



REPORT TO MARR 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; and**
- 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 Marr, one award for £1,000 was made. 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 Marr 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 Marr 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 of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as the item relates to the administration of the trusts controlled by the Council.

4 Implications and Risk

- 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

MARR			
WARD 14 – HUNTLY, STARTHBOGIE AND HOWE OF ALFORD Alford, Huntly and Rhynie			
	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 citizenship and 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 sport.	£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
	Relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.	£100.00	£500.00
WARD 15 – ABOYNE, UPPER DEESIDE AND DONSID Braemar, Ballater, Aboyne, Tarland and Torphins			
	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 16 – BANCHORY AND MID-DEESIDE Banchory			
	Trust Purpose	Minimum Grant	Maximum Grant
	The prevention or relief of poverty	£100.00	£500.00
	The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science.	£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	Huntly, Strathbogie & Howe of Alford (Marr Area) Ward 14 - prevention/relief of poverty and those in need	27,491.25	24,419.78
2	Huntly, Strathbogie & Howe of Alford (Marr Area) Ward 14 - advancement of education	0.00	0.00
3	Huntly, Strathbogie & Howe of Alford (Marr Area) Ward 14 - any of the purposes of ACT2	50,424.53	17,663.02
4	Aboyne, Upper Deeside and Donside (Marr) Ward 15 - prevention/relief of poverty and those in need	7,337.24	0.00
5	Banchory & Mid Deeside (Marr) Ward 16 - prevention/relief of poverty and those in need	3,824.84	0.00
6	Banchory & Mid Deeside (Marr) Ward 16 - advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science	4,567.66	344.06
		93,645.52	42,426.86

		Dec-17 Revenue	Dec-17 Capital
	Name of Trust		
1	Huntly, Strathbogie & Howe of Alford (Marr Area) Ward 14 - prevention/relief of poverty and those in need	28,225.48	24,419.78
2	Huntly, Strathbogie & Howe of Alford (Marr Area) Ward 14 - advancement of education	0.00	0.00
3	Huntly, Strathbogie & Howe of Alford (Marr Area) Ward 14 - any of the purposes of ACT2	50,583.29	17,663.02
4	Aboyne, Upper Deeside and Donside (Marr) Ward 15 - prevention/relief of poverty and those in need	7,291.39	0.00
5	Banchory & Mid Deeside (Marr) Ward 16 - prevention/relief of poverty and those in need	3,795.93	0.00
6	Banchory & Mid Deeside (Marr) Ward 16 - advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science	5,528.68	344.06
		95,424.77	42,426.86