager of Scottish Natural Heritage with the Inverness City Manager to the Inverness City Committee on 13th February 2012 on the options for managing urban herring gulls in Inverness.

The report noted the continuing significant increases of the gull population since the last census in 2000 and stressed that without intervention, the number of breeding gulls were projected by SNH would continue to grow by 7% annually.

SNH concluded that the problems that the gull population were causing could best be managed by direct intervention to the breeding cycle by nest & egg removal as licensed by the Scottish Government.

In approving the Report the City Committee agreed to:

- 1) delegate power to the City Manager, in consultation with the Members of the Donations Working Group, to formulate a course of action based on the actions recommended by (the) report which will include a programme of nest and egg removal within the Inverness City Centre BID area (now also extended to surrounding locations including Crown);
- 2) a budget of up to £30,000 for the pilot (project in) 2012 Summer to be drawn from the large grants budget of the Common Good Fund.

Inverness BID had undertaken the original review of other gull management schemes including liaising with the successful project in Dumfries. BID were asked to deliver a egg and nest removal project in both Inverness city centre and the Longman and as part of that intervention programme a total of 661 nests and nearly 1400 eggs were removed in the May-July 2012 breeding period.

In his review of the 2012 programme SNH Advisor Andy Douse supported the success of the work undertaken and concluded that ***“it is thus essential that the programme of control work is maintained if management of the City Centre gull problem is to be effective”***.

Mr Douse went on to say that the project had established that access to the majority of nesting roofs was possible and this means that the programme is likely to be viable and effective in controlling the gull population in the long term.

Although a budget of £40k funded ICGF £30k & BID £10k was set aside for the 2012 Gull Project (based on the costs of the similar project in Dumfries) the total costs incurred in that year were limited to £18k which was funded in the agreed proportions.

Outcomes

Following the initial programme in 2012, both the Inverness Common Good Fund & BID

have continued to support the project on a 66.6%:33.3% basis.

Over the years the project has been extended to include additional properties in Crown, Carsegate as well as the City Centre and the Longman as required.

Over the past 11 years a total of 18,344 eggs have been removed and destroyed.

To manage, control and seek to reverse the growth in the urban gull population that has occurred for a number of years, has been deemed desirable for a number of reasons including (source: pest control consultant):

- Swooping, diving or aggressive attacks on humans or pets including in areas with outdoor seating for al fresco dining or for those working at height (such as premises window cleaners).
- Fouling - H&S risks including on pavements; shop fronts; handrails; with it being reported that fouling can be a method of attack risking slips, falls, salmonella, and e-coli and other diseases. Nests are reported to contain up to 50 different species of insects including bird mites which can, migrate and infest buildings or humans.
- Nest siting – H&S – where risk to public health/safety due to for example blocking air-conditioning units; active chimneys or drainage systems.

Making intervention in the gull breeding cycle annually via removing of nests and eggs to has been a long-term ongoing project and investment. It has been confirmed that no one measure alone is recommended and that a number of preventative and management measures are preferable with egg and nest removal being deemed to be the most effective way to control rather than displace the population.

For 2024 the **core project programme** (taking into account changes to licencing conditions per Nature Scot Guidance) proposes to:

- Increase the early intervention and additional measures undertaken prior to licence application for inclusion to the egg/nest removal programme.
- A 'do not feed the gulls' campaign for 2024 for locals and visitors.
- Replication of the 2023 egg/nest removal programme (subject to licence granting).
- Increase in the use of lasering by trained operative in problematic areas.

For reference in 2023, the project introduced AVIX Laser use as an extra measure to compliment efforts (with a BID operative being trained in use) which had the benefit of being non-lethal; silent; painless and a further deterrent but limited in scope. Residents at Oakwood Court were also provided with 'Reflect-A-Bird' deterrents as a pilot/trial and this additional measure was also deemed to be of some benefit also.

For 2024, there are **two additional options** that the ICGF may want to trial/pilot and support as follows as well as core project activities:

1. 12 x Seagull Pro devices with evaluation.
2. Installation for 16 week period of Bio-Acoustic Unit with evaluation.

The gull consultant (further detail available) reported that in his view sonic devices are not proven to be effective but should further measures be sought to complement egg/nest removal, lasering treatment and further reflect a bird-devices that there is an option to install also as a pilot/trial a Bio-Acoustic Unit for the period March 2024 to July 2024 and one City Centre roof has been deemed suitable by way of initial survey.

For 2023, the total core project costs were just under £20k and support is requested from the Inverness Common Good Fund for the sum of £13,606 with the balance of £6,419 being contributed by Inverness BID Limited from the levy collected from the City Centre businesses for the 2024 core programme to replicate annual activities.

The trial options detailed above would require additional ICGF investment as denoted in the budget section.

1.4 Does your activity or project involve building or landscaping work?

Yes No

If yes please answer both a) and b) below.

a) Does your organisation (Please tick):
Have ownership of the land or building

Yes No

OR

Hold at lease of at least 5 years that cannot be ended by the landlord?

Yes No

b) Is planning permission needed for your project? Tick one option below.

Planning permission not required

Planning permission required and has been granted

1.5 Please tell us how your project or activity will help the Council to meet its Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Make sure that people from different groups* are treated fairly and have equal chances to use services and that there is more equality between groups*;
- Make sure that people from different groups* get on together.

*Groups are people who have “protected characteristics” in the Equality Act: age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and sex.

For example are people with protected characteristics likely to face barriers; how you intend to tackle these barriers; does your project promote inclusion?

N/A

1.6 Where relevant and appropriate please describe any contribution your project may make towards promotion of the Gaelic language?

N/A

1.7 Please tell us if you have spoken to anyone about your application for advice and support – e.g. Local Highland Council Elected Member, Community Council Member, Council Staff, local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) – If yes, please provide details:

██████████ Inverness City Manager

1.8 Please tell us about any funding in kind you are seeking from the Council:

Detail i.e. premises, facilities, staff time, waiving of fees	Estimated value
N/A	

1.9 Please provide a breakdown of how much will your activities/project will cost and how much **Funding you are applying for from The Highland Council:**

Item/Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs £	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Staffing		£2,452			£2,452
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	Egg & Nest Removal Programme (and additional lasering measure included for 2024).	£15246			£15246
	Census, Survey and Misc.	£1,445			£1,445
	'Don't Feed the Gulls' messaging campaign (including on waste bins; social media and also via advert within 2024 BID visitor guide)	£882			£882
Total Project Cost £		£20,025			£20,025
Total Core Project Funding Request £		£13,606			£13,606
If desired, installation of 12 Seagull Pro Devices		+ £2,100			£2,100
If desired, installation of 360 Bio Acoustic Unit		+ £6,226			£6,226

1.10 **Other funding relating to this project** Please include other funders and own resources and income. Continue on separate sheet if required.

Organisation and status of application	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Inverness BID Limited - Confirmed	£6,419			£6,419
Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Totals	£6,419			£6,419

*See guidance notes for specific funding stream to see if you are able to apply for more than one year of funding.

- 1.11 Please tell us how you know that there is a need for this activity or project and how your approach will meet this need. This might include:
- a. Community support for your project (e.g. surveys, etc.)
 - b. Statistics which show the need for your project (e.g. unemployment figures, crime statistics)
 - c. Evidence from similar projects which shows that they have worked (e.g. research from elsewhere or evaluations of previous local work)

The report to Inverness City Committee from the Inverness City Manager and the Policy and Advice Manager, Scottish Natural Heritage on 13th February 2012 established the need for and benefits of this project which has been ongoing since this date with annual applications to support continuation.

- 1.12 Is this a new or additional activity or project? – Yes No
- If yes, what change will your activities or project make in your community?

N/A

If No, how has your activities or project been funded in the last three years?

The project has received part funding from Inverness Common Good Fund in the since 2012.

- 1.13 Please tell us how you will know that your activities or project is working and that you are benefiting your community. You only need to provide targets for the years in which your project will operate. See the detailed guidance for examples of targets.

How you will know you have made the change?		
Year 1 Measurable Outcome	Year 2 Measurable Outcome	Year 3 Measurable Outcome
Through the number of eggs and nests removed.		
An annual gull count and case studies.		

- 1.14 If it is intended that this activity or project continue beyond the period of Council support, how will it be funded?

The report by Scottish Natural Heritage established that it would be necessary for a number of years to intervene in the gull breeding cycle by egg and nest removal in order to reverse the increase in the existing population and then reduce numbers.

BID has committed budget to the project for future years and it is proposed that a future application for funding be made to ICGF.

- b) What geographic areas and/or communities of interest (e.g. Young people, people with disabilities, older people, people from an ethnic minority background) does your organisation cover?

Inverness BID Limited (a not-for-profit company) was established in 2008 to assist the marketing and economic development of the defined City Centre area.

Businesses in the City Centre/BID area pay BID levy as a percentage of their business rateable value to help fund programmes of activity which are focused on improving or generating economic vibrancy for the City. This investment is in addition to activities undertaken by the Highland Council and other City Centre stakeholders to the benefit of members and the wider stakeholders and economy of the City Centre and surrounding areas. Normally BID operates in the Inverness City Centre area but for this project premises in the wider Inverness area are included.

- c) Is there any restriction on who can join your organisation?

Yes No If yes, what are they and why do you have them?

Under statute membership of Inverness BID Limited (a not-for-profit company) is currently restricted to those businesses based in Inverness City Centre who pay BID levy or who apply for voluntary membership however as demonstrable, activities of mutual benefit also extend to other areas in some cases such as via this project.

- d) How many people are on your governing body or management committee? ...14...

- e) Are there Highland Council Elected Members or Officers or Community Councillors on or attending your Management Committee or Board? *(please note that this will not affect your application)*

Yes No

If yes, please provide names:

Highland Council Elected Members	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official / advisory, other
██████████	Director (Appointed)
██████████	Director (Co-Opted)

Community Councillors	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other

Council Officers	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other
██████████	City Area Manager



APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR GRANT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDING AND FUNDING IN KIND FROM THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – Over £10,000 – Common Good Funds

Name of Organisation:

Inverness BID Limited

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

SAFE Inverness Project 2024

Which of the Council’s funding streams are you applying to?

(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Inverness Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

£5,000 or under Under £10,000 £10,000 or over

Total amount applied for: £9,700.

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £ NONE.....

Please detail what funding in kind has been applied for e.g. Council staff time, use of premises or equipment, waiving of fees or administration support

What type of organisation are you? (please tick all that apply)

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation		Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number		Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number SC339914.....	✓
Other - please specify.....			

Please remember guidance to completing the application form is available [here](#). Appropriate links to the guidance are situated throughout the form: [This page](#)

For official use only			
Application reference number			

PART 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

Guidance on completing part 1: [ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT](#)

1.1 What is the name of your activity or project?

SAFE Inverness Project 2024

1.2 When will your activity or project take place? (specifically, those for which you are seeking an award from The Highland Council)

Start date (month and year)...1st April 2024.....
End date (month and year)...31st March 2025.....
Location...City of Inverness.....

1.3 What activity or project do you want us to support?

For example:.

- *Aims of the project and how you are going to do it*
- *Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?*
- *Who will benefit*

Please note that the Council will be unable to provide any resources not specified on this form or supporting information.

Project Background and Details

‘SAFE Inverness’ has evolved from a number of previous project inceptions including:

- Pre-2008, ‘Crime Reduction Partnership’ – Scottish Government funded via BIDs predecessor: Inverness City Centre Management (ICCM).
- Inverness City Centre BID replaced ICCM in 2008, and at the request of Highland Council agreed to take over this important function with part-funded support from the ICGF.
- The Inverness Community Safety Partnership was formed in 2010 and the projects core activity, included responsibility for the provision of support and programming of the Inverness Community Safety Partnership (ICSP) which until recently, co-ordinated a number of community safety initiatives in the wider Inverness area. The project further delivered and was responsible for several community safety projects and initiatives specific to the BID City Centre area. Governance and oversight of the ICSP was provided via the Inverness Area Committee.
- The ICSP continued year on year to take ownership of and provide governance, oversight, and direct support for an expanded community safety agenda and activities in the City Centre and wider Inverness areas. ICSP partners included representatives from all Emergency Services, a nominated Elected Inverness Member of Highland Council and the City Area Manager, NHS Highland, Inverness Prison, Inverness Drug & Alcohol Forum, Voluntary Sector Agencies and others.

- Following the introduction of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, a legislative requirement was placed on Statutory Agencies and local Community Planning Partnerships to provide clear statutory purpose focused on improving outcomes. The act is explicit in respect to how public bodies should work together with the local community to plan for, resource and provide services which improve local outcomes in the authority's area, including with the aim of reducing inequality or other disadvantage.

In 2016 the Inverness Community Partnership led by Highland Council and other key Statutory Agencies, Organisations and others as Core Partners, Chaired by an Elected Member and supported by Senior Council Officers was formed to take forward this new legislative requirement in to account in order to prepare and publish a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) which set out the local outcomes which the CPP will prioritise for improvement as well as smaller areas within the local authority area which experience the poorest outcomes, and also to develop, prepare and publish locality plans to improve outcomes on agreed priorities for these communities.

In 2019, an agreed change in governance and oversight arrangements saw the ICSP reporting direct to the Chair of the ICP rather than the Inverness Area Committee to help align and complement the business of both bodies although in practice this was for information purposes only.

In late 2022, it was recognised that there was a need for clarity in the roles and responsibilities of the Inverness Community Partnership (ICP) and that of the Inverness Community Safety Partnership (ICSP) as much of the work emphasis and resources of the Partner Agencies was either being directed towards the LOIP's and the Community Locality Plans with cross-over to reduce duplication of effort and/or resource in maintaining both the ICP and the ICSP structures.

A decision was made at a senior partnership level to look at subsuming the Community Safety agenda of the ICSP into the ICP and in April 2023, work began in integrating Community Safety into the Locality Action Plans and Inverness City Centre BID, were invited to join the Inverness Community Partnership and the ICP – Core Group as a co-opted member to represent the community safety interests of the City Centre community and businesses. This new role continues to be undertaken and managed by the BID Community Safety Manager, who has significant experience in community safety and partnership working having previously served 31+ years working as a Senior Police Officer within Northern Constabulary until his retirement and before taking up his current post.

Throughout the year within the identified ICSP and now the ICP, Inverness BID through their Community Safety Manager has continued to provide a number of key functions in 2023 and it is proposed with support, that this will continue in 2024-25 as follows:

Project Proposal

Further to the Partnership's realignment with the ICP, the current SAFE Inverness project has maintained and proposes to continue the provision of partnership management, administration and co-ordination functions on identified projects and initiatives to facilitate wider initiatives and to be responsible for;

- Providing partnership support for funding applications/delivery/co-ordination on a range of community safety programmes for business, residents and visitors to the City Centre including Operation Respect, a joint funded programme in partnership with Highland Council, Police Scotland, BID, Street Pastors, NHS Highland, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, Scottish Ambulance Service, MERT Highland, Highland Third Sector Interface and other partners.
- Maintain an overview and raise awareness of relevant Community Safety initiatives that may be undertaken in conjunction with any of the partner agencies that impact on the City Centre within the boundaries of the geographical remit of the Inverness Community Partnership, being the 7 City Wards in agreement with partners.
- Co-ordination of Operation Respect and other Safe Inverness Crime Reduction measures and the activity of the partners of the Inverness Partnership in relation to all relevant Community Safety/Business Crime initiatives.
- Through participation in the ICP, contribute and provide guidance and advice to the formulation and review of objectives and initiatives for Community Safety/Business Crime initiatives on an annual basis.
- To assist with the delivery of Community Safety initiatives as agreed in consultation with partners and where relevant to co-ordinate good practice and make best use of development opportunities.
- Deliver strategic analysis - Reports and Evaluations of Operation Respect and other Joint Partnership Initiatives as required to the Inverness Community Partnership, The City of Inverness Area Committee, and where relevant Inverness Common Good Fund Committee on the activities of joint Community Safety & Crime Reduction Partnership initiatives and proposals for future development.
- Maximise opportunities and BID involvement in media engagement in all supported activity to raise awareness of key issues and preventative measures for example.
- Inverness BID will also continue to service the business community through a number of Community Safety Initiatives including co-ordination of the Business Crime Reduction Partnership, sharing information with Business, Retail and Hospitality Industry members, on a web based members only secure online platform, liaising with Retailers Against Crime (RAC), and the Scottish Cyber Centre, formerly the Scottish Business Resilience Centre (SBRC), all in line with Data Protection and GDPR legislative requirements. These activities have an overarching aim of reducing crime and increasing a safer and more secure environment for all.
- Inverness BID via this project will also manage, co-ordinate and Chair the Inverness Retail Security Group, which provides a structure for Retail and other Businesses experiencing retail crime and interested in loss prevention measures and sharing information at a local level. This group meets quarterly and is attended by Police Scotland, Shopsafe Radios, Eastgate Security Management and other Retail Security Representatives from major stores and other premises regularly targeted by shoplifters and those engaged in other retail related crime.

Since 2022, this initiative has been addressing issues pertaining to Anti-Social Behaviour, Shoplifting, and Youth Crime particularly during school holidays and weekends and with the advent of the free bus passes available this has given rise to a reported increase in shoplifting and anti-social behaviour by some youths resident out with the Inverness area travelling regularly into the City Centre from as far afield as Morayshire, Easter Ross and beyond.

Inverness BID through its Community Safety and Partnership Involvement with the ICSP and the ICP continues to support the vital night-time economy and encourages/facilitates/coordinates participation in the Inverness Pub Watch and the Best Bar None Awards which promotes excellence in standards and matters relating to staff welfare, training, performance, community support and the customer experience in the licensed trade.

The BID Community Safety Manager also provides the Secretariat and Event Co-ordinator role for both important initiatives which ensures that the entertainment and hospitality experience and offering in Inverness remains safe and welcoming for all.

The Inverness Community Partnership and the Benefit of Working in Partnership

Now that the Inverness Community Partnership has agreed its overarching wider area priorities within their Inverness Area Locality Plan which now includes Community Safety and Resilience as a specific workstream theme, this will allow all our Statutory Core Partners to take steps to identify activity that will build capacity, improve opportunity and reduce inequality or disadvantage that will allow our people in Inverness to benefit from living in strong, safer and more resilient communities where investment and resources will be directed towards making a difference in real terms.

Inverness BID as a co-opted Member of the ICP, the Community Safety Manager will also be fully involved in the work of the Partnership where practical going forward and will provide a positive and supporting role going forward in an optimally responsive, effective and impactful way including to continue to represent the interests of our City Centre businesses but importantly also to continue to work in partnership, contribute to improving community safety and public reassurance activity and delivery of co-ordinated initiatives and projects for the benefit of residents, visitors, and businesses alike in Inverness.

Inverness BID seeks through its community safety programmes, to reduce crime and the fear of crime in conjunction with working with its partner agencies to improve the amenity, safety and wellbeing of Inverness for all.

Under the banner of Operation Respect, Inverness BID, jointly funded by Inverness Common Good Fund, also provides the seasonal BID Security Task Teams, which operate during all school holiday periods as well as an extended period from late November through the Festive period which this investment allows co-ordination/management of.

The Aims of the BID Security Task Team are:

- to work closely, in support of the City Centre Businesses, with Police Scotland, Highland Council and all other relevant agencies to provide a co-ordinated response to tackling crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour, to improve business confidence and public reassurance.
- to deliver high visibility patrols and be an approachable ambassadorial service for those that use the City Centre, and in support of Businesses, front-line staff, and the general public to increase confidence, public reassurance and provide assistance as required.

It is hoped that through the ICP, Inverness City Centre BID and other Partners will continue to support and progress the Highland Council's aim to deliver increased

coverage together with upgraded high quality digital CCTV and Monitoring Systems in Inverness and across Highland. Noting the importance of the CCTV network to the wellbeing of our communities, the role of the ICP will be pivotal in ensuring there is a strong platform for agencies to share ideas, and to support the enhancement of the CCTV network, to attract the necessary funding.

This also provides another level of scrutiny of the significant existing funding allocation towards the delivery of CCTV within the City from the Inverness Common Good Fund which is agreed annually.

Through the Partnership, full support is given to the Safe Inverness Crime Reduction Partnership and to the regular seasonal Operation Respect programmes throughout the year. These initiatives address local issues associated with vulnerability, improved access to services, increased Community and Public Reassurance, with additional and targeted support to business, the night-time economy, and those who frequent the range of hospitality and entertainment on offer.

In 2022, following the successful initiative where BID co-ordinated the efforts of three local business owners, Highland Council and the ICGF, to fully fund and provide Public Access Defibrillators at 5 key locations within the City Centre, these have been accessed on several occasions to provide life saving support at medical emergencies. Inverness BID Community Safety Manager has taken on the role of providing regular weekly inspection and maintenance checks on the facilities as well as acting as Guardian and Co-ordinator to ensure the equipment is checked, and replenished before it is returned to operational service after use alongside the regular updating of the British Heart Foundation website as to its readiness.

Inverness BID further Chair a fortnightly meeting between BID, Street Pastors, Police Scotland (Town House Team), HADASS, Highland Council Ward Manager, CCTV Monitoring, and other City centre stakeholders. The purpose of these regular meetings is to, on a rolling basis share information and assign actions for ongoing issues which cover a broad range from crime to health and safety to ensure non-duplication of effort and to achieve outcomes that singular organisations could not achieve alone.

As part of his role, the Community Safety Manager also represents Inverness BID on the Inverness Emergency Liaison Group (ELG) and is available to assist in the provision of information and assistance on City Centre business continuity considerations and relevant contacts details of key individuals which has proved extremely helpful in contributing towards delivering support and successful resolution to significant incidents in and around Inverness which impacts on the dynamics and operation of the City Centre on a day to day basis.

This narrative provides an overview of where Inverness Bid has developed and continues to play an integral role in the partnership delivery of community safety for all our communities and visitors alike who access Inverness and utilise the services available.

Our major partners within Inverness City, including Highland Council Area Manager, [REDACTED] and Police Scotland Area Commander, Chief Inspector [REDACTED], both of whom were instrumental in the redesign and engagement with BID in bringing the Community Safety Agenda under the auspices of the Inverness Community Partnership have both expressed great support for Inverness BID's continued role

within the Partnership and delivery of its Plans.

1.4 Does your activity or project involve building or landscaping work?

Yes No

If yes please answer both a) and b) below.

a) Does your organisation (Please tick):
Have ownership of the land or building

Yes No

OR

Hold at lease of at least 5 years that cannot be ended by the landlord?

Yes No

b) Is planning permission needed for your project? Tick one option below.

Planning permission not required

Planning permission required and has been granted

1.5 Please tell us how your project or activity will help the Council to meet its Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Make sure that people from different groups* are treated fairly and have equal chances to use services and that there is more equality between groups*;
- Make sure that people from different groups* get on together.

*Groups are people who have “protected characteristics” in the Equality Act: age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and sex.

For example, are people with protected characteristics likely to face barriers; how you intend to tackle these barriers; does your project promote inclusion?

There are no barriers to groups benefiting from this Project and full equality impact assessment available upon request.

1.6 Where relevant and appropriate please describe any contribution your project may make towards promotion of the Gaelic language?

N/A

1.7 Please tell us if you have spoken to anyone about your application for advice and support – e.g. Local Highland Council Elected Member, Community Council Member, Council Staff, local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) – If yes, please provide details:

██████████, Inverness City Manager
Chief Inspector ██████████ Area Commander, Police Scotland, Inverness

1.8 Please tell us about any funding in kind you are seeking from the Council:

Detail i.e. premises, facilities, staff time, waiving of fees	Estimated value
N/A	

1.9 Please provide a breakdown of how much will your activities/project will cost and how much **Funding you are applying for from The Highland Council:**

Item/Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs £	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Staffing	Employment Costs	£24,500			£24,500
Other Costs e.g. property costs, fcr, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	Programme Costs	£8,500			£8,500
Total Project Cost £		£33,000			£33,000
Total Funding Request £		£9,700			£9,700

1.10 **Other funding relating to this project** Please include other funders and own resources and income. Continue on separate sheet if required.

Organisation and status of application	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Inverness BID Limited - Confirmed	£23,300			£23,300
Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Totals	£23,300			£23,300

*See guidance notes for specific funding stream to see if you are able to apply for more than one year of funding.

- 1.11 Please tell us how you know that there is a need for this activity or project and how your approach will meet this need. This might include:
- Community support for your project (e.g. surveys, etc.)
 - Statistics which show the need for your project (e.g. unemployment figures, crime statistics)
 - Evidence from similar projects which shows that they have worked (e.g. research from elsewhere or evaluations of previous local work)

The need for this Project was recognised by the Inverness City Committee in 2010 and its role continues to be supported by successive Partnerships including the current Inverness Community Partnership and the member organisations, which has subsumed the previous remit for the delivery of Community Safety and Resilience from the ICSP although it is agreed that some changes may continue to be required going forward to ensure that the delivery and implementation of the Inverness Locality Plans can develop and be optimally effective.

The Project has received funding from the Common Good Fund as follows:

2023/24	£9,700
2022/23	£9,700
2021/22	£9,700
2020/21	£9,700
2019/20	£9,000

- 1.12 Is this a new or additional activity or project? – Yes No
- If yes, what change will your activities or project make in your community?

If No, how has your activities or project been funded in the last three years?

Jointly funded by Inverness Common Good Fund (28%) & BID (72%)

- 1.13 Please tell us how you will know that your activities or project is working and that you are benefiting your community. You only need to provide targets for the years in which your project will operate. See the detailed guidance for examples of targets.

How you will know you have made the change?		
Year 1 Measurable Outcome	Year 2 Measurable Outcome	Year 3 Measurable Outcome
Achievement of business objectives as set down by ICP – Response from member agencies – Interaction with public.		

1.14 If it is intended that this activity or project continue beyond the period of Council support, how will it be funded?

The Inverness Community Partnership helps the Council achieve its goals and objectives in community safety for residents and visitors alike.

- b) What geographic areas and/or communities of interest (e.g. Young people, people with disabilities, older people, people from an ethnic minority background) does your organisation cover?

Inverness BID Limited (a not-for-profit company) was established in 2008 to assist the marketing, economic and other development of and within the City Centre area.

Businesses in the City Centre/BID area pay a set % levy of their business rateable value to BID to help fund programmes of activity which are focused on generating economic vibrancy and development for the City. This investment compliments that of the Highland Council and the other city centre stakeholders to the benefit of the users and the economy of the City Centre.

Normally BID operates in the Inverness City Centre area but for this project it includes premises and initiatives by agreement with partners in the wider Inverness area.

- c) Is there any restriction on who can join your organisation?

Yes No If yes, what are they and why do you have them?

Under statute Inverness BID Limited (a not-for-profit company) currently restricts its membership to those businesses based in Inverness city centre who pay BID levy or who apply for voluntary membership. However, as alluded to at 3.3b the Safe Inverness Crime Reduction Partnership allows membership from premises across the city in the interests of reducing crime overall and so the area for the project extends to a much wider geographic region.

- d) How many people are on your governing body or management committee? 15

- e) Are there Highland Council Elected Members or Officers or Community Councillors on or attending your Management Committee or Board? *(please note that this will not affect your application)*

Yes No

If yes, please provide names:

Highland Council Elected Members	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official / advisory, other
██████████	Director (Allocated)
██████████	Director (Co-Opt)

Community Councillors	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other

Council Officers	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other
██████████	City Manager



APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR GRANT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDING AND FUNDING IN KIND FROM THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – Over £10,000 – Common Good Funds

Name of Organisation:

Inverness Business Improvement District

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Coach & Visitor Ambassador Project 2024

Which of the Council’s funding streams are you applying to?

(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Inverness Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

£5,000 or under Under £10,000 £10,000 or over

Total amount applied for: £19,865

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £.....

Please detail what funding in kind has been applied for e.g. Council staff time, use of premises or equipment, waiving of fees or administration support

.....

What type of organisation are you? (please tick all that apply)

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation		Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number		Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number SC339914	✓
Other - please specify.....			

Please remember guidance to completing the application form is available [here](#). Appropriate links to the guidance are situated throughout the form: [This page](#)

For official use only			
Application reference number			

PART 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

Guidance on completing part 1: [ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT](#)

1.1 What is the name of your activity or project?

Coach & Visitor Ambassador Project 2024

1.2 When will your activity or project take place? (specifically those for which you are seeking an award from The Highland Council)

Start date (month and year) April 2024

End date (month and year) October 2024

Location: Ardross Street/Inverness City Centre

1.3 What activity or project do you want us to support?

For example:

- *Aims of the project and how you are going to do it*
- *Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?*
- *Who will benefit*

Please note that the Council will be unable to provide any resources not specified on this form or supporting information.

Project Background

The joint Report of the Director of Community Services and the Inverness City Manager to the City of Inverness Area Committee on 28th January 2016 cited the aim of “Developing Inverness as a Coach Friendly City” and reported on the success of the use of Ardross Street as a designated Coach/Drop Off/Pick up point for visitors during 2015 which included the important role undertaken by the designated BID Coach Ambassador/s to:

- “Act as a liaison between residents and businesses on Ardross Street with the Coach Operators and Staff to ensure that any concerns are addressed timeously and effectively.”
- “Welcome visitors to the City, provide directions, answer questions visitors, to promote a positive view of the City and its people to encourage return visits and to facilitate our guests to visit the many points of interest to them in the City Centre.”

In 2015 at the request of the Highland Council, Inverness BID agreed to staff and manage the Coach Ambassador Programme initially on the basis of the costs being fully funded by the Inverness Common Good Fund.

The service involves having a Coach Ambassador on hand to co-ordinate parking, traffic management, to provide a knowledgeable and warm welcome (whatever the weather) to the now 3,689+ coaches and their visitors and this project operates on a 7-day basis increasing to 2 or 3 ambassadors when a large number of coaches from larger cruise liners are scheduled to visit Inverness.

The Coach Ambassadors further provide an important role is assisting visitors with issues such as missing their return coach, obtaining emergency medical assistance

when needed as appointed persons for first aid purposes and also by being responsive to passenger needs including those pertaining to accessibility and compliance with the PSED. The project serves as the primary co-ordination and liaison point for cruise and coach companies, in respect to any traffic disruption including to ensure that the facility achieves a safe, welcoming and effective service. The project co-ordinates any change in location for drop offs as may be occasionally required and regularly works in partnership with other agencies to ensure optimal use of resources.

In recognition of the excellent service provided and following a joint BID/HC application, in October 2016 Inverness was awarded official 'Coach Friendly' status by The Confederation of Passenger Transport UK (CPT) due to "the commitment made by Inverness to meet the needs of coaches, their drivers and their passengers to the City Centre".

The success of the initiative is also demonstrated by the numbers of coaches now accommodated across the 11 designated bays:

Table – Coach Ambassador Project Stats for 2022 and 2023:

Year	Total Coaches	Cruise Liners Docked	% Operating Levels v 2019	Estimated Visitors
2022	2672	109	89%	125k
2023	3689	130	123%	150k

The Coach Ambassador programme further assists domestic tour coaches with feedback from the drivers and staff stating that Inverness is one the best managed drop off points they visit making the total number of coaches welcomed in 2023 being recorded at 3,689, recording visitor numbers of circa. 150k and operating at levels 23% higher than pre-pandemic with over 1000 more coaches assisted.

The project staff have further assisted with additional tasks for the greater good of the City in the area when required by for example helping to manage and co-ordinate parking for events at the Northern Meeting Park such as the Dandelion Festival, or at the Bught such as the Highland Games or assisting with the clean up of litter on Ardross Street to ensure that the area is well managed, kept and optimally presentable.

The team further have excellent relationships with surrounding businesses and residents and have many 'regular' canine friends, all known by name who also at times provide an added welcome to our coach visitors if they are passing at the time meaning the project in totality very much facilitates the presentation of Inverness and our community as the 'friendly City' at its best and encourages our guests to return for a longer repeat visit at a later stage with feedback to date being extremely positive as was further recorded by the 2023 visitor survey.

For the 2023 season BID provided the Coach Ambassador service daily (i.e Monday to Sunday) between 1st April 2023 and 13th October 2023 (28 weeks). The additional project costs, exceeding the projected £19,500 were paid by BID and attributable due to the increase in demand, and primarily were required to cover staffing hours across 3 staff members, which for the season equalled 1550 hours or an average of 55.25 hours per week in total.

For 2024, it is anticipated that due to change in coach arrival times, volume of coaches

and related demand, that projected average weekly ambassador staff hours (in total and shared across 3 staff) will equate to c.58 hours per week/1624 hours for the 28-week season.

In 2022, the estimated cost of the joint investment equated to £6.73 per coach, for 2024 a sum of £7.78 per coach (14% increase) equivalent is required to meet the increased volume of passengers and coaches, extended drop off times and associated costs. It is estimated that there will be c.3700 coaches visiting in the 2024 season.

The application herein seeks an ICGF contribution of approx. two-thirds of this sum and one third BID to enable this important project to continue in 2024 and at a vital time for our local economy.

1.4 Does your activity or project involve building or landscaping work?

Yes No

If yes please answer both a) and b) below.

a) Does your organisation (Please tick):
Have ownership of the land or building

Yes No

OR

Hold at lease of at least 5 years that cannot be ended by the landlord?

Yes No

b) Is planning permission needed for your project? Tick one option below.

Planning permission not required

Planning permission required and has been granted

1.5 Please tell us how your project or activity will help the Council to meet its Public-Sector Equality Duty to:

- Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Make sure that people from different groups* are treated fairly and have equal chances to use services and that there is more equality between groups*;
- Make sure that people from different groups* get on together.

*Groups are people who have “protected characteristics” in the Equality Act: age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and sex.

For example, are people with protected characteristics likely to face barriers; how you intend to tackle these barriers; does your project promote inclusion?

A full equality impact assessment is available upon request.

To summarise: the project will continue to greatly assist Highland Council with the meeting of the Public Sector Equality Duty as defined in the Equality Act (2010)

including as exemplified by the team frequently helping visitors who due to a protected characteristic are disadvantaged or have additional needs such as: ringing for taxis for older people or those who cannot speak English, helping those with a disability or who need medical attention or by helping women who need a quiet space to breastfeed.

For the levelling up project at the Northern Meeting Park the Team have been provisionally designated space to base operations within the new design should the service continue. This will greatly assist with building on the equality related work already being undertaken as having a 'room of requirement' will ensure that Inverness actively reduces the barriers faced by visitors with a protected characteristic in order to promote inclusion optimally as the space will be flexible and can be used for many of the needs outlined above.

The proposed visitor survey for 2023 will further have designated equality questions to help the team evaluate what additional measures can be taken to assist and expand compliance with this duty.

1.6 Where relevant and appropriate please describe any contribution your project may make towards promotion of the Gaelic language?

N/A

1.7 Please tell us if you have spoken to anyone about your application for advice and support – e.g. Local Highland Council Elected Member, Community Council Member, Council Staff, local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) – If yes, please provide details:

██████████, The City Area Manager

1.8 Please tell us about any funding in kind you are seeking from the Council:

Detail i.e. premises, facilities, staff time, waiving of fees	Estimated value

1.9 Please provide a breakdown of how much will your activities/project will cost and how much **Funding you are applying for from The Highland Council:**

Item/Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs £	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	2023
Project Staffing	Hours extended to start at 0900 in 2024, to accommodate new coach scheduling.	£23,440			£16,750
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	55k Visitor Guide/Maps, Clothing, Communications, FCR, First Aid Training & Equipment etc	£5,440			£2,750
Total Project Cost £		£28,880			£19,500
Total Funding Request £		£19,865			£12,987

1.10 **Other funding relating to this project** Please include other funders and own resources and income. Continue on separate sheet if required.

Organisation and status of application	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Inverness BID Limited - confirmed	£9,015			£6513
Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Totals	£9,015			£6513

*See guidance notes for specific funding stream to see if you are able to apply for more than one year of funding.

- 1.11 Please tell us how you know that there is a need for this activity or project and how your approach will meet this need. This might include:
- a. Community support for your project (e.g. surveys, etc.)
 - b. Statistics which show the need for your project (e.g. unemployment figures, crime statistics)
 - c. Evidence from similar projects which shows that they have worked (e.g. research from elsewhere or evaluations of previous local work)

Requested by Highland Council Officers and demonstrated by response from local businesses and Coach users Proposed in Report to City of Inverness Area Committee.

- 1.12 Is this a new or additional activity or project? – Yes No
- If yes, what change will your activities or project make in your community?

If No, how has your activities or project been funded in the last three years?

Project part funded with ICGF grant of:

£17,000 in 2015
£10,800 in 2022
£12,987 in 2023

- 1.13 Please tell us how you will know that your activities or project is working and that you are benefiting your community. You only need to provide targets for the years in which your project will operate. See the detailed guidance for examples of targets.

How you will know you have made the change?		
Year 1 Measurable Outcome	Year 2 Measurable Outcome	Year 3 Measurable Outcome
Positive feedback from local businesses, coach passengers and coach companies as well as visitor feedback via the 2023 QR code project survey. Numbers of coaches and passengers.		

- 1.14 If it is intended that this activity or project continue beyond the period of Council support, how will it be funded?

The project provides a valuable service that benefits the local economy and BID will continue to support this project via match funding.
--

- 3.3 a) When did your organisation start? Month...April.....Year 2008
- b) What geographic areas and/or communities of interest (e.g. Young people, people with disabilities, older people, people from an ethnic minority background) does your organisation cover?

Inverness BID limited (a not-for-profit company) was established in 2008 to assist the marketing and economic development of the designated City Centre area.

- c) Is there any restriction on who can join your organisation?
 Yes No If yes, what are they and why do you have them?

Businesses based in Inverness City Centre who pay BID levy are automatically eligible for membership of BID and entitled to vote at the AGM. Other non-levy paying businesses can apply for voluntary membership.

- d) How many people are on your governing body or management committee? ...14...
- e) Are there Highland Council Elected Members or Officers or Community Councillors on or attending your Management Committee or Board? *(please note that this will not affect your application)*
 Yes No

If yes, please provide names:

Highland Council Elected Members	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official / advisory, other
██████████	Director (Appointed)
██████████	Director (Co-Opt)

Community Councillors	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other

Council Officers	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other
██████████	City Area Manager