

REPORT TO FORMARTINE AREA COMMITTEE – 30 APRIL 2024

AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2024-2025

1 Executive Summary/Recommendations

1.1 This report outlines requests for funding for consideration by Members.

1.2 The Committee is recommended to:

1.2.1 consider and determine the requests for funding.

2 Decision Making Route

2.1 At the meeting of Aberdeenshire Council on 22 February 2024, the Area Committee budget was set at £71,200 for 2024-2025. At the meeting on 26 March 2024 this Committee agreed the broad allocation of that budget.

2.2 The balance of funding available for Improving the Amenity of Towns and Villages has been committed at **£20,550**. The balance of funding available for Local Place Plans is **£2,500** and the balance of funding available for all other projects is **£47,650**, as detailed in **Appendix 1**.

3 Discussion

3.1 As the Committee will recall, all funds were committed for the 2023-2024 period. Unfortunately, due to circumstances outwith their control, the below community groups were unable to spend their full allocations. As no carry forwards were permitted this year, it is now requested that the Committee give consideration to re-allocating the following funds from the 2024-2025 budget.

3.1.1 Friends of the Den

This group were awarded £5,000 towards the extension of the current CCTV system in the area, down to the Haughs, to cover the two entrances to the Den, the playpark and the car park areas. The CCTV will be an extension of the existing system and will be monitored etc by Police Scotland, as happens currently. The overall cost of this project is £52,500 and the majority of funding was sought from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Due to the UKSPF process, this project has only just reached the point where significant works have started and invoices have become available. For this reason, it was not possible for the applicant to claim the funds at an earlier stage, as had been anticipated, but they are much needed at this point to secure the project. **£5,000** is therefore sought from the 2024-2025 budget.

3.1.2 Tarves Heritage Centre

This group were awarded £750 towards promotional materials. As the award was made fairly late in the financial year, the group were only able to finalise their designs in time to secure goods to the cost of £466. If permitted, they would seek the remaining **£80** which they would utilise towards the final promotional materials, noting the reduced amount required due to an underspend as items came in at less than originally quoted.

- 3.2 The Committee is also asked to consider the following application for funding which has been received.

Udny Climate Action

- 3.3 An application has been received from Udny Climate Action, which is a sub-group of the Pitmedden/Udny/Tarves Community SCIO, seeking a contribution towards their project to engage with householders in the Udny area, to enhance their understanding of what retrofitting their homes and installing renewable energy heating systems would mean for them in practice.
- 3.4 The group are seeking a contribution of **£1,644** which represents 45% of the overall approximate project cost of **£3,644**.
- 3.5 A copy of the application form and accompanying information has been circulated to Members.

4 **Council Priorities, Implications and Risk**

- 4.1 This report details projects which help to deliver Council Priorities under the following categories:

Pillar	Priority
Our People	Learning for Life
Our Environment	Climate Change Resilient Communities
Our Economy	Infrastructure and public assets

Further information can be found here:

[Aberdeenshire Council Plan 2022 – 2027 - Aberdeenshire Council](#)

- 4.2 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendations are agreed.

Subject	Yes	No	N/A
Financial	X		
Staffing		X	
Equalities and Fairer Duty Scotland		X	
Children and Young People's Rights and Wellbeing		X	
Climate Change and Sustainability		X	

Health and Wellbeing		X	
Town Centre First		X	

4.3 Integrated Impact Assessments were carried out as part of the report to Aberdeenshire Council on 22 February 2024, where this budget was set. As regards the projects being considered today, any positive impacts relate to projects that are out with the scope of this report, but which are in pursuit of the Council's priorities relating to community benefits.

4.4 There are no particular staffing implications arising from this report. The management of this budget will be undertaken within existing area management resources. The proposals outlined in this report are in line with the allocation of financial resources as contained in the 2024/25 Revenue Budget for Area Managers.

4.5 The following risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level:
Budget Pressures (Risk ACORP001) ([Corporate Risk Register](#)).

No risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic Level ([Directorate Risk Registers](#)).

5 Scheme of Governance

5.1 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

5.2 The Committee is able to consider and take a decision on this item in terms of Section B.6.3 of the [List of Committee Power in Part 2A](#) of the Scheme of Governance as it relates to the expenditure of the Area Committee Budget.

Rob Simpson
Director of Business Services

Report prepared by Claire Young, Formartine Area Committee Officer
16 April, 2024

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Allocations to date