

Public Document Pack

ADDITIONAL CIRCULATION



To: All Members of the Council

Town House,
ABERDEEN, 12 December 2023

COUNCIL

The undernoted items are circulated in connection with the meeting of the **COUNCIL** to be held here in the Town House on **WEDNESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 2023 at 10.30am.**

JENNI LAWSON
INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER - GOVERNANCE (LEGAL)

BUSINESS

DEPUTATIONS

5.1 Deputation Requests (Pages 3 - 14)

- 1) Karen Barrett-Ayres for item 9.1 in relation to libraries
- 2) Laurie Mackay for item 9.1 in relation to libraries
- 3) Alasdair Ross (ACVO) for item 9.2 - to ask members to consider the results of the Third Sector's recent discussion on the Council's budget consultation and to accept the conclusions of our report (copy attached)

GENERAL BUSINESS

9.1 Libraries and Bucksburn Swimming Pool Consultation Results - CUS/23/386 (Pages 15 - 16)

Pages 91 and 94 of the original agenda pack recirculated to include the graphs which were not originally displaying

9.7 Governance Review of Trusts - 2023 Update - COM/23/383 (Pages 17 - 26)

Appendices recirculated in an easier to read format

9.9 Petition - United Nations Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons / Nuclear Free Local Authorities (Pages 27 - 30)

Letter from Chair of Nuclear Free Local Authorities Steering Committee

Website Address: www.aberdeencity.gov.uk

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Martyn Orchard, tel. 01224 067598 or morchard@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Third Sector Consultation on Aberdeen City Council 2024/25 Budget

About us

ACVO (Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations) is the Third Sector Interface for Aberdeen. We have over 20 years of experience working in the city as the central hub of knowledge relating to the local third sector which comprises community groups, voluntary organisations, faith and equalities groups, charities, social enterprises, cooperatives, community interest companies, mutuals, housing associations and self-help groups.

The work we do is reflected in our organisational values which are central to our decision-making processes and are incorporated into everything we do:

We put the Third Sector first.

We empower communities.

We act on lived experience.

We demand equality.

We stand up for those who need help most.

Through our various strands of work, we actively support and promote the work of Aberdeen's Third Sector. Our core funding comes from the Scottish Government, with additional income for specific pieces of work from Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership, Aberdeen City Council Community Planning, and the Corra Foundation. We also generate income from our own enterprises providing services to the Third Sector.

About this report

On Friday 3 November, ACVO gathered organisations from Aberdeen's third sector to discuss the potential impacts of the proposals outlined in Aberdeen City Council's Phase Two 2024/2025 Budget Consultation.

The aim of the meeting was to enable informed discussion about the potential impact of proposals on the third sector, and those who use their services, should they be implemented.

31 representatives of 26 organisations from across the city had their say and asked ACVO to present a summary of their views for consideration by elected members, council officials, and the public. Promoting the voice of the third sector is one of ACVO's Scottish Government funded objectives.

The summary is split into two categories: Impact and Mitigation. Not all of the proposals in the Council's consultation are addressed in this response, only those which have been highlighted by contributors as significant to the third sector (and those who use their services) have been included, although all proposals were made available for comment.

November 2023

Impact

Income generation	
Increase in council tax	Blanket increases in Council tax disproportionately affect those on low incomes. A fairer, more progressive model of local taxation which has been suggested by various governments but no firm proposal has brought forward. It is clear that the First Minister’s announcement that Council Tax would be frozen has caused a great deal of concern about the level of funding which will be provided by the Scottish Government to close the gap in local authority finances and which would have an impact on third sector funding as a result. Until further information is available it is difficult to respond to this proposal.
Increase fees and charges	There is widespread concern that a blanket increase in fees and charges would disproportionately affect people on lower incomes. The proposal to increase fees for after school childcare is particularly concerning given the increasing number of people who experience in-work poverty. During this cost-of-living crisis, any extra burden on household finances drives more demand for third sector support services, which are already overwhelmed with requests for help. Increases in fees could be means tested to exclude those on the lowest incomes from any extra costs.

Adult social care	
Reduction in transport services	Removal of, or reduction in, transport services would remove equality of opportunity from vulnerable people. This could result in lower attendance at school and for some young people will entirely remove their right to access education. This proposal would directly target people with protected characteristics of disability and age. Again it would also disproportionately affect people on low incomes who would have to find money to pay for alternative transport. Removing the ability to attend day centres would increase social isolation and lead to more demand for statutory and third sector support costing more in the long-run.

Arts, culture and sport

Removal or reduction of cultural grants and development

This will compound the negative impact of reduced or stand-still funding from national bodies such as Creative Scotland. In addition the cost of living crisis is having a noticeable effect on the ability of cultural organisations to generate their own income from ticket sales and donations as household income comes under more pressure.

Reduced opening times at galleries and museums and closure of Tolbooth Museum

Reducing the availability of universally accessible cultural activities removes a level of equality in the city. These places provide inspiration and joy to people of all backgrounds and incomes. In winter these spaces also provide a place of comfort and warmth and help reduce social isolation. Many city third sector groups use these venues for days out and for cultural education opportunities.

Removal or reduction of funding to sports organisations

Local sports groups are a key element of early prevention and early intervention in terms of physical and mental health, and in tackling social issues. Removing funding from these organisations would push problems further downstream for the Third Sector to alleviate. In addition, reduced availability for families and those on low incomes, and removal of programmes aimed at young people, older people and disabled groups will increase social isolation and lead to increased health inequality. There is a wider social value to the community through the use of sport to change attitudes and behaviours which would be lost.

Children's Social Work

<p>Review and explore accommodation options to support care experienced to move on from care</p>	<p>Given the reduction in services across the council due to lack of funding, there is no confidence in the third sector that effective support for young people from properly trained staff could be provided from elsewhere in the Council as suggested. This will put already vulnerable young people at huge risk. The third sector would again be expected to step in and fill the gap left by local government.</p>
<p>Review eligibility threshold for Children's Social Work intervention and removal or reduction of some Children Social Work services</p>	<p>Removing early intervention and preventative measures from vulnerable children will cost statutory services more in the long run as more complex support is required later in life. The Fit Like service works well, reduces harm and increases life chances.</p>
<p>Review delivery models for local Children's Homes</p>	<p>Suggesting that these services can be run by the third sector with a funding reduction of this level is fanciful and disrespectful to the sector who pride themselves in offering safe, inclusive and supportive environments for vulnerable young people. This service cannot be run "on the cheap". The third sector cannot be expected to do more, for less.</p>
<p>Review delivery options to deliver multi-agency GIRFEC learning and development options</p>	<p>Again this shows a lack of respect for third sector providers who will be asked to do more for less. This is not sustainable.</p>

Communities and early intervention

Reduction in support to administer Crisis Grants and Community Care Grants

A crisis grant which is not available at a time of crisis due to lack of resources will fail to deliver for people who need help most, when they need it. Public sector finance is difficult enough to access without additional barriers being put in place. Discussions could be had with the third sector about distributing these grants in an efficient and cost-efficient manner.

Implementation of an online only model for accessing services

This would worsen the digital divide, excluding those without internet access. Vulnerable communities, particularly the elderly and low-income individuals, would face barriers to accessing essential and statutorily entitled services. This approach undermines inclusivity, increases inequality, and isolates segments of the population. A balanced approach incorporating both online and traditional methods is vital to ensure equitable access to public services and maintain community cohesion.

Removal or reduction of community grants and subsidy arrangements

There is concern that the effect of this proposal for the Fairer Aberdeen Fund has not been articulated clearly and that those responding to the consultation may be unclear about the intention. Respondents were unequivocally clear that removing or reducing this funding will lead to direct job losses in the third sector and the shutting down of vital services (such as food banks/pantries and financial advice) which support the most vulnerable people in our city. There would be an immediate and irreparable negative impact on communities and on the reputation of the sector who would be withdrawing from work in regeneration areas and SIMD zones. In addition, this funding allows organisations to access significant matched funding to run projects – all of this would be lost to the city. The Fairer Aberdeen Fund allows communities to build their own solutions to the problems they face. There is profound disbelief that this proposal has been raised again by officers without prior discussion with the Fairer Aberdeen Board or those organisations who receive funding. Progressing this proposal would be disastrous.

Economic Development

New operating model for the Beach Ballroom

This venue is frequently used for third sector events and is a regular host of fundraising activities. There is concern that commercialisation of this venue will lead to the loss of many of these important events due to increased costs.

Introduction of a workplace levy after 2027/28

The third sector is suffering from a costs crisis at the same time as servicing an unprecedented level of demand. Any additional financial burden on the third sector, diverting crucial funds from essential services. Non-profit organisations work with limited resources. The levy risks compromising their ability to address pressing need and diminishing the positive impact they have. Extra statutory costs undermine the third sector's capacity to contribute meaningfully to communities.

Education	
Redesign of the Community Learning service to deliver a statutory minimum	Community Learning is used by Third Sector organisations as an extension of the services that they are able to offer themselves. This proposal would detrimentally affect community cohesion and personal development. Such cuts would limit access to educational resources, skill-building opportunities and social interaction, hindering individuals from reaching their full potential. Communities will suffer as the vital lifeline of shared knowledge diminishes and widens educational disparities. The long-term consequences include weakened social fabric, decreased employability, and a diminished sense of collective empowerment among residents.
Removal of the school holiday programmes	These initiatives offer a safe and engaging environment for children promoting social skills, creativity, and physical activity. Families benefit from affordable childcare options, enabling parents to work during prolonged holiday periods. The community benefits by enhancing the overall well-being of residents and reinforcing the importance of recreation in building resilient, happy, healthy and connected young citizens. Removal of these programmes would place additional pressure on third sector providers of out of school care which is already experiencing heavy demand.
Shorter school hours	This would limit educational opportunities and hinder parents' ability to work – therefore reducing household income. As higher income households are more likely to be able to afford to buy childcare, this will disproportionately affect low income and single parent families. Pupils will receive less learning time, potentially affecting academic performance. Families may struggle with childcare logistics and disrupted routines. This proposal also diminishes the school's role as a hub, reducing overall engagement with the community. As above, this would also place additional pressure on third sector providers of out of school care which is already experiencing heavy demand.
Reduction of free Early Learning Child Care provision	This would disproportionately affect those suffering in-work poverty which can be hidden by income level. It would also remove people from the workforce, either fully or partly - this would disproportionately affect women. The cost of childcare has accounted for a growing proportion of the cost of a child over the past decade, as childcare fees have grown much faster than general inflation. For full-time working parents, the gross cost of childcare can now be greater than all other costs of raising a child combined.
Removal of all free school transport	This would adversely affect communities by placing a financial burden on families and limiting access to education for vulnerable pupils. Reduced transportation options will put strain and cost on

	parents, impacting work patterns and family routines. Pupils will face increased barriers to attending school, potentially contributing to academic inequality and hindering families on low incomes who will struggle with the financial and logistical challenges.
Stop supplementary free catering provision in Primary Schools, outside of Universal and statutory free school meals	Removal of this service reduces equity, affecting children's health and well-being. It also reintroduces stigma for those children who are provided with vouchers. The availability of nutritious food in school is crucial for pupils' physical health, cognitive development, and academic performance. It instils healthy eating habits, ensuring a foundation for lifelong well-being and learning success. Removal of fruit and milk would be a regressive step as would the closure of breakfast clubs, which many children from low income families and chaotic lives rely on.
Cease school crossing patrol provision	Removing school crossing patrollers puts children's lives at risk and increases the likelihood of accidents near schools. More parents will be deterred from allowing their children to walk or cycle to school which has an impact on health and resilience.
Reduce level of cleaning in school buildings	Insufficient cleaning compromises hygiene, increasing the likelihood of virus transmission. This jeopardises student and staff well-being, particularly vulnerable people. This may lead to higher pupil and staff absences due to illness. To ignore lessons learned from the Covid-19 pandemic (of which transmission is still ongoing) would not be sensible.

Parks and open spaces

Reduce number of play areas in the city	This would deprive children of crucial physical and social development opportunities. Playgrounds foster creativity, teamwork, fitness and resilience. The absence of these spaces would hamper community bonding and would contribute to sedentary lifestyles, potentially leading to long-term health issues. Urban spaces would become less inclusive, affecting the overall well-being of residents. In addition, children who live in flatted accommodation without gardens will be disproportionately affected.
Close down the David Welsh Winter Gardens at Duthie Park and Pets Corner at Hazlehead Park	These venues provided affordable family outings and educational experiences. Their closure would distance people from their local environment, disrupt community interest in the outdoors, and remove the spirit of these vibrant public spaces - thereby diminishing the quality of life for local residents.

Property and building maintenance

Reduce public toilet service

This measure would disproportionately affect, young elderly and disabled citizens by removing choice, immediacy of availability, and ultimately compromising the health and dignity of individuals.

Protective services

Reduce environmental health and trading standards service provision

This would put vulnerable people at risk and remove their power to seek redress if taken advantage of. Reducing public sector provision will only drive demand to third sector advice services which are already under pressure.

Roads and public transport

Reduction in street lighting

Diminished lighting diminishes the overall well-being and safety of those already facing challenges in public spaces. In winter this would have particularly pronounced effect in Aberdeen where days are short and commutes to and from work and education take place in the hours of darkness. The proposal would disproportionately impacts vulnerable individuals, heightening safety concerns. It would compromise visibility, increasing the risk of accidents, anti-social behaviour and criminal activity. Vulnerable populations, such as the elderly, the young and those with mobility issues, face heightened insecurity, limiting their freedom of movement and contributing to a sense of isolation.

Reduction in roads and winter provision

Overall, these cutbacks would compromise public safety, hinder mobility, and strain community resilience. Increased risks will see a rise in accidents mainly affecting vulnerable residents. The burden on the third sector would increase to cope with increased support for isolated people who wont go out in treacherous conditions.

Reduce capital spend on the Roads and Vehicles Rolling Programme

As above, this has potential to increase accidents and decrease mobility of vulnerable people – therefore putting extra burden on the third sector.,

Impact summary

The absence of a comprehensive assessment on the repercussions of the proposed budget cuts has worried a number of organisations. Most notably, proposals which would result in the loss of essential services would create a void that has profound implications for service users and the broader community. As third-sector services face reduction, there will be a subsequent surge in pressure on other services, including statutory ones, as “providers of last resort”.

The impact is not limited to the loss of services; it extends to the increased social isolation experienced by service users who relied on these diminished resources. The short-term nature of funded services, requiring annual justification and constant advocacy to avert cuts, consumes both time and financial resources that could be better directed toward actual service provision.

The toll on mental health among staff members can be extreme, as the ongoing fight for job security intensifies. Staff not only grapple with the pressure to meet targets but also feel compelled to surpass them, adding an additional layer of stress. This cumulative strain on the workforce exacerbates the overall challenges faced by organisations who struggle to recruit due to below-average salaries.

A direct consequence of budget cuts is the loss of jobs within these organisations. As positions are eliminated, the livelihoods of individuals and their families are jeopardised, contributing to a ripple effect that travels through the community.

In this situation, the community itself is placed at a greater risk of harm and even death. The interconnectedness of services and the vital role they play in safeguarding the well-being of individuals becomes compromised, leaving vulnerable people more exposed to adverse outcomes.

The urgency to address these impacts is paramount and requires a comprehensive evaluation of the consequences of budget cuts on both organisational functionality and the welfare of the communities they serve.

Mitigation

Mitigating the impact of funding cuts on services catering to the most vulnerable requires a multifaceted approach, prioritising flexibility and collaboration. Flexible funding mechanisms are crucial to adapt to changing needs and circumstances. Working together, is essential to provide sustainable solutions for communities of place and people.

To address the challenge of service cuts, a shift towards diversionary and preventative services is advocated, emphasising sustainability over short-term fixes. Longer-term financial planning by the council must acknowledge the integral role of the third sector and the necessity for secure, fully funded support.

Efforts should be directed at tapping into skill sets within the community, exploring resource-sharing opportunities, and engaging private businesses for sponsorship. The impact of a standstill budget on services necessitates a strategic approach, including the establishment of business development teams within organisations like ACVO and exploring avenues for shared services and resources.

Recognising the economic constraints faced by volunteers due to the rising cost of living along with initiatives for increased training and recruitment are imperative. A comprehensive review of third-sector funding models is required, advocating for sustained funding periods and the creation of third-sector champions.

Collaborative efforts, facilitated by organisations like ACVO, are essential in promoting potential funding and partnerships. Economic assessments of council funding versus external funding should be conducted, and multi-year funding programmes should be established. Community empowerment powers should be integrated into budget planning, enabling community organisations to play a more integral role.

Engaging national organisations, charities, and fostering collaborative working relationships can provide additional support. Creative approaches, such as exploring corporate purchasing powers for energy costs and sustainable energy investments, can contribute to local income generation.

A framework for measuring social impact and values could be developed, emphasising the role of the state, community, and institutions as enablers rather than sole providers. Flexibility in making payments to the council, along with more flexible grants, can aid in financial management and cash flow.

Prioritising vulnerable communities, ensuring realistic funding for third-sector replacements of council services, and encouraging early intervention to decrease service demand are essential components. Communication strategies can be enhanced to prevent duplication of work, and support for funding via alternative sources, including income generation and social enterprise advice, can be provided – if funded sustainably.

Collaborative efforts, resource-sharing, and proactive measures, such as ACVO's role in bringing the third sector together, are pivotal in navigating these challenges. A collective effort is needed to amplify the impact and advocate for the support our communities require.

Conclusion

In light of the significant challenges posed by budget cuts and their far-reaching consequences on both services and communities, the third sector is calling upon Aberdeen City Council to take immediate and decisive action. It is imperative that measures be implemented to safeguard the most vulnerable individuals in our city from the adverse effects of service removal or reduction.

The preservation of the Fairer Aberdeen Fund is critical to maintaining a lifeline for essential services and must be a priority in budget considerations. Additionally, a firm commitment to supporting the invaluable contributions of volunteers can be demonstrated by endorsing and signing the Volunteer Charter, ensuring that their efforts remain acknowledged and sustained.

Collaboration with ACVO is essential to developing sustainable solutions for the third sector in the city and we are pleased that this is a commitment of the council's policy directive "Working in Partnership for Aberdeen." We would like to work towards a commitment to Fair Funding

principles and exploring opportunities for resource sharing among organisations. The establishment of a collaborative framework will contribute to the overall resilience and effectiveness of the third sector.

Moreover, meaningful engagement with the third sector is crucial. The council should foster transparent communication channels between members of the sector and council officials. This engagement must extend beyond mere consultation, involving active participation and dialogue to address concerns and co-create solutions. By doing so, the council can better understand the nuanced challenges faced by organisations and work collaboratively towards a more resilient and supportive environment for the third sector in Aberdeen and the communities of people and place they represent.

Contact

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Q3. . Do you live, work, study or care for someone in Aberdeen City?

Do you live, work, study or care for someone in Aberdeen City?

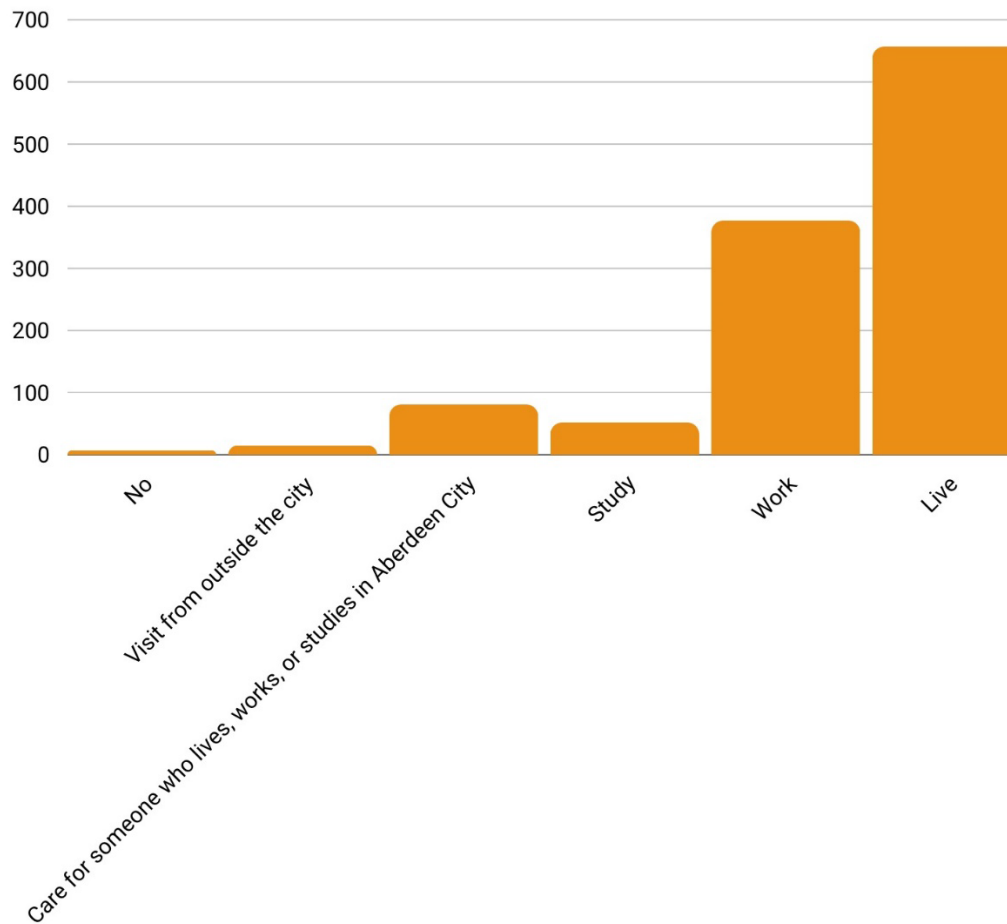


Figure 2: Live, work, study or care for someone in Aberdeen

No	7
Visit from outside the city	15
Care for someone who live, works or studies in the city	18
Study	52
Work	377
Live	657

Q6. Do you access Aberdeen City Libraries digital services?

Do you access Aberdeen City Libraries digital services?

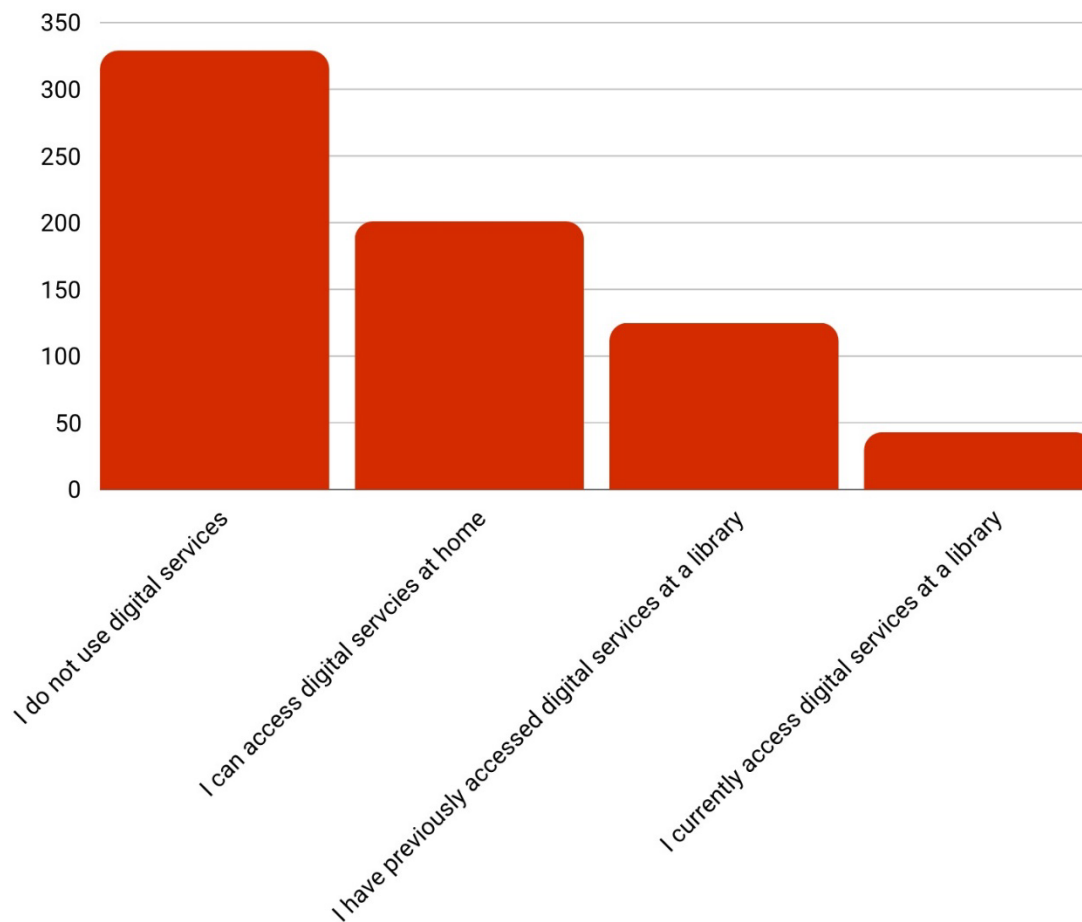


Figure 5: Access to Aberdeen City Libraries Digital Service

I do not use digital services	329
I can access digital services at home	201
I have previously accessed digital services at a library	125
I currently access digital services at a library	43

46% of survey respondents do not use digital library services, 28% can access digital library services at home, 17% of respondents have previously accessed detail services at a library, with 6% currently accessing library services at a library. Therefore 34% of respondents are accessing the digital library offer.

APPENDIX A - EDUCATIONAL TRUSTS - NOTE: the funds noted below as being "part of EEIF" and with SC025063 listed against them in column D are part of Aberdeen City Council Charitable Trusts, an OSCR-registered charity with charity number SC025063 (known as Education Endowment Investment Fund). Funds noted as being "part of EEIF" but without a number in column D are part of what was historically known as the EEIF but are not part of charity number SC025063. In total, the 'historic' EEIF comprises over 60 trusts, bequests and legacies - a number of which were transferred from Grampian Regional Council to Aberdeen City Council by the Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996.								
Trust/Fund	Purpose	OSCR-Registered Charity?	Charity Number	Governance Documents	Balance Sheet Value 31 March 2023	Revenue Value 31 March 2023	Assets	Beneficiary
Aberdeen Institution for Deaf and Dumb Fund (part of EEIF)	For the benefit of Aberdeen School for the Deaf	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£73,014	£23,395	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Aberdeen School for the Deaf
Mrs Athol Benzie Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For best all-round pupil in the fifth year at Aberdeen Academy	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£3,876	£1,250	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Hazlehead Academy
Miss Bessie Heriot Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For prize to best girl at Kaimhill Secondary School	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£7,132	£2,300	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Harlaw Academy
Dr Charles McLeod Trust (part of EEIF)	For purchase of books on Physical Science and Astronomy at Aberdeen Grammar School	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£2,928	£944	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Aberdeen Grammar School
City of Aberdeen Council Guildry and Mortification Funds	Free annual revenue of the Trust to be applied for the following purposes:- (a)relieving financial hardship among the Burgesses of Guild of Aberdeen present and future and their widows or widowers and families (including without prejudice to the foregoing generality children of deceased Burgesses of Guild at Aberdeen) by the payment of annuities of such amounts as the Trustee in their absolute discretion may determine; and (b)assisting by means of grants or scholarships of such number and amounts as the Trustee in their absolute discretion (following consultation with the Lord Dean of Guild and her/his Assessors) may determine; (i)persons born or habitually resident in the city of Aberdeen who are prevented or inhibited from pursuing their educational or career goals due to financial circumstances or who are intending to undertake educational or vocational training courses or otherwise to further their proposed careers; or (ii)organisations or collective groups which are operating in the city of Aberdeen and undertaking, or intending to undertake, educational initiatives.... (see trust deed for more detail)	Yes	SC011857	Trust Deed dated 25 May 2023	£2,661,918	£1,166,894	£1.495m in land and buildings, £1,167m in Loans Fund.	See column B
Corporation Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For school prizes	No	N/A	Not known	£507,175	£167,285	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Available to all school students in Aberdeen school
D M Andrew Bequest (part of EEIF)	For prize in Classics at Aberdeen Grammar School	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£18,086	£5,833	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Aberdeen Grammar School
Dr Duncan B Heriot Prize Fund	For prizes in English and History at Aberdeen Academy	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£3,592	£1,185	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Hazlehead Academy
Dr Duncan B Heriot Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For prize to best boy at Kaimhill Secondary School	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£7,189	£2,371	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Harlaw Academy
Edith and David R Bishop Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For prize or prizes to pupil or pupils of Aberdeen Grammar School selected by the Rector	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£5,332	£1,720	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Aberdeen Grammar School
Miss Elizabeth H Bain Bequest (part of EEIF)	For music tuition and for instruments to pupils in city schools	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£147,832	£136,410	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Available to all school students in Aberdeen schools.
Miss Elizabeth M M Laing Prize (part of EEIF)	Prize for best pupil in French in the Third Year at Aberdeen Academy	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£601	£198	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Hazlehead Academy
Dr George MacKenzie Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For prize to best pupil in German in Aberdeen Academy.	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£2,829	£912	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Hazlehead Academy
Miss H Shepherd Bequest (part of EEIF)	For annual award to the head boy and head girl at Torry Academy.	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£6,485	£2,139	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Lochside Academy
James Findlay Prize Fund (known as James Findlay Bursary Fund) (part of EEIF)	Annual prize or prizes to a student or students attending Aberdeen College in teaching practice and before awarding shall consult the Principal of the College	No	N/A	Trust Disposition and Settlement dated 06/05/1925, and registered in the Books of Council and Session on 02/11/1926, and Deed of Agreement dated January 1928	£42,500	£14,018	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	North East Scotland College/University of Aberdeen
Jane Cable Smart Bequest (part of EEIF)	For prize(s) to most promising pupil(s) in Music at Skene Square School.	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1995	£12,134	£4,002	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Skene Square School
Jessie Durno Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For prize in Mathematics at Aberdeen Academy	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£10,101	£3,256	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Hazlehead Academy
John M Robertson Memorial Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For prize to best pupil in commercial subjects at Aberdeen Grammar School.	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£2,040	£658	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Aberdeen Grammar School

Kenneth Macintosh Bequest (part of EEIF)	For paying or supplementing the expenses of pupils of Aberdeen Grammar School who might otherwise be unable to afford the cost of school trips abroad or elsewhere	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£17,270	£5,570	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Aberdeen Grammar School
Lands of Torry	Free annual revenue of the Trust to be paid as follows:- (a)51% to the Aberdeen City Common Good Fund; and (b)49% to the University of Aberdeen Bursary Fund.	Yes	SC021299	Trust Deed dated 25 October 2023	£2,751,581	£13,667	£2.726m in lands and buildings.	Aberdeen City Common Good Fund; and University of Aberdeen Bursary Fund.
Liddle Prize Fund (known as Alexander Kilgour Fund) (part of EEIF)	For Liddle prize, which may take the form of a medal, to an undergraduate at University of Aberdeen for best composition in Latin and Greek. Conditions governing the award shall be determined by the Professors in the Faculty of Arts.	No	N/A	Letter setting up trust purposes dated 05/10/1857	£91,930	£30,322	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	University of Aberdeen
Miss Lizzie L Milne Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For prize in all-round excellence to pupil in senior classes at Ashley Road School.	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£7,900	£2,606	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Ashley Road School
Logie Pirie Scholarship Fund (part of EEIF)	For the benefit of schools in the Dyce, Bucksburn area	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£34,039	£4,700	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Bucksburn Academy, Stoneywood School, Brimmond School, Kingswells School, Dyce School and Dyce Academy
Miss Lucy Cruickshank Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For prize to best pupil or pupils in French and German at High School for Girls.	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£28,142	£9,076	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Harlaw Academy
Miss M S Smith Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For prize or prizes for proficiency in art or handicrafts at Ashley Road School.	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£6,208	£2,048	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Ashley Road School
Miss Margaret C Harper Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For prize to best pupil in German at Aberdeen Academy.	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£1,097	£354	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Hazlehead Academy
Margaret Duthie Memorial Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For pupil showing the greatest endeavour at Dyce School.	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£11,451	£3,693	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Dyce Primary School
Mary Durno Prize Fund (part of EEIF)	For prize in English at Aberdeen Academy	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£16,365	£5,278	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Hazlehead Academy
Mary Thomson Scottish Poetry Prize	For the three best reciters of a Scottish poem at Cults Primary School, Cults Academy, Harlaw Academy and Rubislaw Academy.	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£9,600	£3,166	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Cults School, Cults Academy, Harlaw Academy and Aberdeen Grammar
Mrs Mina Brooks Memorial Prize (part of EEIF)	For prizes for children's theatre	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£2,899	£2,899	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Available to all school students in Aberdeen schools.
Murray Pictures Prize Fund	Promoting knowledge and love of art among children of the City. Circulating the Murray Circulating Collection among educational establishments in the City. Council to award annual prizes and certificates to pupils attending schools in the City for the most meritorious essays on pictures in the collection and to publish any essay of exceptional merit.	No	N/A	Aberdeen Educational Endowments Scheme 1934	£48,142	£15,879	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Available to all school students in Aberdeen schools.
Norman Moy Prize	Prize for the best jazz musician in Aberdeen schools.	No	N/A	Trust Deed of 2016	£9,198	£3,034	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund.	Available to all school students in Aberdeen schools.
Primary and Intermediate Schools Sports Fund (part of EEIF)	General use in relation to sport.	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996	£32,803	£10,820	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Available to all school students in Aberdeen schools.
35.9% of Rose Hip Fund (part of EEIF)	To be used at the discretion of the officer appointed by Aberdeen City Council for the purpose.	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1997	£1,365	£450	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Available to all school students in Aberdeen schools.
St Fittick Aberdeen Rotary Club Prize (part of EEIF)	For prizes to pupils at Torry Secondary School.	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1998	£1,915	£632	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Lochside Academy
William C B Thomson Memorial Fund (part of EEIF)	For prizes in art at Northfield Secondary School.	No	N/A	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1999	£4,165	£1,374	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Northfield Academy
William Meston Bursary Fund (part of EEIF)	For bursary to pupil of merit at Culter School undertaking a secondary course.	Yes	SC025063	The Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 2000	£30,613	£9,873	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Culter Primary School
				Total:	£6,621,447	£1,660,211		

APPENDIX B - CHILDREN'S SOCIAL WORK TRUSTS - NOTE: the funds noted below as being "part of EEIF" and with SC025063 listed against them in column D are part of Aberdeen City Council Charitable Trusts, an OSCR-registered charity with charity number SC025063 (known as Education Endowment Investment Fund). Funds noted as being "part of EEIF" but without a number in column D are part of what was historically known as the EEIF but are not part of charity number SC025063. In total, the 'historic' EEIF comprises over 60 trusts, bequests and legacies - a number of which were transferred from Grampian Regional Council to Aberdeen City Council by the Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996.

Trust/Fund	Purpose	OSCR-Registered Charity?	Charity Number	Governance Documents	Balance Sheet Value 31 March 2023	Revenue Value 31 March 2023	Assets	Beneficiary
A. McKay Fund (part of EEIF)	To be used at discretion of the Director of Social Work.	No	N/A	Not known	£852	£281	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Children's Social Work Department
Angus Taylor Donations (part of EEIF)	To be used at discretion of the Director of Social Work.	No	N/A	Not known	£579	£191	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Children's Social Work Department
Befriending Fund (part of EEIF)	To be used at discretion of the Director of Social Work.	No	N/A	Not known	£4,070	£1,342	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	BeFriend a Child or The Aberdeen City Befriending Partnership
Disabled Living Centre (part of EEIF)	To be used at discretion of the Director of Social Work.	No	N/A	Not known	£7,526	£2,482	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Children with Disabilities service
Donations Social Work Director (part of EEIF)	To be used at discretion of the Director of Social Work.	No	N/A	Not known	£5,281	£1,742	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Care Leavers
Dyce Handicapped Children Fund (part of EEIF)	To be used at discretion of the Director of Social Work.	No	N/A	Not known	£2,855	£942	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Children with Disabilities service
Friends of Neo Natal Unit (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for users of the named service.	No	N/A	Not known	£862	£284	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Aberdeen Maternity Hospital
Lewis J. Smith Bequest (part of EEIF)	To be used at discretion of the Director of Social Work.	No	N/A	Not known	£1,103	£364	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Children's Social Work Department
Social Work Dept. Training Fund (part of EEIF)	To be used at discretion of the Director of Social Work.	No	N/A	Not known	£2,160	£713	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Kinship Carers
The Richard Garden Trust (part of EEIF)	To support the families of children with head or spinal injuries.	No	N/A	Not known	£34,568	£11,402	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Children with Disabilities service
Westburn Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home.	No	N/A	Not known	£2,192	£723	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Westburn Centre
				Total:	£62,048	£20,466		

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APPENDIX C - ADULT SOCIAL WORK TRUSTS - NOTE: the funds noted below as being "part of EEIF" and with SC025063 listed against them in column D are part of Aberdeen City Council Charitable Trusts, an OSCR-registered charity with charity number SC025063 (known as Education Endowment Investment Fund). Funds noted as being "part of EEIF" but without a number in column D are part of what was historically known as the EEIF but are not part of charity number SC025063. In total, the 'historic' EEIF comprises over 60 trusts, bequests and legacies - a number of which were transferred from Grampian Regional Council to Aberdeen City Council by the Educational Endowments (Grampian Region) Transfer Scheme Order 1996.

Trust/Fund	Purpose	OSCR-Registered Charity?	Charity Number	Governance Documents	Balance Sheet Value 31 March 2023	Revenue Value 31 March 2023	Assets	Beneficiary
Aberdon Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£2,877	£949	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Care Homes in the City of Aberdeen that support people with far end dementia
Albyn Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£37,631	£12,412	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Care Homes in the City of Aberdeen
Agnes Park Legacy (part of EEIF)	To provide comfort at homes for the Elderly	No	N/A	Not known	£12,428	£4,099	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Care Homes in the City of Aberdeen
Balnagask Home Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£7,647	£2,522	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Balnagask House Care Home
Croft House Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£10,683	£3,524	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Care Homes in the City of Aberdeen
Elizabeth M. M. Laing (part of EEIF)	To provide comfort at homes for the Elderly	No	N/A	Not known	£1,259	£415	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Care Homes in the City of Aberdeen
Fergus House Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£19,179	£6,326	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Fergus House Care Home
Ferryhill House Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£8,482	£2,798	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Care Homes in the City of Aberdeen
Friends of Balnagask Court (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£680	£224	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Sheltered housing residents in or near the areas surrounding Balnagask Court
Gladys Pickman	For the use of Aberdon House.	No	N/A	Not known	£11,856	£11,856	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Care Homes in the City of Aberdeen that support people with far end dementia
Horizon Amenity Fund (part of EEIF)	For the benefit of users of the service	No	N/A	Not known	£3,099	£1,022	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Horizons Rehabilitation Centre
M J Elliot Trust (part of EEIF)	For the benefit of users of Rosehill House	No	N/A	Not known	£40,128	£13,236	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Day Care providers with the City of Aberdeen.
Northfield Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£17,570	£5,795	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Care Homes in the City of Aberdeen
Park House Amenity Fund (part of EEIF)	For the benefit of users of the service	No	N/A	Not known	£713	£235	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Sheltered housing residents in or near the area.
Polmuir Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£91,980	£30,338	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Care Homes in the City of Aberdeen
Rosewell Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£12,061	£3,978	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Rosewell House Rehabilitation Unit
Social Work Dept. Mental Health Training (part of EEIF)	To be used at discretion of Director of Social Work	No	N/A	Not known	£10,315	£3,402	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Social Workers within Aberdeen City Council's Social Work Department
Thorngrove Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£4,552	£1,501	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Care Homes in the City of Aberdeen
Victoria House Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£48,630	£16,040	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Homeless people/Housing First Project
Westbank Comforts Fund (part of EEIF)	To provide comforts for residents at the named home	No	N/A	Not known	£349	£115	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Care Homes in the City of Aberdeen
				Total:	£342,119	£120,787		

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APPENDIX D - ARTS & CULTURE TRUSTS - NOTE: the funds noted below as being "part of EEIF" and with SC025063 listed against them in column D are part of Aberdeen City Council Charitable Trusts, an OSCR-registered charity with charity number SC025063 (known as Education Endowment Investment Fund). Funds noted as being "part of EEIF" but without a number in column D are part of what was historically known as the EEIF but are not part of charity number SC025063. In total, the

Trust/Fund	Purpose	OSCR-Registered Charity?	Charity Number	Governance Documents	Balance Sheet Value 31 March 2023	Revenue Value 31 March 2023	Assets	Beneficiary
Aberdeen Art Gallery Trusts	The advancement of the arts by providing for the purchase of works of art for the collection of Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museum	Yes	SC018575	Trust Deed dated 10 March 2014	£435,361	£435,361	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund.	Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museum
Aberdeen Bulawayo Trust	The purpose of the Trust shall be to relieve poverty among the inhabitants of the City of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe	Yes	SC009373	Trust Deed dated 1 March 1989	£233	£233	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund. Trust Income is solely a grant from the Common Good Fund.	City of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe
Aberdeen Gomel Trust	To assist the city of Gomel and Gomel Oblast in Byelorussia	No	N/A	Trust Deed dated 28 May 1994	£5,636	£5,636	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund.	City of Gomel and Gomel Oblast in Byelorussia. Activities currently suspended.
Alexander McDonald Bequest	The acquisitions of works of art	No	N/A	Trust Deed dated 11 December 1882	£30,965	£30,965	All Funds in the ACC Loans Fund.	Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museum
Bridges of Aberdeen Heritage Trust	To advance heritage	Yes	SC018551	Trust Deed dated 14 November 2016. Name subsequently changed from Bridge of Don Fund to Bridges of Aberdeen Heritage Trust in May 2021.	£1,241,729	£270,461	£1.1m investment in Lands of Skene and £270k in ACC Loans Fund.	Citizens of Aberdeen City
Cole Bequest	For the benefit of Aberdeen Art Gallery	No	N/A	Not known	£7,751	£7,751	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund.	Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museum
Elsie M Byrne	For the benefit of Aberdeen Art Gallery	No	N/A	Not known	£9,327	£9,327	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund.	Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museum
Glover House Trustees Ltd	Sole trustee of Grampian-Japan Trust	No	Private Limited Company (company number SC503243)	Articles of Association	£1	£1	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund	N/A
Grampian-Japan Trust	Various purposes related to the historical links between Grampian Region and Thomas Blake Glover and the development of industry in Japan	No	N/A	Declaration of Trust dated 20 March 1996 (as subsequently varied in 2012 and 2015)	£469,000	£0	Sole Asset is the property at Glover House, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen	North-East of Scotland and Japan

John M Henderson Bequest (part of EEIF)	To enabling Libraries to expend funds on music download services	Yes	SC025063 (part of Aberdeen City Council Charitable Trusts, known as EEIF)	Revised constitution adopted in 2015.	£1,166	£376	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Libraries within the City of Aberdeen.
Lands of Skene	Free annual revenue of the Trust to be paid as follows:- (a)40% to City of Aberdeen Council Guildry & Mortification Funds, charity number SC011857; (b)30% to Bridges of Aberdeen Heritage Trust, charity number SC018551; and (c)30% to the Aberdeen City Common Good Fund.	Yes	SC018533	Trust Deed dated 25 October 2023	£3,737,559	£2,529,276	£1.2M in land and buildings and £2.5M in ACC Loans Fund.	City of Aberdeen Council Guildry & Mortification Funds, Bridges of Aberdeen Heritage Trust and Aberdeen City Common Good Fund.
The Lord Provost's Charitable Trust	To distribute funds to such recognised Scottish charities operating within the City of Aberdeen as the Trustees may from time to time determine to be applied by the said charities for such purposes as the Trustees in their absolute discretion may specify.	Yes	SC028829	Trust Deed from 1999	£39,091	£39,091	Loans Fund Balance	Recognised Scottish charities operating within the City of Aberdeen
M Mowat & G Davidson	Upholding Ardo's Tomb 1662	No	N/A	Will from 1740	£840	£840	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund.	Ardo's tomb, St Nicholas' Church
Mrs McBey Fund No.1	To improve the permanent collection of Aberdeen Art Gallery by acquisition or commission upon report by the City Arts and Recreation Officer or his successor	No	N/A	Not known but referred to in minute of City of Aberdeen District Council Arts & Recreation (Art Gallery & Museums) Sub-Committee of 16 December 1994.	£2,876	£2,876	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund	Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museum
Marguerite McBey Trust	To advance the education of the people of Aberdeen and others through promotion and support of the arts by the protection, conservation and development of the Fine Art collection at the Aberdeen Art Gallery	Yes	SC031654	Trust Deed dated 10 May 2001	£502,968	£502,968	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund.	Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museum

Miss Hilda B S Duthie Bequest	For the benefit of Aberdeen Maritime Museum.	No	N/A	Letter from Miss Duthie's solicitors dated 09/08/1991. No restrictions on retaining any set capital sum	£29,664	£29,664	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund.	Maritime Museum
Molly Craig Fund	To distribute funds to such recognised Scottish Charities operating within the City of Aberdeen as the trustees may from time to time determine	No	N/A	Not known	£1,870	£617	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Recognised Scottish Charities operating within the City of Aberdeen
Mrs Vera R E Taylor	Maritime Museum display	No	N/A	Not known	£16,169	£16,169	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund.	Maritime Museum
Proctor's Orphanage Trust	To award quarterly grant payments to VSA for the benefit of children and families in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire	No	N/A	Disposition dated 1892 (as subsequently varied)	£203,743	£32,856	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund + a strip of ground 1 metre in width around the perimeter of Proctor's, Kirkton of Skene.	VSA
Rickart (Richard) Mortification Fund	In 1740 John Richard left £12 to be invested with interest to be used for the perpetual maintenance of Richard's Tomb	No	N/A	Will from 1740	£54,139	£54,139	All Funds in ACC Loans Fund.	Richard's Tomb located in the centre of the west wall of the St Nicholas Kirkyard
Robert Skene Matthew Bequest	To distribute funds to such recognised Scottish Charities operating within the City of Aberdeen as the trustees may, from time to time determine	No	N/A	Not known	£19,551	£6,449	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Recognised Scottish Charities operating within the City of Aberdeen
Stewart Reid Memorial Fund	To distribute funds to such recognised Scottish Charities operating within the City of Aberdeen as the trustees may from time to time determine.	No	N/A	Not known	£3,001	£990	Share of listed investments and cash in Loans Fund.	Recognised Scottish Charities operating within the City of Aberdeen
				Total:	£6,812,640	£3,976,046		

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UK & Ireland NFLA Secretariat

Nuclear Policy Section,
Policy and Partnerships, City Policy
Level 6, Town Hall Extension,
Library Walk, Manchester, M60 2LA
Chair: Councillor Lawrence O'Neill
Secretary: Richard Outram
Tel: 07583 097793
Email: richard.outram@manchester.gov.uk
Website: <https://www.nuclearpolicy.info>

To Councillors of Aberdeen City Council

Monday 11 December 2023

Dear fellow Councillor,

I am writing to you as Chair of the UK/Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities in advance of your Council meeting on Wednesday at which you shall receive a petition which references potential membership of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities.

I am a Councillor on West Dunbartonshire Council and would be delighted if Aberdeen could join us in membership. Within Scotland, the following authorities are already members:

Dundee, East Ayrshire, Fife, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Midlothian, North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, Shetland Islands, West Dunbartonshire, and Western Islands.

These member authorities are active with the work of our NFLA Scotland Forum and within our wider UK / Ireland Steering Committee.

The NFLA Scotland Forum Secretariat is based in Glasgow City Council and our overall UK/Ireland Secretary within Manchester City Council.

I thought it would be useful to provide you with some information about our organisation as you may be unfamiliar with our work.

The NFLAs were established in 1981 after Manchester City Council declared itself the world's first nuclear free local authority.

Forty-two years later, the NFLAs continue to be the primary local authority voice in support of a sustainable energy future for our nation. We support the growth of renewable energy and oppose nuclear power.

In addition to our Scottish Councils, we have affiliated authorities in England, Wales, Northern Ireland, and the Republic of Ireland, links with elected members in the Isle of Man, and individual Councillor members.

The NFLAs work on a cross-party basis. Our opposition to nuclear power is rooted in pragmatic reasons:

- **It is simply too costly:** Only one nuclear power station is currently being built – at Hinkley Point C in Somerset. Its current budget is approaching £33 billion, almost double the original estimate, and this is growing exponentially by the day. The next proposed large power station at Sizewell C will come in at a significantly higher cost still. The University of Greenwich estimated as much as £44 billion.

Prospective manufacturers of the much-vaunted Small Modular Reactors claim that their designs will be much cheaper to produce, perhaps £2 billion, but the history of nuclear power is littered with cost overruns and broken promises, and it would be very likely that these plants would cost significantly more.

Future projects will also be funded through a nuclear levy imposed on the bills of every electricity consumer – including those in Scotland; even though Scotland can be self-sufficient in electricity generation, and then some, through renewable sources, and so does NOT need nuclear.

Nuclear electricity currently costs at least twice that of offshore wind to generate, but the cost of nuclear has in recent years been going ever upwards whilst the track for renewables has been down, but even this does not reflect the true cost of nuclear; for the cost of decommissioning plants at the end of their operational lives and dealing with the resultant radioactive waste almost exclusively falls on the taxpayer and not the operator, and it is truly staggering.

The most recent estimate by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority is that expenditure of £260 billion will be required at today's prices to complete the work – but that is based solely on dealing with the existing redundant and operating nuclear fleet and does not account for the redundancy of any built in the future. These costs will almost wholly be met by UK taxpayers, not the industry.

- **It takes too long to build them:** In early 2017, work began at the Hinkley Point C site. The earliest (optimistic) estimate of the date at which the first reactor will be generating is June 2027 (with the second a year later).

French-state owned EDF Energy has however caveated this by indicating that there may be a further delay and has secured permission from the UK Government to move back the date from which they would pay financial penalties for failure to meet contractual deadlines to the early 2030s.

EDF's track record in delivering plants with similar European Pressurised Reactors (EPR) is not good – Olkiluoto 3 in Finland took 14 years to build, was the subject of a bitter and protracted legal dispute between the constructor and operator, and then languished for a further 12 months whilst numerous repairs were fixed; construction at Flamanville 3 in Normandy started in December 2007, and it has yet to become operational.

There is much talk of Small Modular Reactors being the next best thing. But NOT one SMR has yet been built. Despite the hype, in the UK, we are infact at the very earliest stages of SMR development. Six rival designs have just completed the first stage of a competition judged by the newly created Great British Nuclear, with two eventually being shortlisted going through a rigorous three-year-long evaluation process with the Office of Nuclear Regulation. If they are successful only then can that SMR design be deployed in the UK, but they will need further site-specific approvals from the regulators, planners, and minister. We shall not see an SMR before the early 2030s.

Nor will the promise of fusion appear any time soon. Fusion energy has been promised decade after decade since the 1960s, and we are still nowhere near the point where any experiment has generated more electricity than the power employed in the first place to create the experiment. At best we might see something workable by the 2050's, but we might equally see nothing at all.

- **It remains unsafe and uncertain:** The first European Pressurised Reactor (or EPR) built by EDF in China–Taishan-1– was subject to an accident, mostly likely because of parts failure and corrosion. Radioactive gas leaked and the plant was closed-down. Taishan-1 was been closed down again for much of this year.

Olkiluoto-3 was commissioned and then immediately shut down for over a year because of repeated faults with the plant. It has recently again shut down due to a technical fault.

In future decades, British nuclear power plants, new and existing, on coastal sites will be threatened by the ravages of climate change with storm surges, rising sea levels, coastal erosion, and water shortages. Modelling has shown that many of the sites will become inundated and isolated. Nor have French reactors based on the nation's rivers fared better; for many have been shut down in summer droughts by a lack of cooling water.

We all know the terrible story of Chernobyl and Fukushima, but failures in safety do not just result in accidents, they also lead to the contamination of the seas, rivers, beaches, land, and atmosphere in and around nuclear plants, with new evidence published in the British Medical Journal indicating that persistent exposure to low-dose radiation leads to an increase in mortality from solid cancers amongst workers in the nuclear industry. If workers suffer, so too must members of any community which hosts, however willingly, a nuclear facility in their midst for decades.

Recent revelations in The Guardian newspapers have alleged that the cybersecurity of Sellafield has been compromised, with the possible installation of malware from foreign states since 2015, and the terrible ongoing war in Ukraine has also thrown in a new and unexpected threat to nuclear plants – that it might become a target and so a potential radiological disaster in time of war. Whether interfered with by an occupied enemy force, attacked by terrorists, subject to an attack of cyber warfare, and simply struck by missiles from a hostile state, the result could be a catastrophic release of radioactive gas, or worse, and, after Chernobyl, sheep farming in Cumbria and Wales was curtailed for decades because of the resultant European-wide atmospheric contamination.

We do not have until the 2050's or even the 2030's to tackle the effects of climate change; we must do it now.

Renewable technologies are proven and improving by the day. Solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, tidal, wave, and hydro can be built far cheaper and far faster than nuclear and without the uncertainties on delivery date or cost, and they can deliver cheaper and sustainable electricity without the costly toxic legacy of dealing with radioactive waste. Dozens of academic and scientific studies have shown that it is possible to deliver sustainable national energy systems using renewables and storage solutions alone, including in the UK.

To the NFLAs, every £ Pound spent on nuclear is a £ Pound diverted from technologies that can deliver now in reducing our carbon emissions, in creating jobs for the people of Scotland, in reducing bills for the people of Scotland, and by helping Scotland and the UK to become truly energy independent.

Consequently, the NFLAs are a strong advocate for renewables and against civil nuclear. We support domestic, community and Council-owned renewable energy projects. We also want to see greater investment in a UK-wide retrospective insulation scheme to make Britain's homes and community-owned buildings warmer, cheaper to run and more energy efficient.

Some of the Scotland-specific issues we have been working on in recent months:

- *Working to re-establish the Scottish Councils' Committee on Radioactive Substances (SCCORS)*
- *Calling for more investment in insulation and energy saving measures.*
- *Seeking the creation of a Scottish national energy provider to build renewable energy capacity for the nation.*
- *Calling for the new Green Freeports to be hubs for the construction of renewable energy technologies, so creating more jobs for the people of Scotland from the expansion of offshore wind.*

- *Calling for stronger measures, greater transparency, and more stakeholder involvement in emergency planning to improve preparedness and the assurance of safety for residents and businesses that would be affected by a nuclear accident (for example, at Torness or Faslane).*
- *Raising concerns about safety on trains carrying nuclear waste on Scotland's railways and on the convoys carrying Trident nuclear missile warheads on Scottish roads to and from Faslane / Coulport.*
- *Calling for more public disclosure and accountability when radioactive particles are discovered on the beaches and shoreline of Dounreay.*
- *Calling on the Scottish Government to create a transition plan for workers in the nuclear power sector as well as for those in the oil and gas sectors.*
- *Seeking more UK Government funding for the shovel-ready Pumped Hydro Storage schemes that will create thousands of new jobs in Scotland.*
- *Working for the safe decommissioning of Britain's redundant nuclear submarines at Rosyth – the NFLAs have historically taken a lead in driving this forward. One of our active Councillors has been appointed the NFLAs spokesperson on the issue, and he has reinvigorated the site stakeholder group with local representatives.*
- *Seeking recognition and compensation for suffering for Scottish nuclear test veterans.*

We work on these, and many other UK-wide issues, on a cross-party basis, responding to formal government, industry, and regulator consultations; writing to Ministers; and sitting on many consultative bodies which meet regularly with nuclear industry regulators, advisors, and enablers at the highest-level, including Ministerial, in both the Scottish and UK Governments.

We also work with European and international partners on issues of common interest, such as nuclear safety and environmental protection, and with local and national campaign groups who oppose new nuclear projects or champion renewables.

Amongst our prestigious output has been a great many publications of a specialist nature, some written by leading academics and scientists, that individuals engaged with the nuclear industry, both for and against, have found to be invaluable, accessible sources of information with a unique perspective.

Member authorities pay an annual subscription which funds our work. This is based on the population size of the authority.

For information about our history and work, please go to our website at <https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/> or please contact our Secretary Richard Outram by email at richard.outram@manchester.gov.uk. (Our UK Secretariat is based in that city).

Richard would be pleased to speak with elected members or officers about our work and is happy to engage in a TEAMS meeting or telephone conference.

Thank you for taking time to read this letter and I do hope that Aberdeen City Council will wish to pursue NFLA membership. We will be very happy to welcome you.

Best wishes,

Labour Councillor Lawrence O'Neill,
West Dunbartonshire Council,
Chair, UK/Ireland NFLAs Steering Committee