

REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 20 MAY 2013

REPORT ON: COMMON GOOD FUND – USE OF UNALLOCATED BALANCES 2013/2014

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

REPORT NO: 235-2013

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Elected Members with details of proposals for use of unallocated Common Good Fund expenditure for financial year 2013/2014.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Policy & Resources Committee approve the proposals for use of unallocated Common Good Fund expenditure in 2013/2014 as detailed in Appendix A.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The approval of these proposals will result in additional expenditure of £70,000 in financial year 2013/2014. It should be noted this expenditure will be contained in the Common Good Fund Revenue Budget 2013/2014 that was approved by Policy & Resources Committee on 11 March 2013 (please refer to report 137-2013 for further details).

4 BACKGROUND

- 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".
- 4.2 The Common Good Fund Revenue Budget 2013/2014 was approved by Policy & Resources Committee on 11 March 2013. At this meeting it was agreed that the Director of Corporate Resources would undertake a further assessment process and prepare a report, outlining recommendations for use of uncommitted Common Good Fund expenditure totalling £85,000 in 2013/2014. The proposals for use of these balances are detailed in Appendix A to this report. It should be noted that a balance of £15,000 still remains unallocated at this time.

5 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.

6 CONSULTATIONS

The Chief Executive and Head of Democratic and Legal Services have been consulted.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

MARJORY M STEWART
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

07 MAY 2013

APPENDIX A

**2013/
2014
£000**

Tay Rail Bridge Disaster Memorial Trust

5

The Trust has been raising funds to ensure that permanent memorials to the victims of the 1879 disaster are, at last, properly commemorated. It is envisaged that there will be memorials on both sides of the Tay and the Trust has liaised with appropriate council officers regarding design etc. that would be fitting. The Trust has already raised in excess of £18k towards the target needed of £30k. It has applied to Fife Council's North East Fife Area Budget for £5k and a similar contribution from the Common Good Fund would be appropriate. The £5k would meet the likely cost of the foundation work on the Dundee site and will enable the Trust to complete the work in 2013.

Dundee Heritage Trust

25

Contribution towards Verdant Works High Mill Open Gallery Project. The development will complete the restoration of the A-listed Verdant Works, which celebrate Dundee's jute-making heritage. The gallery will provide a space for the display of the trust's collections and for artistic, cultural, education and community events.

Tayforth Veterans Project

15

Contribution towards property costs for the project's City Quay premises. The sum proposed is equivalent to the annual rental costs for the above facility, which is open for all veterans to attend.

Discovery Credit Union

20

In recognition of the impact on low income households as a result of pressures including energy rises, Welfare Reform and the increase of high interest lenders, it is proposed to provide a contribution of £20,000 to Discovery Credit Union to promote and expand credit union membership as a safe way to save and access affordable credit.

One World Centre

5

Contribution towards project worker and premises costs.

TOTAL PROPOSALS FOR UNALLOCATED COMMON GOOD FUND EXPENDITURE

70