

The Highland Council

Agenda Item	4
Report No	NC/07/25

Committee: Nairnshire Area

Date: 26 May 2025

Report Title: Highland Charities Trust – Allocation of Funds

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the request for funding of £2,000 to be allocated from the Nairn and Auldearn Poor Fund to Nairn and Nairnshire's 'People's Pot'. The Nairnshire Area Committee has power to allocate these funds.
- 1.2 The funding is to be used as a form of Hardship fund to serve the residents of Nairn and Nairnshire.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to:
 - i. **Agree** to allocate funds from the Nairn and Auldearn Poor Fund to be used as a form of Hardship Fund to serve the people of Nairn and Nairnshire; and
 - ii. **Agree** that the Nairn Citizens Advice Bureau administer the funds as part of the 'Peoples Pot' currently administered by CAB.

3 Implications

- 3.1 **Resource** – Resourcing implications are detailed in the report. Funding is provided by the Highland Charities Trust budget for 2025/26.
- 3.2 **Legal** – There are no legal implications because of this report.
- 3.3 **Risk** – There may be demand that may exceed the available budget.
- 3.4 **Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)** – There are no implications because of this report.
- 3.5 **Gaelic** – There are no implications.

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 Noting that appropriate assessments will take place on each application to the hardship fund, this is an update report and therefore an impact assessment is not required.

5 Background

- 5.1 At the Nairnshire Area Committee in November 2024, it was agreed to allocate funding from the Nairn and Auldearn Poor Fund. £2,000 was allocated to the Citizens Advice Bureau, Nairnshire, to be allocated as appropriate, within the terms of the 'Peoples Pot' to people in Nairn and Nairnshire.
- 5.2 While using the 'Peoples Pot', this has allowed the monies to be allocated, and the mechanisms are in place already which will allow the funds to be used accordingly and reported once it has been used.
- 5.3 The funds allocated were to be used as a trial and were to be reviewed at year end. This has now been carried out and has evaluated positively. From its payment in November 2024 until January 2025, it supported 41 people in Nairn and Nairnshire. It supported vulnerable families which were recognised as requiring support in the run up to Christmas.
- 5.4 The total amount in the Nairn Poor Fund that is available to be allocated through revenue is £9,031.84.

6 Fund Status

- 6.1 This fund is not a Common Good fund. It is one of many funds administered by the Council which have been bequeathed for public benefit across the Highlands.
- 6.2 The Council has determined that those funds which are targeted to benefit specific areas, can be administered by the relevant area committee. This includes the Nairn and Auldearn Poor Fund.

Designation: Assistant Chief executive - Place

Date: 8 May 2025

Author: Mark Greig, Community Development Manager

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix 1 – funding available

Appendix 1 - Funding Available

Sum of Actual YTD			Expense Head TF Heading		
Purpose	Cost Centre	CC Description	Capital Funds	Current Assets	Revenue Funds
Charities	1910010	HCT Cawdor Poor Fund		2,189.37	(2,189.37)
	1910015	HCT Nairn and Auldearn Poor	(10,642.28)	19,674.12	(9,031.84)
	1910016	HCT Nairn Children's Fund	(1,000.00)	1,612.81	(612.81)
Charities Total			(11,642.28)	23,476.30	(11,834.02)