

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Strategic Lead - Resources

Corporate Services Committee: 16 May 2018

Subject: Update of Voluntary Grants 2018/19 and 2019/20

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update of the voluntary grants approved by WDCVS in 2018/19 in respect of Community Chest, Playscheme, Cultural, and Social Transport Support Funding Grants. The report also provides information on the position regarding the Dumbarton Common Good Fund and the Provosts Fund.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1** The Committee is asked to:

- i) Note the position of the grants paid out by WDCVS, Dumbarton Common Good and the Trust Funds in 2018/19;
- ii) Agree the return to the Council of the £40 of unspent funding paid to WDCVS in 2018/19; and
- iii) Approve the transfer of £2,380.02 from the 2019/20 grants budget to the Provost's Fund to reinstate the level to £3,000.

3. Background

- 3.1** The Corporate Services Committee in March 2007 agreed that a report be brought to Committee after each year-end, giving information regarding the grants approved during the financial year.
- 3.2** Community Chest, Playscheme, Cultural and Social Transport Support Grants are administered by West Dunbartonshire Community Volunteer Service (WDCVS). The Council continues to administer grants for Community Councils, Dumbarton Common Good and the Trust Funds.
- 3.3** The Provost's Fund was established in 1953 as the Burgh of Clydebank Provost Fund and in November 1998 it was determined that the Fund may be used to cover the whole of West Dunbartonshire.
- 3.4** During 2018/19, the total budgets available and the amounts paid out in grants are noted below:

Group Type	Total Budget	Spend	Unspent
Community Chest/Cultural/Playscheme	£46,210	£46,210	£0
Social Transport Support	£103,790	£103,750	£40
WDC funded total	£150,000	£149,960	£40
Dumbarton Common Good	£167,931	£123,793	£44,138
Provost's Fund	£3,010	£2,390	£620
Non-WDC fundedTotal	£170,941	£125,943	£44,998

4. Main Issues

4.1 Community Chest/Cultural/Playscheme

The 2018/19 budget was set at £46,210 and was paid to WDCVS to administer. WDCVS has awarded £46,210 in grant funding to organisations as noted in Appendix A, leaving no unspent monies.

4.2 In addition to the above, a number of organisations submitted funding applications and were referred by WDCVS to other funders. As a result of this a further £226,744 of applications for funding were supported by WDCVS by re-routing applications to other sources as noted in Appendix B.

4.3 All applications received by WDCVS were granted funding from either Community Chest Grants or alternative funders (e.g. Awards for All, Voluntary Action Fund and Pastoral Care Trust).

4.4 Social Transport Funding

£103,790 of funding was passed to WDCVS to administer. 51 organisations received funding and grants totalling £103,750, leaving £40 unspent, as detailed in Appendix C.

4.5 Dumbarton Common Good

Eight organisations benefited from funding from the Dumbarton Common Good Fund totalling £123,793, as detailed in Appendix D.

4.6 Provosts Fund

The balance on the Fund as at 31 March 2019 is £619.98, with £2,390 having been distributed in 2018/19 as listed in Appendix E. It is recommended that, based on previous practice, the balance on this fund should be reinstated to £3,000, with the £2,380.02 required to be funded from the general grants budget - thereby reducing the amount available to be administered by WDCVS for general grant allocation in 2019/20.

5. Option Appraisal

5.1 No option appraisal was required for this report.

6. People Implications

6.1 There are no people implications.

7. Financial and Procurement Implications

- 7.1** WDCVS paid out grants totalling £149,960 during 2018/19. The full 2018/19 budget was £150,000, leaving a balance of £40 unspent. It is recommended that this underspend should be returned to the Council.

8. Risk Analysis

- 8.1** The Council must consider financial and reputational risks when considering grant applications. The financial risk is not only that the Council and Common Good Fund remain within budget, but also that the organisations funded by the Council and the Common Good Fund are both viable in the long term and comply with the Conditions of Grant which cover issues such as discrimination, health and safety, insurance, etc.

9. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 9.1** No issues were identified in a screening for potential equality impact of this report.

10. Environmental Sustainability

- 10.1** No assessment of environmental sustainability was required in relation to this report.

11. Consultation

- 11.1** Legal and Financial Officers have been consulted in preparing this report.

12. Strategic Assessment

- 12.1** Proper budgetary control and sound financial practice are cornerstones of good governance and support Council and officers to pursue the 5 strategic priorities of the Councils Strategic Plan.
- 12.2** Payment of voluntary grants contributes to improvements in life changes for children and young people, care for elderly and the wellbeing of communities.

Stephen West
Strategic Lead, Resources
Date: 7 May 2019

Person to Contact: Jackie Allison, Finance Business Partner,
Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton,
Telephone (01389) 737322

Email: jackie.allison @west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Appendices:

- Appendix A: Breakdown of Community Chest, Cultural & Playscheme Grants 2018/19
- Appendix B: Organisations Supported by WDCVS to attract external funding in 2018/19
- Appendix C: Breakdown of Social Transport Grants 2018/19
- Appendix D: Breakdown of Dumbarton Common Good Grants 2018/19
- Appendix E: Provosts Fund Account for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Background Papers:

- Grant application summary information
- Individual group grant applications
- Equality Impact: Screening and Assessment Form

Wards Affected: All wards