

Stromeferry Working Group

Colin Howell – Head of Infrastructure I & E
Garry Smith – Principal Engineer I & E

Buidheann-obrach Phort an t-Sròim

Value for Money Workshop

Scoring

Environment

Safety

Economy

Integration

Accessibility

Others

Environment EN 1

Air Quality

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)	Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)
<p>Summary Table</p> <p>No benefit or impact when compared to baseline</p>	
<p>There would be a neutral impact on local air quality, impacts are not considered to be significant.</p>	<p>There would be slight adverse impact on local air quality at some receptors, the overall effect on local air quality would be negligible.</p>

Environment EN 2

Water Quality, Drainage and Flood Defence

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)	Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)
Summary Table	
Moderate negative impact - may be moderate change in water quality, geomorphology, hydrology and groundwater movement.	Neutral - No benefit or impact when compared to baseline
Particular issues for the River Attadale, due to potential changes in water quality due to the new road.	

Environment EN 3

Geology

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)	Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)
Summary Table	
No significant benefit or impact when compared to baseline	Minor negative impact – utilises existing road and construction of new stretches of road
There will be some impact on peatland within this route managed within the design and construction phase.	The bridge construction would have a greater impact upon the geology. Sea bed conditions are uncertain with multiple bridge pier foundations and large bridge abutments on either shoreline.

Environment EN 4

Biodiversity & Habitats

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)	Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)
Moderate negative impact due to offline nature of route – loss of ancient woodland and montane habitat and impacts likely to protected species.	Moderate negative impact due to habitat loss / fragmentation and disturbance of protected species. Degradation of benthic/ intertidal habitats.

Environment EN 5

Landscape

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)	Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)
Moderate negative landscape impact due to introduction of road and traffic into otherwise undeveloped landscape.	Moderate negative impact due to introduction of bridge at Strome Narrows
Anticipated to result in locally significant impacts on five Landscape Character Types	Anticipated to result in locally significant, impacts on parts of three Landscape Character Types

Environment EN 6

Visual Amenity

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)	Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)
Minor negative visual impact	Moderate negative impact due to introduction of bridge at Strome Narrows
Not anticipated to result in significant impacts on visual receptors within the study area.	Anticipated to result in significant impacts on receptors

Environment EN 7

Agriculture and Soils

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)	Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)
Minor negative impact due to land-take of agricultural areas and sizable land-take required within plantation forestry areas and impacts on native woodland.	Minor negative impact due to land-take of crofting areas and land-take required within native woodland areas.

Environment EN 8

Cultural Heritage

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)	Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)
No significant benefit or impact when compared to baseline	Minor negative impact on cultural heritage due to negative impact on the setting of Strome Castle
Few records exist for this route as it is remote from modern settlement pattern. Shielings and sheep folds have been recorded.	Also medieval settlements near Stromemore.

Safety S1

Transport Planning Objective 3 - Risk to Network Rail

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)

Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)

Options provide scope for greater protection of the railway from the impact of rock fall events as additional width is available to accommodate protection measures within the existing road corridor. Access to the railway from the road would no longer be available.

Safety S2

Traffic and Transportation

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)	Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)
Moderate positive impacts due to higher road design standards compared to the baseline.	
	Potential indirect safety issues associated with increased traffic through Slumbay and Lochcarron

Safety S3

Weather Impacts

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)	Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)
The altitude of the route is such that weather and especially snow and ice will result in ongoing winter maintenance.	There is a risk of bridge closures and restriction to high sided vehicles during periods of high wind.

Economy E1

Transport Planning Objective 2 - reduce road closure frequency

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)

Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)

Both options would achieve the scheme objective by removing the risk of rockfall closing the route compared to the do minimum situation. The variability in journey time due to rock fall events would be eliminated. This would result in a positive impact on business development and investment.

Economy E2

Transport Economic Efficiency (TEE)

Glen Udalain to Attadale
(S4)

Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)

Assessment by corridor looked at the distribution and scale of potential impacts, with the main identified sectors covering tourism, retail and wholesale, agriculture, forestry and fish farming and green energy.

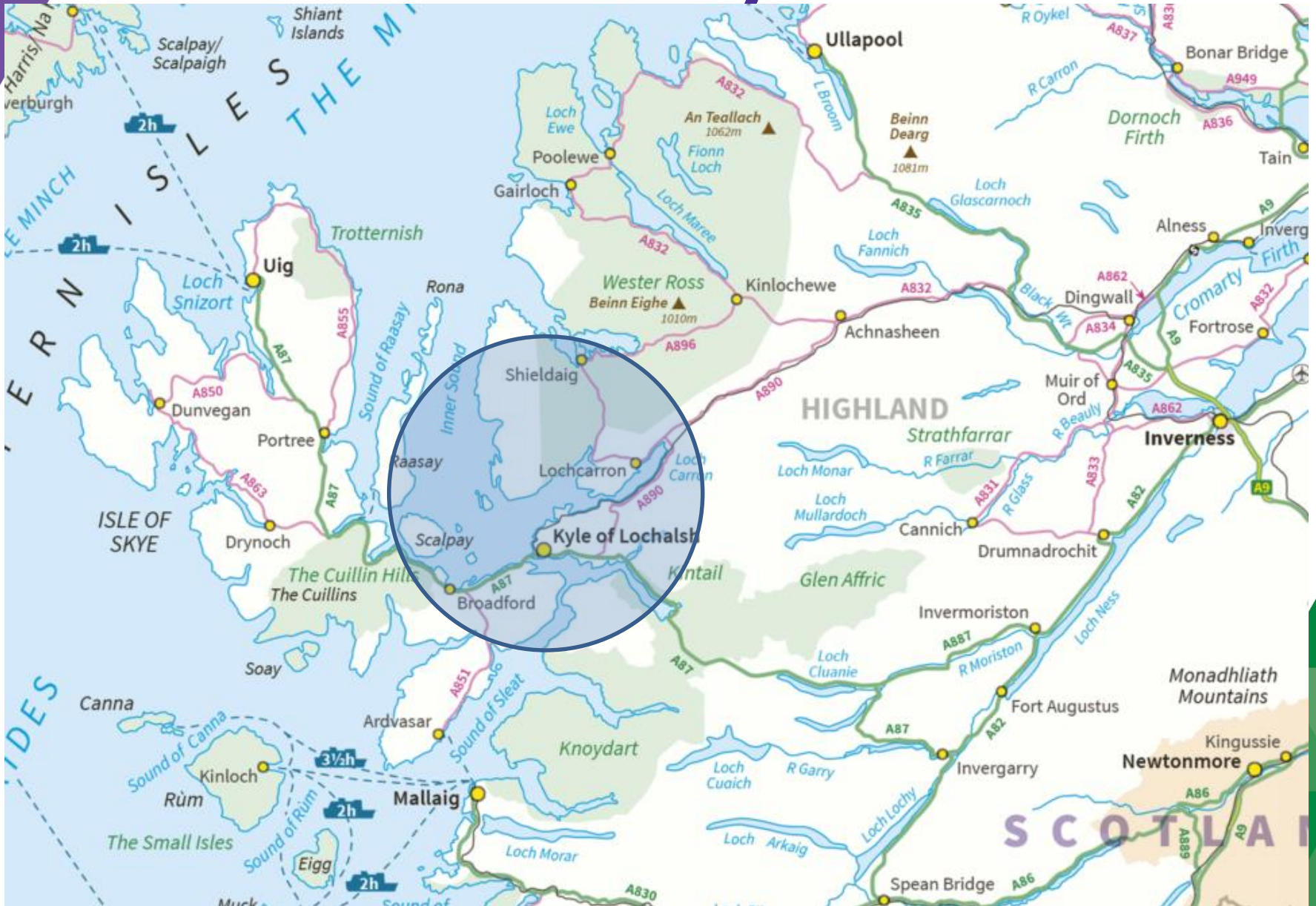
The results of the economic assessment show that the Benefit to Cost Ratios (BCR) are likely to be less than 1.0.

The high-level analysis suggests that none of the options provide a level of present value of benefits greater than present value of costs.

0.12

0.59

Economy E2



Economy E3

Wider Economic Benefits

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)

Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)

The WEB criteria are as follows:-

- WB1 Agglomeration economies;
- WB2 Increased competition as a result of better transport;
- WB3 Increased output in imperfectly competitive markets;
- WB4 Wider benefits arising from improved labour supply

The wider economic benefits calculation within the STAG slightly increased the overall Benefit to Cost ratio but did not achieve a score greater than 1.

0.11

0.67

Integration I1

Integration with Local Plans, Regional and National Policies

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)

Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)

Limited impact on transport integration. Improving journey times and journey time reliability is in accordance with local and national policies. Compatible with land-use developments, and general policies concerning transport and land use.

Accessibility A1

Transport Planning Objective 1 - Reduce journey time

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)

Moderate Positive Impact. The route would improve accessibility. However, the impact is negated to some degree as the proposed route is remote from existing communities.

Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)

Major Positive Impact. The route would improve accessibility and provide good links between the local communities.

Other 01

Construction Impacts on Road Users and Local Community

Glen Udalain to Attadale (S4)	Strome Narrows Bridge (N9)
Green field construction of new road alignment. The existing A890 road traffic would operate as normal throughout the works.	Green field construction of new road alignment. The existing A890 road traffic would operate as normal throughout the works.
	Construction traffic for works at Stromemore would be routed though Lochcarron village and Slumbay. Major bridge elements may arrive by sea.

Next Steps

