

BLINDCRAFT TRUST FUND

22nd March 2024

Present: Councillor Robert Mooney (Chair), Glasgow City Council; Councillor Graham Archibald Hardie. Argyll and Bute Council and Fiona Sandford, Visibility.

Apologies: Bailie Annette Christie, Glasgow City Council and David McKerral.

Attending: P Yule (Clerk), and A McNamee, A Ramzana, P O'Donnell, W Shannon and A Stewart, Glasgow City Council.

Welcome and apologies noted.

1 The Trustees were welcomed to the meeting and apologies noted.

Approval of appointment of new Trustee.

2 There was submitted a report by Wendy Shannon, Legal Services, advising of an update regarding the appointment of a new Trustee from the Participating Local Authorities. The Trustees were advised that Argyll & Bute Council at its meeting on 22nd February agreed to nominate Councillor Graham Archibald Hardie as an ex officio trustee.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

3 The minutes of 24th November 2023 were submitted and approved.

Financial update 2023/24 noted – Action agreed.

4 There was submitted a report by the Head of Corporate Finance regarding the financial update for 2023/24 and the budget position for 2024/25, advising of

- (1) the summary of expenditure for the period 1st April 2023 to 9th February 2024 and 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025;
- (2) the financial position as at 31st March 2024, and a provisional closing balance of £ 2,366,526; and
- (3) the 3 budget options available to the Trust for 2024/25.

After consideration, the Trustees

- (a) noted the report; and
- (b) agreed to adopt the same approach as 2023/24 of limiting grant

expenditure to a pre-determined value of £125,000, leaving a budget after commitments of £90,000.

Applicant engagement noted etc.

5 There was submitted a report by Alexandra McNamee, Service Delivery Manager, Customer and Business Services, advising

- (1) of the summary of expenditure during the 2023/24 financial year;
- (2) that the Trust had previously made a commitment of £14,872 from the 2023/24 budget;
- (3) of the financial position as of 31st March 2024 and a provisional closing balance of £186,096;
- (4) that estimated figures showed an underspend of £10,020 and
- (5) of the 3 budget options available to the Trust for 2024/25.

After consideration, the Trustees

- (a) noted the report; and
- (b) agreed
 - (i) that 7 organisations would be invited to submit applications, namely Deaf Blind Scotland, Forth Valley Sensory, Guide Dogs, Macular Society, Play Back, RNIB, and Triple Tap Tach;
 - (ii) that the organisations would be invited to apply for a small or medium grant; and
 - (iii) the grant value thresholds for 2024/25 as follows:-
 - (A) small grants - up to £5K;
 - (B) medium grants - up to £10K; and
 - (C) large grants - up to £15K.

Date of next meeting.

6 The Trustees agreed that the date of the next meeting would be Friday, 22nd November 2024.