ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	1 March 2023
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Common Good Budget 2023/24
REPORT NUMBER	RES/23/082
DIRECTOR	Steven Whyte
CHIEF OFFICER	Jonathan Belford
REPORT AUTHOR	Helen Sherrit
TERMS OF REFERENCE	2

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Council with details of the draft Common Good budget for 2023/24, to enable the Council to approve a final budget that will take effect on 1 April 2023. The information included in the report allows all aspects of the Common Good to be considered by elected members.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council:

- 2.1 Approve the Common Good budget for 2023/24 as detailed in Appendix 1; and
- 2.2 Consider and decide on each of the new requests for funding detailed in Appendix 3 to this report, taking account of the affordable funding available for 2023/24.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

Projected Out-turn 2022/23

3.1 The projected outturn for 2022/23 shows, based on spending to the end of Quarter 3, that the Common Good is forecast to be slightly above budget as at 31 December 2022. Income levels expect to be maintained and the budgeted income achieved. Recurring expenditure is generally forecast to be on budget, with events expecting to proceed this year, uninterrupted by Covid-19 restrictions, and grants payable throughout the year to the wide range of approved organisations. The budgets to support Civic activities reflect the adjustments approved at City Growth & Resources Committee on 21 September 2022, with funding being directed to support winter clothing for children that are eligible for school clothing grants. It is forecast that cash balances will remain at or above recommended levels as of 31 March 2023.

Budget 2023/24

Income

- 3.2 The Common Good is a highly valuable asset for Aberdeen City. The value of the Common Good is based predominantly on land and buildings, the history of which dates back to the 15th Century and King Robert the Bruce.
- 3.3 Today the asset portfolio comprises of land, buildings and cash. The position at the start of the year (31 March 2022) is as follows:

	£'000
Land and Buildings	89,139
Investment in ACC Loans Fund	10,836
Long Term Investments	27,780
Total Long-Term Assets	127,755

- 3.4 The income generated from these assets is the basis of expenditure that can be incurred by the Common Good annually. The ground rents, lease income and cash investment returns generate in excess of £3 million per annum in income, which is used to fund a wide range of organisations and their activities in the City of Aberdeen, and this includes some activities undertaken by the Council itself. Further details are shown in Appendix 1.
- 3.5 Cash balances have increased in recent years due to the sale of land for development, and this can reduce annual income. The cash balances are generally set aside to help maintain annual income levels, through investment income, rather than being used to fund expenditure. A minimum cash balance recommendation is maintained for the Common Good.
- 3.6 In preparing the 2023/24 Common Good budget the assumption is that no additional one-off funding will be withdrawn from the assets it holds.
- 3.7 The investment of cash balances in a multi-asset income fund, approved by Council on 10 March 2021 has now been implemented. The value of the investment may fall as well as increase, this will be reported quarterly. As of 31 December 2022, the value of the investments was £24.272m, an increase on the quarter of £0.230m. Cash balances will be affected by this change as will the overall Net Value of the Common Good. The investment with Fidelity remains a long-term investment and should be measured over a 3-to-5-year period.
- 3.8 An operational working cash balance is held within the Councils Loans Fund and returns in recent years (linked to the Bank of England base rate) have been extremely low. Increases through the latter part of 2022 are now having a material difference and as a result the Common Good can expect to receive additional income in 2023/24.
- 3.9 Rental income is received by the Common Good for predominantly ground rent and leases that are in place and is based on projections provided by the Chief

Officer - Corporate Landlord. Appendix 1 shows that income is forecast to be stable for the Common Good in 2023/24.

Expenditure

- 3.10 A significant proportion of the expenditure annually is on recurring activities and outcomes and therefore these recurring elements are a continuing feature in building the 2023/24 budget.
- 3.11 Appendix 1 provides a breakdown of the various categories of expenditure that have been included in the draft budget for 2023/24. The recurring nature of a range of activities and outcomes, to support external organisations and the work of the Council is included in these.
- 3.12 As the assets of the Common Good include land and buildings, there are times when expenditure on those assets must be incurred. Continuing investment in its assets is included in the first section of Appendix 1, General Property and Estates, where the core costs of insurance and necessary repair and maintenance are included.
- 3.13 The recurring nature of many of the projects and activities that the Common Good funds means that assumptions have to be included about what their future cost might be. Note that the recurring funding provided by the Common Good is subject to an annual review. Appendix 1 has details of the impact of inflation based assumptions on pay and prices to provide an insight to the sustainability of the Common Good. An explanation of the various categories of spend has been detailed in Appendix 2.

Net Budget

- 3.14 Appendix 1 shows that, taking account of the total income that it can reasonably expect, and an estimate of the recurring expenditure that must be met there is £1.234m available. Any balance has historically been used to support funding of a more one-off and discretionary nature. For 2023/24 the value of funding available is £1.234m.
- 3.15 In relation to non-recurring / discretionary spending that can be approved from the Common Good a new process was approved as part of the 2019/20 Budget for accepting applications and this was implemented during the previous year and continues to be used to provide specific application conditions and timescales. It has provided the opportunity to assess the applications in a more consistent and collective basis, rather than simply responding to ad hoc approaches. The aim of the new process is to make it equitable and transparent, enabling closer links to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.
- 3.16 The criteria and instructions on the application process were made available on the Council website in the autumn, with a closing date of 14 November 2022. Having the information on the website raised awareness of the application process and 28 applications were received.

- 3.17 All applications were assessed by Finance and Legal Services to ensure they met the underlying criteria that is required of Common Good funding. Once these basic checks had been carried out, those applications that met the criteria were ranked against quality of project, impact of the activity on the LOIP outcomes and how the project will be managed.
- 3.18 Appendix 3 provides a brief summary of the applications that were received and the outcome of the assessment against underlying criteria and also the scoring matrix. These items are not currently included in the draft budget, and as such, if approved, will reduce the level of available funding.
- 3.19 Approval of one-off or discretionary funding should not exceed the £1.234m that is available. The Council may choose to alter the value awarded to either recurring or non-recurring funding set out in the budget.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The report outlines proposals for the Common Good budget for the financial year 2023/24. The approved budget must ensure that expenditure proposed for the year is fully funded from income generated by the Common Good.
- 4.2 Following capital receipts in 2022/23 the value of the Common Good's cash balances projected at year-end are £38.654m in line with the recommended level. To protect the cash balances against inflation, a proportion of the income generated annually is set aside, this has been included in the budget shown in Appendix 1.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 All requests for funding from the Common Good have been considered and comply with the following two criteria, namely:
 - (1) That the Common Good must be applied for the benefit of the community; and
 - (2) That the Council must in each case use reasonable judgement in allocating Common Good funding.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

7. RISK

7.1 The assessment of risk contained within the table below is considered to be consistent with the Council's Risk Appetite.

Category	Risks	Primary	*Target	*Does
		Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	Use of the Common Good not achieving intended strategic objectives.	When funding is requested from the Common Good, legal review to ensure it is compliant with the criteria, and new applications for one-off funding are further assessed against the LOIP stretch outcome criteria.	L	Yes
	Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Committee on 22 February 22 refreshed the Risk Appetite Statement. The RAS sets out how the Council will balance its risks and opportunities in pursuit of delivering the outcomes set out within the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and associated strategies.	The recommendations and risk assessment carried out are consistent with the Council's RAS. Should Council be minded to depart from the recommendations, it is important in doing so that the Council considers the potential impacts across the organisation and on the Council's pursuit of strategic outcomes.	M	
Compliance	Non- compliance with Common Good criteria	Legal review process.	L	Yes
Operational	Grants paid to third party organisations may be lost	Review process for preparing the budget and ongoing contact with the organisations.	L	Yes

Financial	and benefits not achieved if organisations fail to remain operational. The Common	A financial assessment	M	Yes
	Good funds provide support to a range of services and projects both internal and external to the Council. If funding was not provided there may be	process is included in the application process. Council is robust and equitable.		
	a risk that services and projects would no longer be delivered or would become unsustainable. Reduction in rental income as a result of the sale of properties.	The Common Good has an investment strategy for the cash balances it holds and this should be reviewed on a regular basis, included in this report. A robust procurement process to appoint a suitable Fund Manager and regular performance review and monitoring of investments.	M	
	Loss of capital value in the investments made.			
Reputational	There is a risk that the reputation of the Council will be adversely affected by changes to projects and services that currently	These are minimised by the having a robust and objective application process that enhances the Council's reputation as a fair and equitable funder of services and projects.	L	Yes

	receive		
	funding.		
Environment	None		
/ Climate	identified		

8. OUTCOMES

COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2022-2023					
<u> </u>	IL DELIVER I FEAN 2022-2025				
	Impact of Report				
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement	The Council's commissioning cycle specifically joins the allocation of resources, through the approval of the budget, with the intention to deliver on the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP). The process of evaluation of applications for Common Good Funding specifically asked for details of how the LOIP stretch outcomes would be addressed and therefore the distribution options available to the Council cover all 15 outcomes to a greater or lesser extent.				
Aberdeen City Lo	ocal Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26				
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	The Council aims to support improvement in the local economy to ensure a high quality of life for all people in Aberdeen. The Common Good funds initiatives and programmes that are provided by the Council, Community, Voluntary and other public sector partners which impact on all the citizens of Aberdeen.				
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	The Council is committed to improving the key life outcomes of all people in Aberdeen. The Common Good Fund supports a range of initiatives to support the citizens of Aberdeen City. Investment in the range of initiatives by the Common Good will enhance the place by creating a better and more vibrant city in which to live.				
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	Investment in the range of initiatives by the Common Good will enhance the place by creating a better and more vibrant city in which to live.				
Regional and City Strategies	The Common Good provides a sustainable funding source or a range of initiatives described in the Delivery Plan.				

9. **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	Appropriate use of the Common Good will likely have a positive effect on various Protected Characteristics. A full Impact assessment is not required.
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required.
Other	Not required.

10. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Not applicable.

11. **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 Common Good Fund Budget 2023/24

Appendix 2 Notes to accompany the Common Good Budget 2023/24 Appendix 3 Items for consideration for 2023/24 – one off items

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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_		2022/23	2022/23				2026/27	2027/2
-		Budget	Outturn	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budge
٠,	Canaval Dranavijas / atatas	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'00
_	General Properties/Estates Insurance Costs	17	17	18	18	18	19	1
_	Repairs and Maintenance	157	157	187	191	195	199	20:
2 1	Repairs and Marineriance	175	175	205	209	213	218	22
		170	173	200	200	210	210	
	Grants & Contributions to External Organisations							
3 /	Aberdeen Citizen's Advice Bureau	337	337	354	372	391	410	43
	Contributions to Trusts (Paid to City Growth Culture)							
	- Aberdeen Performing Arts	225	225	225	225	225	225	22
	- Peacock Visual Arts	35	35	35	35	35	35	3
	Aberdeen Performing Arts Contribution - Stage 1 Agreement	75	75	75	75	75	75	7
6	Techfest	37	37	37	37	37	37	3
7	Aberdeen Safer Community Trust	70	70	70	70	70	70	7
	ABSAFE - Distribution of Personal Alarms	1.5	2	2	2	2	2	•
	Castlegate Arts	70	70	70	70	70	70	
	ŭ .	850	850	867	885	904	923	94
1								
_	External Organisations Rents Aberdeen Science Centre Rent	42	42	42	42	42	42	4
-		8	42 8	42 8	42 8	8	8	4
	Castlegate Arts Rent	8	ŏ	8	ō	0	8	
_	Lemon Tree Rent	36	36	36	36	36	36	3
١,	Lemon Tree Office Rental	10	10	10	10	10	10	1
	Charity Shop	15	15	15	15	15	15	
ď	Charty Stop	111	111	111	111	111	111	11
	Promoting Aberdeen							
-	Events							
	- Armed Forces Day	11	21	17	17	17	17	1
	- Celebrate Aberdeen	21	11	11	11	11	11	1
	- Fireworks	47	47	61	61	61	61	6
4	- Nativity	7	7	7	8	8	8	
-	Highland Games	81	81	90	90	90	90	g
	Site & Equipment Hire	10	10	10	10	10	10	1
-	Christmas Tree	11	11	12	12	12	12	1
-	Christmas & New Year Celebrations							
	- Christmas Village	150	150	150	150	150	150	15
	- Hogmanay Celebrations	79	79	87	87	87	87	8
T	<u> </u>							
	- Sculpture Trail Storage	5	5	5	5	5	5	
-	Christmas Illuminations and Festivals		96	96	104	112	121	13
	Nuart	96	125	125	0	0	0	
	Tour of Britain European Pipe Band Championship - June 23	125	135	0 160	0	0	0	
	European Pripe Band Championship - Julie 23	778	778	830	553	561	570	58
2 (Grants/Services Provided by Aberdeen City Council							
_	Twinning Activities	60	0	0	0	0	0	
	Vouth Ashirit on Congl. Organia							
	Youth Activities Small Grant Funding	50	50	50	50	50	50	
	Community Gala Festive Community Grants	10	10 4	10 4	10 4	10 4	10	1
	Home Safety Check Scheme	70	70	70	70	70	70	7
	Picture Loan Scheme	15	15	15	15	15	15	1
- 12	=							
	Maintenance of Paths in Parks	5	5	5	5	5	5	

		2022/23 Budget	2022/23 Outurn		2024/25 Budget		2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budge
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
13	Civic Service Funding							
	St Nicholas Carillon	6	6	6	6	6	6	
	Armistice Day Expenses inc conservation of banners	5.5	6	9	9	10	10	10
	Public Clocks	10	10	10	10	10	11	1
_	Civic Support	329	329 10	356 10	367 10	378 10	386 10	39
	Civic Support to Burgesses		10	10	10	10	10	
	Civic Receptions	150	122	75	75	75	75	7!
	Civic Hospitality - visitors	12	2	12	12	12	12	12
	Civic Hospitality - promoting	5	3	5	5	5	5	
	Archivist Unit	276	276	299	308	317	323	330
	Central Support Services	398	398	476	490	505	515	52
	Civic Gift Fund	18	9	6	6	6	6	(
	Lord Provost Travel	29	10	10	10	10	10	10
	Lord Lieutenancy and other duties	6.75	11	7	7	7	7	7
-	Lord Provosts Portrait	1,253	1,1 92	1, 280	0 1,315	10 1,360	1,374	1,399
	Other Recurring Expenditure							
14	Duthie Park Capital Charges	55	55	56	56	56	56	56
	Recurring Expenditure	3,436	3,315	3,503	3,283	3,359	3,407	3,469
15	Non Recurring Expenditure Items							
	Gordon Highlanders	51	51	0	0	0	0	
	Peacock Visual Arts	50	50	0	0	0	0	
	Bonnymuir Green Community Trust	8	8	0	0	0	0	
	BOD & District Men's Shed	13	13	0	0	0	0	
	Friends of Seaton Park	20	20	0	0	0	0	
	Friends of Victoria and Westburn Parks	15	15	0	0	0	0	
	Friends of Hazlehead Park	81	81	0	0	0	0	
	Avenue	40	40	0	0	0	0	
	Homestart	45	45	0	0	0	0	
_	Denis Law Legacy Trust	30	30	0	0	0	0	
-	Camphill Medical Practice	49	49	0	0	0	0	
_	Greyhope Bay Beach Ballroom - Young at Heart	74 20	74	0	0	0	0	
	North East Scotland Cricket SCIO	20	20 20	0	0	0	0	
	Earth& Worms Community Garden	26	26	0	0	0	0	
	Byron Boxing Club	27	27	0	0	0	0	
	Torry Development Trust	13	13	0	0	0	0	
	Friends of Jacob's Ladder	26	26	0	0	0	0	
	Peterculter Community Council	4	4	0	0	0	0	
	Ukraine Refugee Support	25	25	0	0	0	0	
	Events Team Funding	42	42	0	0	0	0	
	Winter Clothing Grant		100	0	0	0	0	
	Non Recurring Expenditure	676	776	0	0	0	0	
16	Finance Resilence - Increase in Cash Balance	318	319	351	361	372	383	39
-	Total Expenditure	4,431	4,410	3,854	3,644	3,732	3,790	3,864
17	Income from Properties and Estates	(3,261)	(3,261)	(3,468)	(3,468)	(3,468)	(3,468)	(3,468
	Interest on Invested Funds	(1,100)	(1,100)	(1,550)	(1,100)	(1,100)	(1,100)	(1,100
19	Lands of Skene/Torry (Share of Surplus)	(70)	(70)	(70)	(70)	(70)	(70)	(70
	ORDINARY INCOME	(4,431)	(4,431)	(5,088)	(4,638)	(4,638)	(4,638)	(4,638
	Net Operating (Surplus)/Deficit	(0)	(21)	(1,234)	(994)	(907)	(848)	(774
20	Growth/Impairment on Invested Funds		3,508					
	Net (Surplus)/Deficit	1	3,487	(1,234)	(994)	(907)	(848)	(774

Notes to accompany the Common Good Budget 2023/24

Note 1

This budget is used to insure properties owned by the Common Good.

Note 2

This is a budget for repairs and maintenance costs for properties owned by the Common Good to meet legislative standards. Reduction reflects the removal of the Non Domestic Rates for the former Aberdeen Journals building on the Lang Stracht as it was agreed at City Growth & Resources on 3 February 2021 to demolish the building.

Note 3

This represents a contribution towards the core funding for Aberdeen Citizen's Advice Bureau, they have requested a 5% uplift which is reflected in the 23/24 budget.

Note 4

This is a contribution towards the costs of Aberdeen Performing Arts (£225,000) and Peacock Visual Arts (£35,000).

Note 5

This provides match funding for Aberdeen Performing Arts in relation to a grant awarded by Creative Scotland towards the costs of programming at His Majesty's Theatre.

Note 6

This represents a contribution towards the running costs of the City's annual Techfest festival, held in various venues throughout the City during September.

Note 7

This represents core funding for Aberdeen Safer Community Trust and to provide essential safety information for all P7 children in Aberdeen.

Note 8

This is funding for the personal alarms distributed on behalf of the City Council by Aberdeen Safer Community Trust.

Note 9

This represents contribution to core funding for Castlegate Arts.

Note 10

This is a grant to cover the cost of rental of various premises from Aberdeen City Council for external organisations.

Note 11

This is funding towards the costs of organising specific events as detailed in the events programme that promote the City as a visitor destination.

Currently the planned months for these events are as follows -

Nuart – April
Armed Forces Day - June
Highland Games - June
Celebrate Aberdeen - June
Fireworks - November
Nativity – November & December
European Pipe Band Championship – June

Note 12

This funding is for the provision of grants and services administered by the City Council.

Note 13

This is funding for the Civic Services that support the Civic functions within the City Council and services to the citizens of Aberdeen.

This includes grant funding to support the Lord Dean and the Burgesses of Guild.

Note 14

This is a budget for the servicing of the capital debt for the upgrade to Duthie Park.

Note 15

These items are one-off items approved by Council for expenditure in 2022/23.

Note 16

This is a provision for Finance Resilience to protect the Fund's cash balances.

Note 17

Around 100 properties have registerable leases on land owned by the Common Good. In addition to this, the Common Good owns land at Brimmond Hill, Hazlehead, Hilton, Hillhead of Pitfodels, Kincorth, Kepplehills, Tullos and Mastrick, all of which generate income for the Common Good and which is reflected in this budget.

Note 18

This is a budget for income received on invested funds based on the income received to date in 2022/23 from the Multi Asset Income Fund and an increase in relation to returns from cash held in the Council Loans Fund.

Note 19

The Common Good receives 51% of the Lands of Torry Trust and 30% of the Lands of Skene Trust income. These trusts earn income in rents and interest from investment.

Note 20

This is the current year outturn in Q3 for the reduction or growth on the £30million that has been invested.

	Common Good Fund Budget			
	Items for Consideration for 2023/24 - One off I	tome		
	items for Consideration for 2023/24 - One of t		Office	
		Amount	2022/23	Evaluation
	Organization			Out of 16
_	Organisation	Requested	Funding	
1	Aberdeen Methodist Church Charlie House	150,000		16
2		100,000		16
3	Befriend a Child	13,800	40.000	15
4	Camphill School	50,000	49,000	15
5	Tillydrone Community Trust	57,554		15
6	Avenue	85,064	40,000	14
7	Aberdeen Street Pastors	15,000		14
8	Fittie Community Development Trust	8,000		14
9	Peterculter Community Council	12,500	4,000	14
10	Cove Woodland Trust	28,287		13
11	Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association	21,900		12
12	Bonnymuir Green Community Trust	7,500	7,500	12
13	Bridge of Don Skatepark	12,000		12
14	Friends of Duthie Park	20,000		12
15	Aberdeen Blueberry Wellness Ltd	206,000		12
16	Mind Store	9,960		11
17	Ferryhill Railway Heritage	40,000		11
18	Friends of Hazlehead	92,458	80,500	11
19	JJR MacLeod Memorial Statue Society	39,000		11
20	Creative Learning Resilience Festival	44,700		10
21	Aberdeen Mela - One World Day 2023	22,000		10
22	Aberdeen Arts Centre	300,000		9
23	Bridge of Don & District Men's Shed	5,100	12,800	8
24	Zes T Football Club	5,000		4
	Total	1,345,823		
		1,010,020		
	Applications which do not meet criteria	70 000		
	Gray Street Allotment Association	79,000		
	Creative Learning Young Creative Consultants	18,511		
	Creative Learning The Promise Verbatim	31,925		
	Peacock Visual Arts	50,000		

COMMON GOOD APPLICATIONS 2023-24

Applications which meet criteria

Note 1 Aberdeen Methodist Church requested £150,000

This represents funding will be used to contribute to extending disabled access to all parts of the building (ramp, glass doors, glazed canopy, platform lift to 1st floor hall, kitchen & meeting room.

Note 2 Charlie House requested £100,000

This represents funding is to be used towards Big Build Project – The Centre, to be built 2023-25. The facility will support babies, children and young people with life

limiting conditions and their families through their palliative and end of life care needs.

Note 3 Befriend a Child represents £13,800

This represents funding is to support a Community Befriending project which supports vulnerable children and young people from the priority areas of Aberdeen. Key objectives are to offer 25 children opportunity to engage in a trusting, supportive relationship with a reliable consistent adult volunteer; enable 25 children to take part in activities and experiences they would not normally have the opportunity to take part in; recruit, train, develop and support 25 volunteer befrienders. Common Good funding will go towards the costs of a Befriending Co-ordinator's salary, training, travel & expenses.

Note 4 Camphill School requested £50,000

This represents funding towards Capital cost of creating a sustainable social enterprise, providing meaningful training, work experience and skills development for an additional 40 young people aged 16-25 with learning disabilities/complex additional support needs. Retrofit of disused building to create "Murtle Market" – zero waste organic product and refillery store, takeaway café and heritage hub (open to public 5 days per week). Various other sources of funding/grants applied for.

Note 5 Tillydrone Community Trust requested £57,554

This represents funding to be used for a sensory play trail in Seaton Park – range of fully inclusive play equipment for all the community.

Note 6 Avenue requested £85,064

This represents funding to support core work of the charity which supports families and individuals, with a focus of relationships and wellbeing.

Note 7 Aberdeen Street Pastors requested £15,000

This represents funding to support the continuation of delivering the Street Pastor service for 25% of the cost of 2 part time staff, rental of premises & insurance.

Note 8 Fittie Community Development Trust requested £8,800

This represents funding towards a contribution towards community hall flooring. The hall was purchased from ACC in 2018 through community asset transfer and this is the final phase of improvements.

Note 9 Peterculter Community Council requested £12,500

This represents funding to repair a platform on the old railway line and to plant shrubs/flowers to make it more attractive.

Note 10 Cove Woodland Trust requested £28,287

This represents funding to make core path wheelchair accessible.

Note 11 Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association requested £21,900

This represents funding towards capital investment (indoor rowing machines) and salary costs for initial year to provide Extra-curricular indoor rowing sessions in secondary schools.

Note 12 Bonnymuir Green Community Trust requested £7,500

This represents funding towards the Community market & garden services to retain Project Co-ordinator position, Centre Co-ordinator, Café Co-ordinator and develop community space. Aim to make project sustainable by 2024.

Note 13 Bridge of Don Skatepark requested £12,000

This represents funding for a feasibility study for an improved skatepark at Westfield Park

Note 14 Friends of Duthie Park requested £20,000

This represents funding to install galvanised steel railing around the mound/rose mound in Duthie Park to improve appearance and safety. They would be Victorian style to match surroundings.

Note 15 Aberdeen Blueberry Wellness Ltd requested £206,000

This represents funding to support a Community Interest Company which aims to create sustainable fitness model which will involve expert training to local people (based in Tillydrone but will also target Torry and Northfield) with the aim to take pressure off NHS and local authorities.

Note 16 Mind Store requested £9,960

This represents a contribution towards the Mind Store which aims to bring a lifestyle approach to mental health alongside psychological interventions for improving depression and anxiety while linking with local food producers. They offer Counselling, Group Therapy, Nutrition Workshops, Basic Cookery & Conversation, Hygiene Training. Referrals to Mind Store can reduce the amount of time individuals have to wait, thus alleviating/preventing crisis situations while easing pressure on the NHS.

Note 17 Ferryhill Railway Heritage requested £40,000

This represents funding to extend existing tarred path to allow safe access to shed and turntable viewing area, plus establish raised viewing platform for disabled visitors. Existing tarred pathway from Duthie Park funded from Common Good in 2019.

Note 18 Friends of Hazlehead requested £92,458

This represents funding for Composting Bays £50,208 and the re-surfacing of the path from Pet's Corner to café £42,250.

Note 19 JJR MacLeod Memorial Statue Society requested £39,000

This represents funding towards grounds work and granite terrace assembly in Duthie Park for the JJR MacLeod Memorial Statue (Aberdeen born Nobel Prize winner and co-discoverer of insulin).

Note 20 Creative Learning Resilience Festival requested £44,700

This represents funding to deliver 6 Creative Learning Residencies which would be offered to all Primary and Secondary schools between Sept 23 to March 24.

Note 21 Aberdeen MELA One World Day 2023 requested £22,000

This represents funding towards hosting One World Day a cultural festival bringing together all diverse communities of Aberdeen. Festival will include music, food, activities and crafts for the people of Aberdeen.

Note 22 Aberdeen Arts Centre requested £300,000

This represents funding towards upgrading costs (total cost £755,700), Historic Environment Scotland agreed in principle to fund 40%, remaining 21% will be self-funded.

Note 23 Bridge of Don & District Men's Shed requested £15,550

This represents funding for renovations to Oldmachar Community Hall: remove/replace internal walls and decorate, replacing double glazing units, upgrade electrics, fit out workshops, tidy garden. Note most labour will be provided free of charge by members.

Note 24 Zes T FOOTBALL CLUB requested £5,000

This represents funding to purchase a small 3-a-side portable pitch so they can go into community centres and hubs to deliver sessions to children missing out on football due to living in poverty.

The following projects were rejected as they did not meet legal or financial criteria:

Gray Street Allotment Association requested £79,000

This represents funding requested to demolish and replace existing sheds.

Creative Learning Young Creative Consultants requested £18,511

This represents funding will be used to continue delivering free access to creative workshops (engaged with 8 primary schools and 2 secondary schools) and a trip to Burgerfest festival in Regensberg June 2023.

Creative Learning The Promise Verbatim requested £31,925

This represents funding requested to commission The Verbatim Formula to codesign and develop training for local theatre practitioners so that they can use applied theatre techniques to consult with young people and to support the 5 foundations of "The Promise".

Peacock Visual Arts requested £50,000

This represents funding towards setting up a museum dedicated to local print history and delivered in partnership with Aberdeen City Archives, University Collections, Aberdeen Art Gallery, Visit Aberdeen/Shire, Visit Scotland, Heritage Crafts Association, Museum & Galleries Scotland etc.