

Agenda Item	11
Report No	SR/16/21

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: Isle of Skye and Raasay

Date: 30 August 2021

Report Title: Highland Coastal Communities Fund – Assessment of Application (Glendale Community Hall)

Report By: Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure, Environment & Economy

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Highland Coastal Communities Fund is a new fund designed to support economic regeneration and sustainable development around coastal areas in Highland. The fund is derived from revenue generated by Scottish Government Crown Estate marine assets. Each year, local authorities are allocated a proportion of the profits.

Within an overall allocation to Highland of £3,034,703, the Isle of Skye and Raasay Committee has been awarded £505,492.06 of Crown Estates revenues for distribution within the Skye Area. Funding will be distributed as the Highland Coastal Communities Fund – Skye (HCCF).

- 1.2 Broad eligibility criteria for the scheme is as follows:-

All projects are expected to be able to meet at least one of the following priorities:-

- Economic recovery;
- Community resilience;
- Mitigating the impact of the climate/ecological emergency; and
- Addressing the challenges of rural depopulation.

Projects should be able to demonstrate that they are:-

- Sustainable/viable;
- Providing value for money;
- Providing additionality;
- Able to evidence local support/local benefit; and
- Able to evidence positive impacts for coastal communities and/or the coastal economy

1.3 The project to be assessed today was invited to proceed to full application stage.

1.4 In summary the current position in Skye and Raasay is as follows:-

Remaining available HCCF Funding – £25,204.29

Number of applications for consideration – 1

Total value of grant requested - £25,014.56

1.5 To aid Members in their decision making, the following appendices are provided to this report:-

- Summary spreadsheet detailing project proposals for consideration including RAG status from technical assessment and
- Project summary and outcome of technical assessment for each application.

Technical assessments and the RAG status are based on the application form and supplementary information provided during the application process.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to consider all applications presented for funding and agree whether to approve, defer or reject the application. An approval of funding should detail the amount approved and outline any conditions of funding that Members wish to attach to the approval over and above the required technical conditions. A deferral would allow an applicant to resubmit the current application at a future date with updated information. A rejection would mean that the application will not proceed and any future application to the fund should be brought forward initially as a new expression of interest.

3. Implications

3.1 **Resource** – Skye currently has available funding of £25,204.29. The grant requested in the application under consideration is £25,014.56, there are therefore no resource implications should Members wish to approve the application.

3.2 **Legal/Risk** – When managing external funding it is imperative that the risks to The Highland Council are assessed/mitigated and any back-to-back grant award letters with third parties, and financial claims management protect The Highland Council financial and reputational interests.

3.3 **Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural)** – Coastal communities funding is available to all Area Committees within Highland with a coastline. The focus of the funding is economic recovery and community resilience. Consideration on issues relating to equalities, poverty and rural issues are dealt with on an individual basis for applications and covered in the technical assessments of project

3.4 **Climate Change/Carbon Clever** – Mitigation of the climate/ecological emergency is a specific aim of the HCCF funding. All applicants are required to evidence environmental sustainability as referenced in the technical assessments.

3.6 **Risk** – When managing external funding it is imperative that the risks to The Highland Council are assessed/mitigated and any back-to-back grant award letters with third parties, and financial claims management protect The Highland Council financial and reputational interests.

3.6 **Gaelic** – Consideration given within individual project applications in line with HC policy.

Designation: Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure, Environment & Economy

Date: 26 July 2021

Author: Wendy Anderson, Development Officer

Background Papers: Appendix 1 - RAG Status Summary Sheet
Appendix 2 - Project summary and outcome of technical assessment

PROJECT SUMMARY OUTCOME OF TECHNICAL CHECK

206 Glendale Community Hall	Opening of Glendale Community Hall Toilets to Visitors and the Glendale Area
Grant Requested: £25,014.56	Total Project Costs: £27,014.56
<p>This project is to allow the hall toilets to be open to the public throughout the season and to install additional infrastructure in the community hall and upgrade fixtures and fittings in the toilets.</p> <p>The project will see installation of additional exterior lighting and CCTV to monitor access to the hall and to deter the disposal of camper van grey waste into the sewage system, which is not designed to accept this form of waste.</p> <p>The project will also allow for upgrading the existing fixtures and fittings in the toilets from a domestic type to those of a more robust design which will cope with the increase in usage.</p> <p>Included in the costings is a review of the current sewage system with a view to making it sustainable for future use. At present they only have a licence for a 10 person tank.</p>	
Outcome of Technical Assessment: Passed	