

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE:	Finance and Resources Committee
DATE:	11th May 2010
REPORT BY:	City Chamberlain
TITLE OF REPORT:	2010/2011 Common Good Budget – Request by CLAN for support
REPORT NUMBER:	CG/10/74

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides details of a request by Cancer Link Aberdeen and North (CLAN) for £25,000 from the Common Good Fund towards the costs of a new support centre and accommodation facility.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee

- a) Consider whether to approve this funding request by CLAN, and
- b) If funding is to be provided, whether or not it should be for a specific facility named to commemorate the support given.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The out-turn position will effect the level of working balances. The Council has previously adopted an underlying principle that these balances should be no less than £4.594 million, after adjusting for Greenfern Development Site, as at 31 March 2011 utilising the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as a basis for calculating indicative cash balances. The current projected balance is £5.288 million based on the information contained within this report. Projections for the Cash balances for the next three years, as detailed in paragraph 6.12, suggest that they will remain above the minimum required level even if this assistance is granted.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

The management of the Common Good contributes towards the most efficient and effective use of the Council's funds.

It is essential that the Common Good is managed in such a way that it continues to be able to support the wide range of artistic and other ventures it presently does.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The Common Good provides funding amongst other things for Promotion of the City, Christmas Illuminations and Twinning, which contribute to the sustainable economic development of the City.

6. REPORT

Background

- 6.1 A request has been received (Appendix A) from CLAN to assist with the raising of £3 million to enable them to create a new support centre and accommodation facility. The construction of this facility is the aim of the CLAN 123 campaign, "1 charity has 2 years to raise 3million pounds".
- 6.2 Further background to the request is provided in Appendix B and this indicates that they have successfully raised or received commitments for £2.6 million of the targeted figure; this has since been revised to £2.7 million.
- 6.3 Appendix B also outlines the service provided by CLAN to cancer sufferers and their families and details that the number of visits to their premises was 13,000 in 2008, an increase of 5,500 in two years. Figures for 2009 are now available and show a further increase to 14,500 visits.
- 6.4 If the funding was approved there could be the opportunity to request that the funds be used for a specific facility in the centre and that the facility be named in such a way as to commemorate the support from the Common Good. Details of the items falling into this category and sponsors already providing support are given in Appendix C.
- 6.5 The Annual Accounts for the year to 31 March 2009 for CLAN show total incoming resources of £2.068 million and resources expended of £1.207 million with funds carried forward of £2.301 million reflecting fundraising activities till that date. CLAN intend to use reserves, after retaining 6 months running costs which are in the region of £480,000, and borrowing if required, to proceed with the project .Any residual borrowing would be met from the disposal of their present premises.

Criteria for Common Good Support

- 6.6 The purposes to which the funds held in the Common Good can be applied have to be taken into consideration.

6.7 A report on the origin, history and purposes to which the Common Good may be used was prepared on 15th January 1976, by the then Town Clerk of the City of Aberdeen District Council. The report outlined the following purposes as meeting the required criteria: -

- Upholding the dignity of the City
- The prudent management, upkeep and improvement of Council Property which forms part of the Common Good.
- Safeguarding the corporate rights of the community and defending its interests.
- Granting of donations to public institutions or charities, providing it is in the interests of the general public of the City.
- Any other purpose, which is in the bona fide and reasonable judgement of the Council, is for the good of the community as a whole or which the inhabitants at large may share.

It was also outlined that the prime purpose of the Council is to ensure that the Common Good is prudently conserved.

6.8 In addition, recent practice has excluded any activity from receiving assistance from the Common Good for which Aberdeen City Council or other public body has a statutory duty to support.

6.9 It has been assessed in consultation with officers within Legal and Democratic Services, that this application meets with the criteria to be eligible for assistance from the Common Good.

6.10 The most similar application for funding for the Common Good received in recent years was from the Archie Foundation to support a new Sick Children's Hospital. In that instance £60,000 was approved over two years as part of the budget setting process on 15 February 2001.

Common Good Cash Reserves and Balances

6.11 The Common Good cash reserve is projected to be £5.288 Million as at 31 March 2011.

6.12 The Council has previously adopted an underlying principle that these balances should be no less than £4.594 Million as at 31 March 2011 utilising the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as a basis for calculating indicative cash balances, below which actual cash balances should not fall if the value of the Common Good Fund is to be preserved.


6.13 Figures for future years based on budget projections approved in March 2010, and adjusted to take account of the revision since then of estimates of expenditure for the year to 31 March 2010, indicate the following levels of actual cash balances compared with the indicative balances required to maintain their value are as follows.

Year	2011 £M	2012 £M	2013 £M
Projected Cash Balance as at 31 March.	(5.288)	(5.129)	(5.063)
Indicative Cash Balance as at 31 March.	(4.594)	(4.613)	(4.613)


6.13 The figures outlined above reflect projected cash balances above indicative levels at least until 31 March 2013.

6.14 Careful consideration requires to be given to requests for support whether recurring or even on a non-recurring or one off basis as this will impact on the Common Good's ability to continue to meet its projected level of recurring expenditure in the future.

7 AUTHORISED SIGNATURE

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8 REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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9 BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no background papers used in the writing of this report.

17 7502
3 Feb 2010

Susan Cooper
The City Chamberlain
Town House
Broad Street
Aberdeen
AB10 1FY



Thursday 18th February 2010

Dear Ms Cooper,

Common Good Fund

Following on from my meeting with Susan McCorquodale and Susan Fraser and my recent correspondence with Hugh Coleman, I have the pleasure of enclosing CLAN's application to the Common Good Fund.

Cancer Link Aberdeen & North (CLAN) is an independent cancer support charity providing support services to those affected by cancer. Including families, carers and friends, at any age, from pre-diagnosis through treatment and beyond. Based in Aberdeen, our services cover the whole of the North East of Scotland, Orkney and Shetland.

CLAN would like to apply to the Common Good Fund for a grant of €25,000 towards our new build project. This funding will be a vital part of CLAN's largest challenge in 26 years to overcome the ever increasing need for our services: the build of a new Support Centre and accommodation facility.

The generosity of Funds like the Common Good Fund is crucial in securing our services for the thousands who need us. I very much hope that you consider our work a priority and support our project.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite the Trustees or any representative of the Common Good Fund to visit our premises in Aberdeen. It would be great to show you our detailed new build plans, along with budgets. Furthermore, it will allow you to see first hand the difference we make and how your donation could make such a huge difference to the lives of those affected by cancer.

I look forward to working with you in the future.

Yours sincerely,

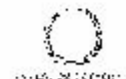
CLAN House
Caroline Park
Aberdeen
AB25 2TH
Tel 01224 542000
Fax 01224 640802
Email enquiries@clanhouse.org

Gayle Johnston

Grant Funding Administrator

Enc. Application, Wish lists and promotional DVD including walkthrough of new centre.

Scottish Charity Ref No SC022606
Company Limited by Guarantee in Scotland No 140132



SUPPORTING PEOPLE AFFECTED BY CANCER

APPENDIX B



"I found CLAN provided a relaxing and restful setting. It really is an oasis where cancer patients can experience both warmth and friendship of staff and fellow residents."

Despite the overall decreasing trend in cancer rates, the number of new cancer cases has risen over the last decade, largely due to the ageing population. The estimated risk of developing cancer during a person's lifetime is 1 in 3 and NHS statistics show that this will increase to 1 in 2 by 2020 which shows the huge challenge that Scotland has to tackle (ISD Scotland, 2007).

Cancer not only has a physical impact on people, it also affects the mental and emotional well-being. It is difficult to make generalisations about how people deal with cancer since each experience is highly subjective. Also it goes without saying that there is a broad spectrum of diagnoses with some fortunate people having an excellent outcome and others being not so lucky. In many circumstances, cancer can bring about changes within a person— their outlook in life, their priorities and in some cases, their sense of self.

Cancer Link Aberdeen and North (CLAN) is an independent charity supporting anyone affected by cancer whether as a patient, carer, family member or friend, from pre-diagnosis, through treatment and beyond. Based in Aberdeen, we cover the North East of Scotland, Orkney and Shetland.

CLAN provides holistic services, offering access to information on cancer related issues, psychosocial support, counselling, education, a range of complementary therapies, a specialised children and family support service, social activities, caravan holiday home, bed and breakfast facility and transport to and from the centre, aiming to improve the health, well-being and confidence of clients to empower them to embrace everyday life.

At CLAN, our clients' welfare is always paramount. There is an ethos of positivity and optimism mixed with caring warmth— humour and laughter are often heard within the building— which of course can be very therapeutic in themselves.



PATIENTS CARERS FAMILY MEMBER FRIENDS



020 884 0000



CLAN's New Support Centre and Haven

There has never been a greater need for a service like CLAN and our current centre is experiencing waiting lists and an inability to accommodate clients who need us. We have witnessed the demand for our service increase rapidly from 7,500 visits in 2005 to 13,000 visits in 2008, helping approximately 3,000 individuals through their cancer journey.

To cope with the ever expanding need for CLAN's services, it is our vision to create a new support centre and accommodation facility, CLAN Haven. We want to create an environment that is accessible, peaceful, warm and welcoming and we will do this in a way that identifies and addresses all our clients needs, alleviates stress and improves quality of life. These improvements to our services will result in more positive outcomes for our clients, including the reduction of waiting times, greater access to information and we will also have increased capacity for counselling, complementary therapies, accommodation and our specialised therapeutic service for children, young people and their families.

For this new build project, we have a clear fundraising strategy in place and have been proactive in searching and securing funds from various sources. As part of this strategy, we have launched our own fundraising campaign, the 1-2-3 campaign (1 charity has 2 years to raise 3 million pounds).

To date, our campaign has made good progress with income totaling £2.6 million from donations, pledges, fundraising events and grant income. The support we have received is a testament to the service that we provide and while we still have much to do, we are making good progress to our project becoming a reality.

"Coming here benefits me tremendously - health wise, pain control, spiritually, friendship and support"

The Common Good Fund and CLAN

We would be delighted if the Trustees could consider cancer support a priority and support CLAN with a grant of £25,000 towards our new centre.

This contribution will help us get one step closer to our vision becoming a reality.

We look forward to working with the Trustees in the future.

Thank you.



to comfort always

Accommodation Facility		
Room	Amount	Sponsored by
Lounge	£45,000	Aberdein Considine
Children's Lounge	£30,000	£10,000 from MacRobert Trust
TV Room	£30,000	
Housekeeper's Room	£30,000	
Kitchen & Dining Area	£70,000	
Single Bedrooms (x14)	£18,000	
Twin Rooms (x6)	£25,000	
Disabled Twin Rooms (x2)	£30,000	
Family Room 1	£30,000	Sound Dance Club
Family Room 2	£30,000	CLAN Challenge Orkney
Centre		
Room	Amount	Sponsored by
Revolving Door	£40,000	Wood Group - Upprentice
Reception	£150,000	
Conservatory	£100,000	(Macphie of Glenbervie sponsoring furniture)
Drop-in area	£135,000	Big Lottery Fund
Coffee Bar & Kitchen	£18,000	Friends of CLAN
Library	£55,000	AMEC
Therapy Room 1	£20,000	Henry Smith Charity
Therapy Room 2	£20,000	Helix
Therapy Room 3	£20,000	Individual pledge in memory of her husband
Therapy Room 4	£20,000	Individual pledge in memory of her son
Therapy Room 5	£20,000	Henry Smith Charity
Counselling Room 1	£16,000	Hall & Tawse Joinery
Counselling Room 2	£16,000	Team Pie - in memory of family
Counselling Room 3	£16,000	Yeats Yomp
Stress Management Room	£20,000	Henry Smith Charity
Coping Strategies Clinic	£35,000	Barcapel Foundation
Children's Waiting Room	£25,000	Urquhart Partnership
Child Therapy Room 1	£25,000	Sainsbury's (Berryden)
Child Therapy Room 2	£25,000	Marathon
Child Therapy Room 3	£25,000	CNR and individual pledge
Volunteers Room	£25,000	CLAN Volunteers
Volunteer Coordinator Room	£25,000	
Activities Room 1	£75,000	Big Lottery Fund
Activities Room 2	£75,000	Big Lottery Fund
Meeting Room	£45,000	Big Lottery Fund
Disabled Toilet	£6,000	Aberdeen University Charities Campaign