

The Highland Council

Agenda Item	7c
Report No	CIA/36/24

Committee: City of Inverness Area Committee

Date: 18 November 2024

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

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Committee will note the moratorium on applications agreed at the City of Inverness Area Committee on 19 August 2024 as a result of oversubscription of the funds available.
- 1.1 This report sets out the current applications for grant funding over £10,000 to be determined.
- 1.2 Although the fund is closed for general applications, the Sub-committee have noted the significance and importance of this application and propose that if the Committee supports the application, the funds are drawn from the Winter Payments Budget, given the alignment between the work of the organisation and the purpose of those funds.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to consider the application for funding.

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.

Noting the importance of the Blythswood application, funds will be drawn from the Winter Payments Budget, with the fall back that in the event of insufficient funds, reserves will be used.

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 28 October 2024 is set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 5.2 **Booklet A** includes details of a grant application for more than £10,000. Members are invited to consider the following application:
- 1. Blythswood Care** - The ICGF Sub-Committee recommend approval of a grant of **£25,000** from the Winter Payments Budget towards the Highland Foodbank – Inverness 2025.

Designation: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

Date: 30 October 2024

Author: David Haas

Background Papers:

Appendices: Appendix 1 – ICGF resources available for allocation.

Appendix 2

**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	
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(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

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
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20/05/24 City of Inverness Area Committee

Grants > £10k	16,000	16,000	77,387
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01/08/24 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee

Poverty & Inequality	Grants < £10k	18,036	18,036	59,351
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19/08/24 City of Inverness Area Committee

Poverty & Inequality	Grants > £10k	57,654	57,654	1,697
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28/10/24 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee

Operation Respect	Grants < £10k	1,697	1,697	0
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Other Grants**40,000****22/04/24 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee**

Other	Grants < £10k	33,239	33,239	6,761
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01/08/24 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee

Other	Grants < £10k	5,000	5,000	1,761
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28/10/24 Inverness Common Good Fund Sub-Committee

Operation Respect	Grants < £10k	1,761	1,761	0
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