

ITEM No ...8.....

REPORT TO: CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 21 APRIL 2025
REPORT ON: COMMON GOOD FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2025/26
REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES
REPORT NO: 91-2025

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides details of the Council's Common Good Fund Revenue Budget for 2025/26 and makes recommendations for the disbursement of funds for the financial year.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee: -

- 2.1 Approve the Common Good Fund 2025/26 Revenue Budget as detailed in Appendix A.
- 2.2 Agree that the £155k of available funding be distributed as follows:

	£000
Festive Fund	50
Festival of Remembrance	3
Available via open application process	<u>102</u>
Total	<u>155</u>

- 2.3 Approve that the Executive Director of Corporate Services be delegated to approve any awards made through the application process following an assessment through the established process.
- 2.4 Approve that the Common Good Fund application process will be promoted via the DCC Website, DP E-Bulletin, DVVA weekly newsletter and also via DCC social media.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The draft Common Good Fund Revenue Budget for 2025/26 incorporates all known income and committed expenditure for that year. This results in a budget of £155,000 available for distribution and will be used primarily to support organisations who deliver services for the common good of the City.

4.0 INTRODUCTION

- 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".

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 In the City Council's Financial Regulations, specific reference is made to the Common Good Fund as follows:-

"The Executive Director of Corporate Services will submit a Revenue Budget to the City Governance Committee each year. The Executive Director of Corporate Services will have authority to incur expenditure within the approved budget.

All investments of money shall be made by the Executive Director of Corporate Services in the name of the Council. Any investments made will be in accordance with the policy determined by the City Governance Committee.

All securities which are the property of, or in the name of the Council, shall be held in custody under the supervision of the Executive Director of Corporate Services."

- 5.2 It has been accepted as custom and practice that the Common Good Fund should not meet expenditure of a recurring nature other than the provision of a Festive Fund and Festival of Remembrance Grants and that it is solely for expenditure of a one-off nature. Last year in 2024/25 the Common Good Fund contributed to the following initiatives:

	£
Dundee United Community Trust	£2,112
Giving Back	£4,275
Art and Communities Association	£2,275
	£1,812
North East Sensory Services	
Uppertunity Ltd.	£4,930
Scrapantics	£5,420
NEoN Digital Arts	£5,285
Camperdown Parent Council	£3,750
Bharatiya Ashram (Dudhope Multicultural Centre)	£3,750
Boomerang Community Centre	£2,418
BeFriends	£4,900
Downfield PS Parent Partnership Group	£7,374
Kingspark School	£4,303
D&A ADHD Support Group	£4,872
Michelin Scotland Innovation Parc	£3,750
Newfield Community Group	£2,159
Hilltown Community Centre Management Group	£3,871
Dundee Youth Music Theatre	£5,000
Yusuf Youth Initiative	£2,000
Royal British Legion Scotland	£2,000
Other Ways to Care	£2,950
Green Lemons	£2,500
Dundee Heritage Trust	£2,120
How It Felt	£3,674
Dundee Pride	£2,500
TOTAL	£90,000

- 5.3 The Common Good Fund assets are invested in Bond Funds, and the Council's Loans Fund. It is estimated that these will generate approximately £160,000 income in 2025/26.
- 5.4 After allowing for the ongoing operating costs of the Common Good, the draft Common Good Budget for 2025/26 shows a surplus income of £155,000 and consequently this will be available for distribution during 2025/26.

6.0 REVENUE BUDGET AND PROPOSED EXPENDITURE FOR 2025/26

- 6.1 The Common Good Fund Revenue Budget for the financial year 2025/26 has been prepared, based on the latest information available. Appendix A details the Common Good Fund Revenue Budget for 2025/26.
- 6.2 In 2025/26 it is recommended that the Common Good Fund awards £50,000 to the Festive Fund to support communities across Dundee to provide trees, decorations and activities during the festive period. It is also recommended that the grant to the Festival of Remembrance be awarded in 2025 for circa £3,000.
- 6.3 It is requested that members and officers also bring forward proposals for the use of the 2025/26 uncommitted balance of £102,000. These proposals will be subject to an assessment through the Dundee Partnership process and approved by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

7.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report has been subject to the Pre-IIA Screening Tool and does not make any recommendations for change to strategy, policy, procedures, services or funding and so has not been subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment. An appropriate senior manager has reviewed and agreed with this assessment.

8.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 The Council Leadership Team were consulted in the preparation of this report.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 None.

PAUL THOMSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

Date: 3 April 2025

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APPENDIX A

COMMON GOOD

REVENUE BUDGET 2025/2026

	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
STAFF COSTS	-	-
PROPERTY COSTS		
Christmas Lights	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL PROPERTY COSTS	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
SUPPLIES & SERVICES		
Other Supplies and Services	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL SUPPLIES & SERVICES	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS		
Grants / Payments to Organisations	<u>140</u>	<u>155</u>
TOTAL THIRD-PARTY PAYMENTS	<u>140</u>	<u>155</u>
SUPPORT SERVICES		
Recharge from Central Support Departments	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>145</u>	<u>160</u>
<u>INCOME</u>		
Interest and Dividends	145	160
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>145</u>	<u>160</u>
<u>TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE</u>	-	-

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