

## **BLINDCRAFT TRUST FUND**

24th November 2023.

**Present:** Councillor Robert Mooney (Chair) and Bailie Annette Christie, Glasgow City Council; and David McKerral.

**Apology:** Fiona Sandford, Visionary.

**Attending:** D Brand (Clerk); and A McNamee, W Shannon and A Stewart Glasgow City Council and J Alexander, Azets Audit Services.

### **Reappointment of Chair for 2023/24 agreed.**

1 The Trustees agreed to reappoint Councillor Robert Mooney as Chair for 2023/24.

### **Invitation to Participating Local Authorities seeking new Trustee.**

2 There was submitted a report by Legal Services regarding the invitation to participating local authority seeking ex officio councillor trustee, advising of the trustee representatives on the Blindcraft Trust, as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the Trustees

- (1) noted the report; and
- (2) agreed that a nomination of an ex officio councillor trustee is sought from one of the other participating local authorities on a three yearly basis.

### **Minutes of previous meeting approved.**

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

### **Financial update 2023/24 – Financial monitoring statement 2023/24**

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

- (1) the Trust had agreed to limit expenditure to £125,000 for financial year 2023/24;
- (2) the prior year underspend and committed expenditure, leaving a remaining uncommitted budget of £204,000;
- (3) the summary of expenditure for the period 1st April 2023 to 13th October 2023; and

- (4) the financial position as 13th October 2023, showing the provisional closing balance of £196,116.

After consideration, the Trustees noted the report.

### **Financial update 2023/24 – Approval of trust accounts 2023/24**

**5** There was submitted a report by Jennifer Alexander of Azets Audit Services regarding the annual accounts for 2022/23 and audit management report for the year to 31st March 2023, advising that

- (1) the Blindcraft Trust Fund annual accounts had been completed for the financial year 2022/23 and had been audited by Azets Audit Services;
- (2) Azets Audit Services had issued its report on the accounts and a letter of representation which required to be signed by 2 Trustees, as detailed in the report, prior to the accounts being signed off; and
- (3) the current balance of the Trust Fund was £2,711,997.

### **Applicant engagement noted etc.**

**6** 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 it had previously been agreed that 1 organisation who had received funding in previous years be invited to apply for funding from 2023/24;
- (4) of the financial position as of 31st March 2023, showing the provisional closing balance of £196,116;
- (5) with estimated figures show an underspend of £15,050 and
- (6) of the 3 budget options available to the Trust for 2023/24.

After consideration, the Trustees

- (a) noted the report; and
- (b) agreed
  - (i) a pre commitment of 50k for 2024/25 and 2025/26 to RSBi and Visibility Scotland;
  - (ii) that Triple Tap Tech should be rewarded £20k;

- (iii) that the organisations would be invited to apply for a small or medium grant; and
- (iv) the grant value thresholds for 2023/24 as follows:-
  - (A) 2 small grants - up to £5K;
  - (B) 2 medium grants - up to £15K; and
  - (C) 6 large grants - up to £25K.

**Date of next meeting.**

**7** The Trustees agreed that the date of the next meeting would be Friday 22nd March 2024.