

The Highland Council

Agenda Item	11d
Report No	BIER/26/25

Committee: Black Isle and Easter Ross

Date: 11 August 2025

Report Title: Tain Common Good Fund - Q4 2024/24 and Q1 2025/26 Monitoring

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report presents the Quarter 4 2024/25 (near final) and Quarter 1 2025/26 monitoring statements for the Tain Common Good Fund. The report outlines an estimated end of year surplus for the Tain Common Good for 2024/25, primarily as a result of higher than budgeted Interest and Investment Income.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to **scrutinise** and **note** the Quarter 4 2024/25 and Quarter 1 2025/26 monitoring statements for the Tain Common Good Fund.

3 Implications

- 3.1 **Resource** - The Quarter 4 monitoring statement highlights predicted income and expenditure against the budget. Members are asked to note that these figures are near final, pending completion of the audit of the Highland Council accounts. An end of year surplus for 2024/25 is estimated, primarily as a result of higher than budgeted Interest and Investment Income.
- 3.2 **Legal** - The application of funds will fall within the competency guidelines set out both in statute and in common law in relation to Common Good Funds. Additionally, through the governance being applied by the Finance Service, funds will remain compliant with all financial regulations.
- 3.3 **Risk** – No implications.
- 3.4 **Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)** - No implications.
- 3.5 **Gaelic** - 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 This is a monitoring report and therefore an impact assessment is not required.

5 Quarter 4 2024/25 Monitoring Statement

- 5.1 A monitoring statement showing transactions to the end of March 2025 against budget and the estimated year end position is attached within **Appendix 1**. Members are asked to note that these are near final figures, pending the completion of the audit of the Highland Council accounts.

5.2 Income

- Rental income for the year is higher than budgeted as the rent for the larger grazings was paid in advance. There was also additional income from a circus let.
- The income for interest is higher than the budget reflecting the high interest rates which applied during the period.

5.3 Expenditure

- Expenditure in 24/25 has been limited and includes insurance costs, utilities, contribution to the costs of the Common Good Officer, central support costs and minor repairs following vandalism to a building on the links.
- There has been no expenditure associated with Mussel Fisheries.

5.4 Variances

Members will note that the fund has delivered a surplus at year-end. This is largely due to the higher than budgeted Interest and Investment Income, and limited expenditure on property and mussels. The estimated Usable Reserves as of 31 March 2025 are £265,808.

6 Quarter 1 2025/26 Monitoring Statement

- 6.1 A monitoring statement showing transactions to the end of June 2025 against budget and the estimated year end position is attached at **Appendix 2**.

6.2 Income

- Rental income from Market Stalls up to date. As noted above rent for the larger grazing let was paid in advance and credited to the previous financial year. The smaller grazing let has not been let this year.

6.3 Expenditure

- There was minimal expenditure in Quarter 1.

7 **Common Good Update**

7.1 Tain Common Good Fund Asset Review

The Common Good Officer has recently completed a review of the Tain Common Good Asset Register. This is detailed in a separate report to this Committee.

7.2 Common Good Working Group

The Common Good Officer continues to work with a cross-service group to develop a new Highland Council Common Good Policy to inform and guide the management of all Highland Common Good Funds, including the management of reserves. The policy, being Highland wide will require approval at Full Council or at strategic committee. Members will be updated in due course.

Designation: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

Date: 22 July 2025

Author: Phil Tomalin, Senior Community Development Manager

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix 1 - Quarter 4 2024/25 Monitoring Statement
Appendix 2 - Quarter 1 2025/26 Monitoring Statement

Appendix 1

Tain Common Good			
Period to March 25			
	Actual	Budget	Variance
	£	£	£
INCOME			
Rents & Lettings	10,923	7,950	2,973
Interest and investment income	19,369	5,600	13,769
TOTAL INCOME	30,291	13,550	16,741
EXPENDITURE			
Staff costs	2,804	2,000	804
Property costs	763	5,000	(4,237)
Central Support Charges	635	1,000	(365)
Tain Mussel Fishery	0	2,000	(2,000)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4,202	10,000	(5,798)
Income less Expenditure	26,089	3,550	22,539
Usable Reserves 2023/24		239,719	
Surplus (Deficit) outturn for 24/25		26,089	
Estimated Usable Reserves 2024/25		265,808	

Appendix 2

Tain Common Good					
Period to June 25					
	Actual	Budget	Estimated Outturn	Variance	
	£	£	£	£	
INCOME					
Rents & Lettings	1,700	7,950	7,950	0	
Insurance recharge	55	0	0	0	
Interest and investment income	0	12,000	12,000	0	
TOTAL INCOME	1,755	19,950	19,950	0	
EXPENDITURE					
Staff costs	0	2,000	2,000	0	
Property costs	32	5,000	5,000	0	
Central Support Charges	0	1,000	1,000	0	
Tain Mussel Fishery	0	2,000	2,000	0	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	32	10,000	10,000	0	
Income less Expenditure	1,723	9,950	9,950	0	
Unaudited Usable Reserves 2024/25		265,808			
Surplus for 24/25		9,950			
Estimated Usable Reserves 2024/25		275,758			