

REPORT TO BANFF & BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE – 19 FEBRUARY 2019

ABERDEENSHIRE CHARITIES TRUST (ACT2) – FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

1. Recommendations -

It is recommended that the Area Committee:

- 1.1 review current maximum and minimum thresholds of awards and agree that either these thresholds are still appropriate, or agree new thresholds;**
- 1.2 review the split of ward balances between Capital and Revenue and agree that either these are still appropriate, or agree to a new split;**
- 1.3 agree to receive a report to review the thresholds and Capital and Revenue splits following the next review of ACT2 by the ACT2 Committee**

2. Background / Discussion

- 2.1 ACT2 (Aberdeenshire Charities Trust) (“ACT2”) is obligated to ensure the effective financial management of the funds held. At a meeting of the ACT2 Committee on 27th September 2018, officers advised members that Area Committees would review the maximum and minimum awards, as well as the split between Capital and Revenue for the ACT2 budgets.
- 2.2 Applications to the trust are determined by Area Committee to ensure local decision making. At the meeting of ACT 2 on 27th September 2018, it was noted there has been very little uptake of funding available during the year. For Banff and Buchan, two awards totalling £1,250 were made, however one applicant no longer required funding of £250 as they received funding from another source. It was agreed by ACT 2 to continue to publicise the funding available and to monitor uptake for a further 12 months.
- 2.3 Area Committees agree both the maximum and minimum thresholds for each area under each charitable purpose. Details of the thresholds for individuals applying to Banff & Buchan can be found at Appendix 1. In addition to this, groups can apply for up to £1,000 funding.
- 2.4 Appendix 2 shows a list of the balances currently held within the Banff & Buchan area, including the current split between Revenue and Capital. Revenue being the amount held within the trust for distribution to beneficiaries and capital being the amount invested within the Council’s Loans fund to generate interest for the trust. ACT 2 currently receives the average monthly rate received by the Council. To date this has been approximately 0.6772% in 2018/19.

- 2.5 The Corporate Communications Team is currently working on a strategy to increase awareness of ACT2. In addition to this, Members are encouraged to make local organisations or individuals that they deal with who may benefit from financial assistance, aware of the fund. Potential applicants may be directed to their local Area Office.
- 2.6 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments are incorporated within the report and are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

3 Scheme of Governance

- 3.1 The Committee is able to consider and take a decision on this item in terms of Section B.2.1 Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as the item relates to the administration of the trusts controlled by the Council.

4 Equalities, Staffing and Financial Implications

- 4.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because Section 193 of the 2010 Act contains an exemption for charities which make positive discrimination to groups or individuals on the basis of their disadvantage. Insofar as the charity purposes discriminate positively in favour of individuals or groups on the basis of poverty, age, disability, or other disadvantage, there is no discrimination on the basis of any other protected characteristic (such as gender or religion). No negative impact on any individual or group as a result of this reorganisation has been identified.
- 4.2 There are no staffing implications arising from this report.
- 4.3 The financial implications are as included in the body of the report.
- 4.4 No risks have been identified in relation to this report.

Ritchie Johnson
Director of Business Services

Report prepared by: Shirley-Ann Gordon, Principal Accountant
Date: 17 January 2019

Appendix 1

BANFF AND BUCHAN			
WARD 1 – BANFF AND DISTRICT Aberchirder, Banff, Portsoy and Whitehills			
	Trust Purpose	Minimum Grant	Maximum Grant
	The prevention or relief of poverty	£100.00	£500.00
	The relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.	£100.00	£500.00
WARD 2 – TROUP Gardenstown, Macduff, Rosehearty and Sandhaven			
	Trust Purpose	Minimum Grant	Maximum Grant
	The prevention or relief of poverty	£100.00	£500.00
	The advancement of public participation in sport	£100.00	£500.00
	Relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.	£100.00	£500.00
WARD 3 – FRASERBURGH AND DISTRICT Cairnbulg, Fraserburgh and Inverallochy			
	Trust Purpose	Minimum Grant	Maximum Grant
	The prevention or relief of poverty	£100.00	£500.00
	The advancement of education.	£100.00	£500.00
	The advancement of health.	£100.00	£500.00
	The advancement of community development.	£100.00	£500.00
	The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science.	£100.00	£500.00
	The advancement of public participation in sports.	£100.00	£500.00
	The provision of recreational facilities, or the organization of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended.	£100.00	£500.00
	The advancement of environmental protection or improvement.	£100.00	£500.00
	The relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.	£100.00	£500.00

Appendix 2

		Dec-18 Revenue	Dec-18 Capital
	Name of Trust		
1	Banff & District (Banff & Buchan) Ward 1 - prevention/relief of poverty and those in need	20,580.82	35,435.26
2	Troup (Banff and Buchan) Ward 2 - prevention/relief of poverty and those in need	8,462.69	34,012.75
3	Troup (Banff and Buchan) Ward 2 - advancement of public participation in sport	1,743.01	100.00
4	Fraserburgh & District (Banff and Buchan Area) Ward 3 - prevention/relief of poverty and those in need	47.33	3,003.25
5	Fraserburgh & District (Banff and Buchan Area) Ward 3 - Any Purpose	1,666.74	0.00
		32,500.59	72,551.26

		Dec-17 Revenue	Dec-17 Capital
	Name of Trust		
1	Banff & District (Banff & Buchan) Ward 1 - prevention/relief of poverty and those in need	17,304.76	35,373.43
2	Troup (Banff and Buchan) Ward 2 - prevention/relief of poverty and those in need	8,247.28	34,012.75
3	Troup (Banff and Buchan) Ward 2 - advancement of public participation in sport	1,723.67	100.00
4	Fraserburgh & District (Banff and Buchan Area) Ward 3 - prevention/relief of poverty and those in need	22.16	3,003.25
5	Fraserburgh & District (Banff and Buchan Area) Ward 3 - Any Purpose	1,648.25	0.00
		28,946.12	72,489.43