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| Agenda Item | 9 |
| Report No | NC/19/24 |

The Highland Council

Committee: Nairnshire Area Committee

Date: 4 November 2024

Report Title: Highland Charities Trust – Allocation of Funds

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the request for funding of £2,000 from the Nairn and Auldearn Poor Fund. The Nairnshire Area Committee has power to allocate these funds
- 1.2 The funding is to be used as a form of Hardship fund to serve the residents of Nairn and Nairnshire

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to:
 - i. To **Agree** to allocate funds from the Nairn and Auldearn Poor Fund to be used as a form of Hardship Fund to serve the people of Nairn and Nairnshire.
 - ii. To **Agree** that officers approach the Citizens Advice Bureau to administer the funds as part of the 'Peoples Pot' currently administered by CAB.

3. Implications

- 3.1 Resource – Funding is provided by the Highland Charities Trust budget for 2024/25
- 3.2 Legal – There are no legal implications because of this report
- 3.4 Risk – There may be demand that may exceed the available budget.
- 3.5 Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people) – There are no H&S implications because of this report
- 3.6 Gaelic – There are no Gaelic implications

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 This is an update report and therefore an impact assessment is not required.

5. Background

- 5.1 Members had requested for officers to look at ways to provide a form of 'Hardship' funding scheme that could be used within Nairn and Nairnshire. The fund is to be used as a discretionary fund to support the residents in financial need through the coldest months of the year.
- 5.2 While the model for administering the payments from the fund are to be confirmed, initial discussion with Citizens Advice Bureau, Nairnshire, have been held with a form of administering support funds already in place with them. The funds allocated would be used as a trial and will review at year end.
- 5.3 Total amount in the Nairn Poor Fund that is available through revenue is £11,834.02 as confirmed by finance.

6. Fund Status

- 6.1 This fund is not a common good fund. It is one of many funds administered by the council which have been bequeathed for public benefit across the Highlands.
- 6.2 The council has decided that those funds which are targeted to benefit areas, can be administered by the relevant area committee. This includes the Nairn and Auldearn Poor Fund.

Designation: Assistant Chief executive - Place

Date: 23rd October 2024

Author: Mark Greig

Background Papers:

Appendices: Appendix 1 – funding available

Appendix 1

Funding Available

Available for dist

Sum of Actuals YTD

| Purpose | Cost Centre | CC Description | Revenue Funds |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Charities | 1910010000 | HCT Cawdor Poor Fund | (2,189.37) |
| | 1910015000 | HCT Nairn and Auldearn Poor | (9,031.84) |
| | 1910016000 | HCT Nairn Children's Fund | (612.81) |
| Charities Total | | | (11,834.02) |