

**THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL**

**INVERNESS CITY COMMITTEE – 8 FEBRUARY 2010**

**COMMON GOOD FUND – FUNDING REQUEST FROM 09/10  
BUDGET**

Agenda Item	<b>7.4</b>
Report No	<b>ICC 09/10</b>

**Report by the Inverness City Manager**

**SUMMARY**

This report details a request for funding from the Inverness Common Good Fund from the 2009/10 budget. There is also circulated to Members only, a copy of supporting documentation. Members are invited to give consideration to the applications.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 If successful, funding for this application will be drawn against revenue balances as is normal when the sums approved exceed £5,000.

**1.2 Competency of Applications**

A further supporting factor to any application is confirmation as to whether or not other funding sources have been investigated. The objects of the Trust require Members to have regard to the interests of the residents of the former Burgh. This means that so long as Members believe that the applicants have provided sufficient information confirming to Members, acting reasonably, that the sum applied for, if awarded, would be spent efficiently and effectively and benefit a broad cross section of the city's residents, including residents of the former Burgh, then it can be deemed competent.

**2. APPLICATION DETAILS**

**2.1 Blythswood Care – Highland Food Bank**

£5,000 sought towards the cost of running the Highland Food Bank which provides emergency supplies of non-perishable food to local people who find themselves in crisis.

Members will recall that at the City Committee on 21 September 2009 it was agreed that the City Manager work with a partner organisation to make an appropriate contribution towards an existing food hamper scheme within the City.

Blythswood Trust runs a food bank scheme out of the Madras Street Hall in the Merkinch area of the city. Clients are referred by professional care workers. In 2009 the Food Bank helped 2550 people in Inverness (up 36% on the previous year). All the food is donated by local communities but the charity does incur running costs to enable them to provide this service, as detailed with their application.

The Committee is invited to consider this application.

## **2.2 Inverness BID Ltd**

£36,000 sought towards the cost of installing floral displays for 2010 throughout the City Centre.

The Inverness Project has been providing floral displays in Inverness since 1993 and last year around 720 displays decorated the city, part funded by the Common Good Fund. This function has now been taken over by Inverness BID Ltd with the Inverness Project secretary acting as a voluntary advisor to BID.

The Committee is invited to consider this application.

## **2.3 Inverness BID Ltd on behalf of Safeinverness**

£21,870 towards the costs of Safeinverness. The Partnership delivers on one of the key priorities of the Inverness Partnership being a safe city centre. The competency of this application is based on the importance of Crime Reduction Partnerships to the well being of Communities across Scotland. The Scottish Business Crime Centre (who are one of the Partners and attend group meetings) recognises this and the continuing need to ensure that Partnerships such as this are maintained.

Safeinverness is the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Partnership for Inverness taking the lead in initiatives to develop and implement programmes to make Inverness a safe and secure environment where people can live work and socialise without fear of becoming a victim of crime.

Safeinverness:

- runs the city's Childsafe scheme;
- co-ordinates the night buses, taxi and bus marshals and city centre security task force as part of Operation Respect;
- services the Pubwatch Scheme;
- organises Inverness Best Bar None awards; and
- helps to co-ordinate the Blue Light Discos.

Inverness BID and its partners are keen to continue to develop the opportunities that Safeinverness provides and is actively engaged in progressing areas of governance and representation.

The Committee is invited to consider this application.

## **2.4 Homologation of Highland Rugby Club award.**

Members are asked to homologate the decision taken by the Inverness City Manager, in consultation with the Donations Working Group, to award £1300 to the Highland Rugby Club towards the cost of an S1/S2 rugby gathering on the day of the Scotland U20 v France U20 International Rugby Match (Friday 5th February 2010).

## **2.5 Homologation of Scottish Rugby Union award.**

Members are asked to homologate the decision taken by the Inverness City Manager, in consultation with the Donations Working Group, to award £175 to

the Scottish Rugby Union towards the cost of a pipe band to play at the Scotland U20 v France U20 International Rugby Match (Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010).

### **3. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 *If Members were to give approval to this application any sums in excess of £5,000 would be set against revenue balances.*

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee is invited to give consideration to the above applications (noting the accompanying documentation supplied to Members only).

Signature:

Designation: Inverness City Manager

Date: 29 January 2009

Author/Reference: David Haas, Inverness City Manager

Background Papers: Application relevant to the above circulated to Members only.