

The Highland Council

Agenda Item	CIA/30/24
Report No	12.d

Committee: City of Inverness Area Committee

Date: 19 August 2024

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

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

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

1.2 As there were insufficient funds in the Other Grants Category (with only £1,761 available to distribute against applications totalling £28,729) to proceed to consider applications, the Sub-committee agreed to defer consideration of the applications due to insufficient funds being available with the proviso that the Sub-Committee would reconsider the applications in the event that further funds were allocated to the Other Grants budget during the current financial year.

As there were insufficient funds to meet awards under the Poverty and Inequality category, the Sub-Committee considered each grant award in principle and then reduced the grant proposed in each case, pro-rata to allow the grant awards to fall in line with the available budget.

The awards in the Other Properties Category were then agreed.

Noting that both grants' categories no longer have budget it is recommended that both categories be closed to further applications for the remainder of this financial year.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:

- i. Consider the applications for funding; and
- ii. Note that no further applications will be considered during the financial year 2024/25 under the Poverty and Inequality or Other Grants Budgets unless further funding is allocated to the relevant budgets
- iii. Agree to close the Grants budget for further applications for the remainder of financial year 2024/25.

3. Implications

3.1 Resource

Funding is provided by the Inverness Common Good Fund budget for 2024/25. Members are reminded that the overall Grants Budget was reduced from £0.275m 2022/23 to £0.161m for 2023/24 and 2024/25. In addition, the budget was allocated with £0.121m specifically for Poverty and Inequality projects and £0.040m for all other requests. The Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee (The Sub-Committee) have taken steps to carefully assess each application as to which category it falls to ensure proper allocation of funds takes place.

3.2 Legal

There are no Legal implications as a result of this report

3.4 Risk

There are no known risk implications in respect of this report.

3.5 Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)

Consideration will be given to ensuring that appropriate standards are applied to any projects that are approved for grant support come at all in terms of Council policy.

3.6 Gaelic

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

4. Impacts

4.1 In Highland, all policies, strategies or service changes are subject to an integrated screening for impact for Equalities, Poverty and Human Rights, Children's Rights and Wellbeing, Climate Change, Islands and Mainland Rural Communities, and Data Protection. Where identified as required, a full impact assessment will be undertaken.

4.2 Considering impacts is a core part of the decision-making process and needs to inform the decision-making process. When taking any decision, Members must give due regard to the findings of any assessment.

4.3 A separate screening for impact for each project is not required however applications applying to the ICGF must specifically show how their project or activity will help the Council meet its public sector equality duty, including how it may address any barriers and promote social inclusion. This supports the decision-making process.

5. Grant Applications – Poverty and Inequality

5.1 The current summary of funds available following the Sub-Committee meeting on 22 April 2024 is set out in **Appendix 1**.

5.2 **Booklet A** includes details of current grant applications for more than £10,000. Members are invited to consider the following applications:

1. Poverty & Inequality Grant Applications (Members are asked to note that a pro-rata reduction was applied to all successful grant applications in this category due to the limited budget available)

- i. **UHI Inverness:** The Sub-Committee recommend approval of a grant of £5,743 towards the Caring Conversations project. Funding agreed to be targeted at the writing of the Play as this was an area which the Sub-Committee agreed that the applicant could not be expected to support other than through the provision of an independent professional.
- ii. **Hilton Family Support:** The Sub-Committee recommend approval of a grant of £14,100 towards Hilton Family Support.
- iii. **New Start Highland:** The Sub-Committee recommend approval of a grant of £30,550 towards a training and reuse village.
- iv. **Velocity Café & Bicycle Workshop:** The Sub-Committee recommend approval of a grant of £7,261 towards the Cycle to Health project.

2. Other Properties

- i. **Apex Highland:** The Sub-Committee recommend approval of a grant of £14,581 towards Apex Highland – Torvean and Fraser Park.

Designation: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

Date: 2 August 2024

Author: David Haas

Background Papers:

Appendices: Appendix 1 – ICGF resources available for allocation.

Appendix 1

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

£

Budget Balance Available

Poverty & Inequality		121,000	
Other		40,000	161,000

Carry Forward from 2023/24

Poverty & Inequality	Grants < £10k	50,125	
	Grants > £10k	<u>32,500</u>	82,625
Other	Grants < £10k	63,627	
	Grants > £10k	<u>62,500</u>	126,127
			208,752
			369,752

Committee Date	Category	Award	Total for meeting	
(Committed from previous financial years)	Grants < £10k	113,752		
	Grants > £10k	<u>95,000</u>	208,752	161,000

**22/04/24 Inverness Common
Good Fund Sub-Committee**

Poverty & Inequality	Grants < £10k	27,613	
Other	Grants < £10k	<u>33,239</u>	60,852
			100,148

**20/05/24 City of Inverness Area
Committee**

Poverty & Inequality	Grants > £10k	16,000	16,000	84,148
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**01/08/24 Inverness Common
Good Fund Sub-Committee**

Poverty & Inequality	Grants < £10k	18,036	
Other	Grants < £10k	5,000	23,036
			61,112 £5,000 grant for SCO confirmed at meeting)

**19/08/24 City of Inverness Area
Committee recommended for
approval**

Poverty & Inequality	Grants > £10k	57,654	57,654	3,458
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Poverty & Inequality Grants				121,000
22/04/24 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee				
	Grants < £10k	27,613	27,613	93,387
20/05/24 City of Inverness Area Committee				
	Grants > £10k	16,000	16,000	77,387
01/08/24 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee				
Poverty & Inequality	Grants < £10k	18,036	18,036	59,351
19/08/24 City of Inverness Area Committee recommended for approval				
Poverty & Inequality	Grants > £10k	57,654	57,654	1,697
Other Grants				40,000
22/04/24 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee				
	Grants < £10k	33,239	33,239	(£5,000 was agreed in principal for the SCO - 6,761 awaiting further information)
01/08/24 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee				
Other	Grants < £10k	5,000	5,000	1,761 £5,000 grant for SCO confirmed at meeting)