

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 24 AUGUST 2020

REPORT ON: COMMON GOOD FUND

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

REPORT NO: 184-2020

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides details of the Council's Common Good Fund Revenue Budget for 2020/21 and makes recommendations for the disbursement of funds for the financial year.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:-

2.1 Approve the Common Good Fund 2020/21 Revenue Budget as detailed in Appendix A.

2.2 Note that the 2020/21 balance of £110,000 will be allocated during the year following an assessment through the Dundee Partnership process approved by the Executive Director of Corporate Services. The Common Good Fund for 20/21 will be used primarily to support organisations who deliver services for the common good of the City, and who have been impacted by Covid 19. This may include additional costs of introducing services which are re-starting in line with guidance from the Scottish Government.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The draft Common Good Fund Revenue Budget for 2020/21 incorporates all known income and committed expenditure for that year. This results in a budget of £110,000 available for distribution.

4.0 INTRODUCTION

4.1 Common Good is a term synonymous with the creation of Burghs as trading counties. A Burgh became a trading county when the King licensed that Burgh to have markets, and at that time a Burgh Fund was set up and is now referred to as the Common Good Fund. As indicated by its name, the Fund is to be used for the common good of the City. Under Section 222 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, it stated that the then District Council in administering the Common Good Fund must "have regard to the interests of all inhabitants of the district".

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 In the City Council's Financial Regulations, specific reference is made to the Common Good Fund as follows:-

"The Executive Director of Corporate Services will submit a Revenue Budget to the Policy & Resources Committee each year. The Executive Director of Corporate Services will have authority to incur expenditure within the approved budget.

All investments of money shall be made by the Executive Director of Corporate Services in the name of the Council. Any investments made will be in accordance with the policy determined by the Policy & Resources Committee.

All securities which are the property of, or in the name of the Council, shall be held in custody under the supervision of the Executive Director of Corporate Services."

- 5.2 It has been accepted as custom and practice that the Common Good Fund should not meet expenditure of a recurring nature other than the replacement of Christmas Lights, Hogmanay Grants, Blood Transfusion Service and Festival of Remembrance grants and that it is solely for expenditure of a one-off nature. Last year in 2019/20 the Common Good Fund contributed to the following initiatives:

	£
Dundee Women's Festival	2,500
World Community Development Conference	7,500
LACD – Publically Accessible Defibrillators	4,254
Dundee West Church	16,741
Craigie High School	612
Funeral Link	21,414
The ARCHIE Foundation	9,750
Greatwardundee Partnership	920
National Blood Transfusion Service	1,320
Dundee City Pipe Band & Youth Music	4,750
Deaf Links	3,300
Feisty Women	3,850
Lochee United Junior Football Club	7,500
Dundee West Fest	3,924
Dundee Age Concern	2,290
Dundee-Nablus Twinning Association	2,200
Dundee Foodbank	7,200
Coats n' Quilts	1,600
Dundee Voluntary Action	6,826
Feeling Strong	1,684
Festival of Remembrance	1,605
Re:Connected	3,000
Dundee FC – Historical Trust	1,000
Stobswell Forum	775
Dundee FC in the Community Trust	1,000

- 5.3 The Common Good Fund assets are invested in Bond Funds, and the Council's Loans Fund. It is estimated that these will generate approximately £145,000 income in 2020/21.
- 5.4 After allowing for the ongoing operating costs of the Common Good and the replacement of Christmas Lights, the draft Common Good Budget for 2020/21 shows a surplus income of £110,000 and consequently this will be available for distribution during 2020/21.
- 6.0 **REVENUE BUDGET AND PROPOSED EXPENDITURE FOR 2020/21**
- 6.1 The Common Good Fund Revenue Budget for the financial year 2020/21 has been prepared, based on the latest information available. Appendix A details the Common Good Fund Revenue Budget for 2020/21.
- 6.2 In 2020/21 it is recommended that the Common Good Fund awards £20,000 to augment the newly created Festive Fund (Article IX of the minute of meeting of the Recovery Sub-Committee of 10th August, 2020, Report 176-2020, refers). In previous years £20,000 was awarded solely for the Dundee City Council Community Hogmanay Celebrations Grants budget. However this year the £20,000 is to be used to enhance the Festive Fund that will support communities across Dundee to provide trees, decorations and activities during the festive period. It is also recommended that the grants to the festival of remembrance and the blood transfusion service again be awarded in 2020 for circa £1,500 each.
- 6.3 It is requested that members and officers also bring forward proposals for the use of the 2020/21 uncommitted balance of £87,000. These proposals will be subject to an assessment

through the Dundee Partnership process approved by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

7.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

There are no major issues.

8.0 **CONSULTATIONS**

8.1 The Council Management Team were consulted in the preparation of this report.

9.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

9.1 None.

GREGORY COLGAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

30 July 2020

APPENDIX A**COMMON GOOD****REVENUE BUDGET 2020/2021**

	2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
STAFF COSTS	-	-
PROPERTY COSTS		
Property Insurance	-	-
Energy Costs	-	-
Christmas Lights	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>
TOTAL PROPERTY COSTS	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>
SUPPLIES & SERVICES		
Other Supplies and Services	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL SUPPLIES & SERVICES	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS		
Sundry Payments	<u>115</u>	<u>110</u>
TOTAL THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS	<u>115</u>	<u>110</u>
SUPPORT SERVICES		
Recharge from Central Support Departments	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>145</u>
<u>INCOME</u>		
Interest and Dividends	150	145
Other Income	-	-
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>145</u>
<u>TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE</u>	-	-

