

**REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 13 JUNE 2011**

**REPORT ON: HOSPITAL FUND AND JOHNSTON BEQUEST**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

**REPORT NO: 263-2011**

## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report advises Members of the additional income likely to be available in 2011/2012 from the above funds for distribution to pensioners in financial need.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee are asked to approve the issue of one application form per elected member in order that they may identify appropriate constituents within their ward for receipt of a pension from the above funds.

## **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

It is anticipated that the income from the above funds in 2011/2012 will support a further 29 annual payments of £80 (£2,320) giving a total disbursement of £25,600.

## **4 BACKGROUND**

The Hospital Fund and Johnston Bequest were vested in and administered by the Lord Provost, Magistrates and Councillors of Dundee under a special Act of Parliament entitled "The Dundee Churches and Hospital Act 1864" for the benefit of the poor of the town. The funds are now vested and administered by the Council under The Local Government Etc (Scotland) Act 1994.

The income from these funds is available principally for distribution to pensioners in financial need. Inclusion in the fund is by means of the prescribed application form which when completed should be signed by a member of the Council representing the wards comprising the former Corporation of Dundee boundaries. This will include each ward of the Dundee City Council.

The balance of capital available at 31 March 2011 is estimated to be £626,811, represented by funds held on deposit with the Council's Loans Fund.

There are currently 291 pensioners in receipt of payments from the Fund and in 2010/2011 the annual payment made to each pensioner was £70, distributing a total of £20,370 for the year. The estimated net income available to the Fund in 2011/2012 will support the issue of an additional one-application form to each elected member and an increase in the payment to each pensioner to £80.

## **5 CONCLUSION**

The above Fund can accommodate an increase in the payment to existing pensioners from £70 to £80 and the payment of a further 29 pensions of £80 per annum in 2011/2012 and this would be achieved by the issue of one application form per elected member for the identification of appropriate constituents within each of their wards.

6 **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.

7 **CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive and Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

8 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

**MARJORY M STEWART**  
**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

**11 MAY 2010**