

LORD PROVOST'S TRUST FUNDS.

Glasgow, 2nd June 2023

Present: Lord Provost Jacqueline McLaren (Chair); Councillor Maureen Burke; Bailie Norman MacLeod; and Martin Booth, Executive Director of Financial Services.

Apology: Elaine Galletly, Director of Legal and Administration.

Attending: D Brand (Clerk); J Timoney, Head of Customer and Business Services; M Burns, P Kelly, N Roberts and P Toner, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership; L Goldie, Education Services; J McMartin, Chief Executive's Department; A Ross and A Stewart, Financial Services; and L Lambert, Advisor to Lord Provost.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

1 The minutes of 31st March 2023 were submitted and approved, having noted that

- (1) the £75,000 contribution from the Wheatley Group had been allocated to the Lord Provost's Fund for Vulnerable Citizens;
- (2) that the meeting to be set up between relevant Social Work officers and new Trustees in order to establish a better understanding of the work involved in the allocation of the funds process remained outstanding, but that Mike Burns would liaise with Trustees to agree a date after summer recess to go over this process;
- (3) the work on the website to make it more user friendly had been completed;
- (4) that the new donation boxes were now in place, but the option to make contactless payments had still not been implemented, and that Gary Hurr, Online and Customer Care Development Manager was looking into the matter; and
- (5) that Trustees had agreed outwith the meeting cycle to allocate an initial budget of £12,000 for 2023/24 from the Lord Provost's Fund for Vulnerable Citizens to the Funeral Costs support.

Variation in order of business

2 The Trustees agreed to vary the order of business as hereinafter minuted.

Summary of applications by Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership to Lord Provost's Children's Fund – Approved applications noted etc. – Request to Clerk.

3 There was submitted a summary of applications made to the Lord Provost's Children's Fund by Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership, detailing the funding applications approved by the partnership to date under the agreed framework.

After consideration, the Trustees noted

- (1) the report; and
- (2) that an officer should take the lead on co-ordinating with each Service area in the preparation of reports to be submitted to future meetings, and agreed for the Clerk to take on this role.

Summary of applications by Education Services to Lord Provost's Children's Fund – Approved applications noted.

4 The Trustees noted that no report had been submitted by Education Services as there had been no further spend for 2022/23 since the last report which had been submitted to the meeting of 31st March 2023, and requested that should this occur again that a link be added referring to the previous report.

Summary of applications by Social Work Services to Lord Provost's Vulnerable Citizens' Fund – Approved applications noted etc – Request to Chief Officer, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership.

5 There was submitted a summary of applications made to the Lord Provost's Vulnerable Citizens' Fund by Social Work Services (SWS), detailing the funding applications approved by the service to date under the agreed framework.

After consideration, the Trustees

- (1) noted the report; and
- (2) requested
 - (a) the officer to check why other local authority areas were mentioned in the report;
 - (b) more information in relation to the reasons for returned monies; and
 - (c) for the title of officers who had authorised applications to be added to the end of the report.

Summary of applications by Social Work Services and Glasgow Home Care to Lord Provost's Older People Fund – Approved applications noted etc – Request of Chief Officer, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership.

6 There was submitted a summary of applications made to the Lord Provost's Older People's Fund by Social Work Services and Glasgow Home Care, detailing the funding applications approved by the service to date under the agreed framework.

After consideration, the Trustees

- (1) noted the report; and
- (2) requested for future reports,
 - (a) the title be added for officers approving applications;
 - (b) the date of the report to be added; and
 - (c) the dates the report covers to be added.

Summary of applications for funeral payments to Lord Provost's Fund for Vulnerable Citizens – Approved applications noted etc. – Request to Head of Customer and Business Services,

7 There was submitted a report by the Head of Customer and Business Services regarding applications made to the Lord Provost's Fund for Vulnerable Citizens in relation to funeral payments.

After consideration, the Trustees

- (1) noted the report; and
- (2) requested more information on
 - (a) monies that had been returned; and
 - (b) the Scottish Government's Funeral Expense Assistance Benefit.

Financial Update noted – Budget allocation and contribution approved.

8 There was submitted a report by the Head of Corporate Finance providing a 2022/23 financial update and 2023/24 budget update for the Lord Provost's 3 Trust Funds,

- (1) advising of
 - (a) the summary expenditure position against the budget for the period from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 for each of the 3 Trust Funds; and
 - (b) an updated budget position for 2023/24 based on 2% of the capital value of the fund, which had been revised to reflect donations received and the underspend carried forward from 2022/23; and
- (2) detailing proposals
 - (a) to meet the operational support costs of the funds outwith the 2% of capital value budget;
 - (b) to review the individual award limits for each of the 3 Trust Funds;
 - (c) to retain a portion of the funds for the Lord Provost's Office use in respect of the Vulnerable Citizens and Children's Funds; and
 - (d) include an allocation for the Funeral Support Costs from the Vulnerable Citizens Fund in line with the 2022-23 expenditure.

After consideration, the Trustees

- (i) noted
 - (A) the 2022/23 expenditure position in respect of the 3 Trust Funds; and
 - (B) that due to the increase in costs, the difficulties encountered in sourcing equipment at the maximum grant award of £250 for the Older People Fund; and
- (ii) approved the 2023/24 budget allocations set out as follows:-
 - (A) £72,800 for the Lord Provost's Children's Fund;
 - (B) £219,800 for the Lord Provost's Fund for Vulnerable Citizens; and
 - (C) £71,400 for the Lord Provost's Fund for Older People; and
- (iii) approved the 2023/24 individual grant limits set out as follows:-
 - (A) £500 for the Lord Provost's Children's Fund;
 - (B) £500 for the Lord Provost's Fund for Vulnerable Citizens; and
 - (C) £500 for the Lord Provost's Fund for Older People

Allotment hire increases – Response to email from Councillors Molyneux and Wardrop agreed.

8 There was submitted an email from Councillor Jon Molyneux and Councillor Martha Wardrop regarding constituents' concerns about the impact of allotment hire increases that had been agreed in this Council's budget earlier this year, and asking if consideration could be given to access the Lord Provost's Trust Fund for Vulnerable Citizens to support people in extreme financial hardship, including those with no access to public funds, with the cost of renting their allotment.

After consideration, the Trustees

- (1) noted
 - (a) the concerns raised by Councillors Molyneux and Wardrop on behalf of their constituents; and
 - (b) the intimation made at the recent meeting of this Council of various strategies, plans and discounts intended to be put in place to lessen the effect of the new rate of rents on those least able to pay, and that these measures may be sufficient to address the needs of the majority who may have difficulty;
- (2) agreed that
 - (a) it would not be helpful to promote a general scheme of application for assistance from allotment holders due to the various mitigations which had been put in place, and
 - (b) if any person suffered extreme financial hardship then the Trustees would be willing to consider grant funding, but this would have to be through the current governance processes in place when reviewing individual applications to the Fund.

AOB

- 9** The Trustees
- (a) agreed for the Lord Provost to commence the process of contacting the Merchants House of Glasgow and the Trade House of Glasgow with a view to forming alliances to support our most vulnerable citizens; and
 - (b) noted that the tender process for external auditors had commenced through Corporate Procurement.