

**Item 10 - Question Time**

To the Leader of the Council

“The Coastal Communities Fund is now open and has £1.29 million to disperse around community projects as determined by Highland Council as ultimate authority. Do you agree that, in the interests of fairness and equality of adjudication, the present experienced Leader team should be directly assigned to support, monitor, assess and audit the many anticipated community bids to this funding pot?”

Response to Mr J McGillivray

The Coastal Communities Fund has ceased to exist in Scotland and has been replaced by the Scottish Government providing the net revenue generated from the marine assets out to 12 nautical miles to coastal local authorities. This has resulted in £7.5m being made available for distribution; with Highland Council receiving £1,292,405.46. It is intended to bring a report to the Council meeting in December setting out how this money should be allocated.