Agenda Item	3.
Report No	SR/15/23

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: Isle of Skye & Raasay

Date: 26 June 2023

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Report Title: Community Regeneration Fund Assessment of Applications

Report By: Interim Depute Chief Executive

Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 Community Regeneration Funding is an umbrella term for a number of funds that are available for communities/organisations to access in Highland. It comprises the Highland Coastal Communities Fund and the Place Based Investment Programme, both of which are Scottish Government Funding streams to support economic regeneration and sustainable development in Highland. Area Committees are awarded devolved allocations according to approved formulae and decision making on which projects should receive funding sits with elected Members.

Within Isle of Skye and Raasay, the following allocations are available for distribution in 2023/24:-

- Highland Coastal Communities Fund (capital/revenue) £438,595; and
- Place Based Investment Programme (capital) £46,293

Total funds available - £484,888

1.2 Broad eligibility criteria for the fund 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; or
- 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 In summary the position in Isle of Skye and Raasay at Area Committee on 26 June is as follows:-
 - available funding £484,888;
 - number of applications for consideration 2; and
 - total value of grant requests £63,072.16
- 1.4 To aid Members in their decision making, the following appendices are provided to this report:-
 - **Appendix 1** Application form for each project; and
 - Appendix 2 Technical assessment for each project

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:
 - i. 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 or for the project to be approved subject to further funding becoming available. 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; and
 - ii. **Agree** which applications should receive a funding award from CRF up to the value of the available area allocation.

3 Implications

3.1 **Resource** – Isle of Skye and Raasay have available funding of £484,888. Applications under consideration total £63,072.16. If applications approved exceed the funds available, the committee will need to undertake a prioritisation process to agree the funding awards.

- 3.2 **Legal** When managing external funding it is imperative that the risks to Highland Council are assessed/mitigated and any back-to-back grant award letters with third parties, and financial claims management protect Highland Council financial and reputational interests.
- 3.3 **Community (Equality, Poverty, Rural and Island)** The focus of the funding is economic recovery, regeneration 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 projects.
- 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
- 3.5 Risk A balanced approach to risk is necessary when disbursing grant funds as sometimes it is necessary if a community led project is to proceed, to forward grant payment. Factors such as past knowledge of and project experience of the grant recipient; release of funds related to invoices/works completion certificates etc are considered in such assessments
- 3.6 **Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people) –** No risks arising directly form this report. Risks within projects are identified and managed on a project-by-project basis by the applicant organisation.
- 3.7 **Gaelic** Consideration given within individual project applications in line with the Council's policy.

Designation: Interim Depute Chief Executive

Date: 16 June 2023

Author: Fiona Cameron, CRF Programme Manager

Background Papers: Appendix 1 – Application forms

Appendix 2 – Technical assessments



Community Regeneration Funding (CRF) Application Form

Please refer to the **Guidance Notes** to complete the application form.

Supporting documentation <u>must</u> be submitted with the application (see section 8.2).

Projects must <u>not</u> incur expenditure until they have been advised in writing by the CRF Team.

SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

1.1	Project reference number	CRF2016	
1.2	Organisation	Broadford and Strath Community Company	
1.3	Project title	Elgol Path Project	
		Total cost of project	£50,230.16
1.4	1.4 Project costs	Match funding	£38,320.16
		Grant requested	£11,910.16
1.5	Start date	1 August 2023	
1.6	End date*	30 October 2023	

^{*}Projects are expected to be completed and claimed fully by 31st March 2024

1.7 Which of the following themes will the project meet? Please choose ONE theme.		
People		
Place	X	
Economy		
Environment		

1.8 Privacy Notice

Please confirm you have read and understood the Community Regeneration Funding privacy notice: Privacy Notice

YES

SECTION 2: CONTACT DETAILS

2.1 Main contact name	Norma Morrison
Contact number	
Alternative contact number	
2.2 Position	Community Coordinator
2.3 Address	
Postcode	
2.4 Email address	mail@broadfordanstrath.org
2.5 Website address	www.broadfordandstrath.org

SECTION 3: ORGANISATION DETAILS

3.1 Organisation type	Please indicate (x)	Organisation number
Company limited by guarantee	X	SC246279
Constituted group		
Public body		
Charity	X	SC034829
SCIO		
Other (please specify)		

Are you applying on behalf of a partnership and is your 3.2 organisation the lead applicant? Please provide partnership	NO
agreement with the application.	

3.3	Is the organisation VAT registered?		NO	
	By ticking this, you are declaring the organisation VAT status as per HMRC. If this changes at any time during the project, you <u>must</u> notify the CRF Team as this may affect the offer of grant.			
3.4	If the organisation is VAT registered, please quote number.			
3.5	Is the VAT related to the project being reclaimed from	Whole	Partial	None
3.3	HMRC? Provide relevant details i.e. details of exemptions.			Χ
Deta	Details:			

3.6 Project delivery team		
Name	Job title/area of work	
Norma Morrison	Community Coordinator	
Shirley Grant	Director	
Hermione Lamond	Director	

SECTION 4: PROJECT DETAILS

Please refer to the **Guidance Notes** to complete this section. It provides important information, definitions, and examples to ensure you answer each section correctly.

4.1 Project location - Please include postcode.

Elgol, Isle of Skye IV49 9BJ

Elgol is the main village in Strathaird, the area of Skye which stretches from the outskirts of Broadford in the east, along a 15 mile stretch of single-track road, to the Elgol harbour in the west.

4.2 Do you own the land/building or have a lease agreement in place? Please provide evidence of ownership/lease with the application. If not in place, what are the arrangements to obtain this and by when?

Yes - John Muir Trust: Landowner. Have given consent for path

4.3 The Project

(a) Please summarise the project, explaining how it will achieve the funds' themes as noted in 1.7, and list which outcomes it hopes to achieve.

BSCC are seeking match funding in order to complete a footpath taking residents and visitors safely off-road between two main areas in the village of Elgol. The desire for a path was raised a number of years ago and the community have worked hard to deliver this project, alongside a larger infrastructure project including public toilets and campervan disposal, however the project has unfortunately been hampered by covid and also a surge in the cost of delivering the project. Substantial funding has been raised as part of the wider project however there is a shortfall to be secured to enable the path project to go ahead.

Elgol has in excess of 70,000 visitors a year and there is limited parking at the pier area in particular. Our proposed footpath will take pedestrians off the steep single track road between the primary school/pier and the village hall/public toilet levels in the village promoting active travel and reducing congestion on the pier. Our aim is also to enhance this path with well-designed panels to inform visitors about the area which has the most spectacular coastline rich with wildlife. The view from the Path is one of Scotland's Iconic view. The path will enhance visitor infrastructure and will indeed be an added attraction for the village.

Outcomes:

New path

(b) How will the project benefit local communities or the local economy?

- Promotion of active travel
- · Reduction of car parking issues
- Additional infrastructure for a busy village as part of a larger project including new public toilets and campervan disposal
- Keeping visitors in the area benefitting the local community

(c) What need or opportunity will the project address? How do you know there is local support for the project? Please provide evidence of community support with the application i.e. letters of support/consultation reports.

The development of new and improved visitor facilities, including path development, has been an ambition for the local community for a number of years. As these developments come to fruition the path project is the final part of the jigsaw improving the visitor experience whilst supporting the local community and economy. There has been overwhelming community support for this project.

(d) List the main activities to deliver the project including timescales – this will be the project delivery plan.

Activity name	Achieve by (date)
Path development	October 2023

(e) In developing the project, please detail how you have considered the following:

Environmental impact – describe how you intend to mitigate negative environmental impacts that may arise in delivering the project. It may also be that the project specifically seeks to address climate change issues or implement net zero ambitions/solutions.

Equalities impact – explain how you have taken groups with protected characteristics into account in the development/delivery of the project. How will you ensure that no one is excluded or disadvantaged from benefitting from the project? Will the project target specific groups for example?

The path has been designed by a landscape architect and will be accessible for all.

(f) How will the project be supported after CRF funding and what will be the lasting benefits/legacy?

The path will be maintained by the community supported by local partners.

(g) Please outline how the project fits with other relevant local plans and strategies.

The Elgol path project is detailed as part of the wider Elgol Toilet infrastructure project on the <u>Skye and</u> Rassay Future master plan infrastructure project.

<u>Scotland Outlook 2030</u> from the Scottish Tourism Alliance identifies the mission –"Together we will grow the value and positively enhance the benefits of tourism across Scotland by delivering the very best for our visitors, our businesses, our people, our communities and our environment." As the number 2 destination in Scotland, Skye and in particular Elgol will support this strategy by providing world class facilities for increasing numbers of visitors.

It is also hoped that this first part of path infrastructure for Elgol will kick start future path development for the area.

4.4 Does the project require planning permission regulatory consents?	YES		
If YES, please detail below - provide evidence with the application if granted.			
Туре	Applied – Yes (include date)	Granted – Yes (include date)	
Planning permission	30.06.22	20.10.22	

SECTION 5: BUDGET

This can be provided in a separate excel spreadsheet if preferred. Delete the example below before completing this section.

5.1 Main project expenditure — these should be as accurate and current as possible from recent quotations, price comparisons or advice from professionals.

Budget Heading Detailed costs		Revenue/Capital	Amount
Architect and clerk of works	Development of path specification and tender info	Revenue	4596
Path development	Groundworks	Capital	45,237.16
Fees	Planning		250

Fees	Planning – advertising		147
	Total	capital expenditure	£45237.16
Total revenue expenditure			£4992.6
TOTAL PROJECT COST			£ 50230.16
Is VAT included in these costs?			Yes
	Project expenditure b	pefore March 2024	£ 50230.16

5.2 Reasonableness of cost – project expenditure as detailed in 5.1 should be from recent price quotations. If you have been unable to seek current quotations, please explain how you have obtained project costs whilst developing the project?

BSCC sent out five invitations to quote developed by a landscape architect / clerk of works. Two contractors responded with a quote and the other three declined to quote due to sheer volume of work. The contractor that has provided best value will be awarded the contract should funding be successful. This contractor has indicated that they could start work over the summer months

SECTION 6 - MATCH FUNDING

Name of funder	Applied YES / NO (include date)	Granted YES / NO (include date)	Amount £	
Island Infrastructure Fund	Yes	Yes 29.3.22	37923	
Community Council	Yes	Yes	250	
Donation	Yes	Yes	147	

Tota	al match funding	£38,320
	CRF requested	£11,910.16
Т	otal project cost	£50,230.16

6.2 Will the project involve "in kind" support?

This should <u>not</u> form part of the overall budget or counted as confirmed match funding for the project.

YES / NO

Please detail:

As always with these projects there will be, and has been, extensive volunteer support and also support from the BSCC Community Coordinator.

6.3 Please explain why public funding is required to deliver the project. Will the project happen without funding support?

Without this additional funding the path project can not go ahead.

SECTION 7 - REVENUE GENERATION PROJECTS

To be completed by **revenue generation** projects ONLY. If the project does not generate revenue, please go to SECTION 8. Please submit a business plan with the application.

SECTION 8. Please submit a business plan with the application.	
7.1 Will the project generate revenue? Please provide a copy of the budget forecast with the application	n.
YES / NO If yes, how will the revenue benefit the organisation? Will it be re-invested to help with the long-term sustainability of the project – if so, how?	
7.2 How will you ensure that local organisations/businesses are not disadvantaged as a result of the project?	

7.3 Have you considered	taking out a loan f	or the p	roject?			
Please state your reasons	:					
7.4 Have you had suppor	t from other organ	isations	in developing t	he projec	t?	
For example:	Details					
Business Gateway	Dotailo					
HIE						
Other						
7.5 Have you previously re	eceived public fun	ds for th	ne organisation?			
	John John Hall					
YES / NO						
If yes, please provide deta	ils of awards for th	ne last 3		I <u>.</u> .		
Funding			Year of award	Amount	£	
ECTION 8 – SIGNATURE						
clare that the information	contained in this a	pplication	on is correct to t	the best c	of my	
owledge. I have read the g		underst	tand and accept	the term	s and	
nditions noted within them.						
e data you have provided in			,	•	•	
the Freedom of Information				4Ct 1998	ana tn	е
vironmental Information (S	cotiana) Regulatio	ns 2004.	•			
Main annlicant chairi	nerson or equivale	nt _ the r	narson signing this a	nnlication h	ac tha ai	ıthori
	person or equivale	nt — the p	person signing this a	pplication ha	as the au	ıthori
.1 Main applicant, chair within the organisation to applicant Signature:		nt – the p	person signing this a		as the au Date	uthori
within the organisation to a			person signing this a			uthorii
within the organisation to a		Print:	person signing this a	D		<i>uthori</i> Jun

8.2 Supporting documents checklist. You <u>must</u> enclose the following documents (where applicable) with the application. If they are not available, please state why. Please refer to the guidance note on how to name/label the documentation.	YES / NO or Not applicable
1 Constitution or articles and memorandum	

2	Committee Members or Directors List	
3	Permissions – i.e. planning, building warrants, marine licences	
4	Policies – i.e. child protection, health and safety, equal opportunities	
5	Confirmation of match funding letters	
6	Bank statement – latest available * please provide a statement below declaring what the remaining bank balances are for.	Х
7	Annual financial accounts – latest available	Х
8	Evidence of need and demand i.e. letters of support, community consultation reports, photos	
9	Business plan (revenue generation projects only)	
10	Relevant insurance policies	
11	Job descriptions (CRF funded posts only)	
12	Evidence of control/ownership of asset – i.e. lease, title deeds	
13	Partnership agreement	
Reas	son for missing documentation:	
Decl	aration what the remaining bank balances are for:	

Completed forms and supporting documentation should be emailed to the following email address quoting your unique project reference number: communityregenerationfund@highland.gov.uk



Community Regeneration Funding (CRF) Application Form

Please refer to the **Guidance Notes** to complete the application form.

Supporting documentation <u>must</u> be submitted with the application (see section 8.2).

Projects must <u>not</u> incur expenditure until they have been advised in writing by the CRF Team.

SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

1.1	Project reference number	CRF2015		
1.2	Organisation	The Highland Council		
1.3	Project title	The Storr		
		Total cost of project	£51,162	
1.4	Project costs	Match funding	n/a	
		Grant requested	£51,162	
1.5	Start date	01/06/23		
1.6	End date*	31/03/24		

^{*}Projects are expected to be completed and claimed fully by 31st March 2024

1.7 Which of the following themes will the project meet? Please choose ONE theme.		
People		
Place		
Economy		
Environment	х	

1.8 Privacy Notice

Please confirm you have read and understood the Community Regeneration Funding privacy notice: Privacy Notice

YES

SECTION 2: CONTACT DETAILS

2.1	Main contact name	Amy Smith
	Contact number	
	Alternative contact number	
2.2	Position	Corporate Improvement Project Manager
2.3	Address Postcode	The Highland Council Glenurquhart Road Inverness IV3 5NX
2.4	Email address	
2.5	Website address	n/a

SECTION 3: ORGANISATION DETAILS

3.1	Organisation type	Please indicate (x)	Organisation number
	Company limited by guarantee		
	Constituted group		
	Public body	X	SO304257
	Charity		
	SCIO		
	Other (please specify)		

Are you applying on behalf of a partnership and is your 3.2 organisation the lead applicant? Please provide partnership	NO
agreement with the application.	

3.3	Is the organisation VAT registered? By ticking this, you are declaring the organisation VAT status as per HMRC. If this changes at any time during the project, you must notify the CRF Team as this may affect the offer of grant.	YES		
3.4	If the organisation is VAT registered, please quote number.	G	B663758	3203
3.5	Is the VAT related to the project being reclaimed from	Whole	Partial	None
3.3	HMRC? Provide relevant details i.e. details of exemptions.	Х		
Deta	ails:			

Details:

3.6 Project delivery team				
Name	Job title/area of work			
Allan Gunn	Project Sponsor – ECO Communities and Place			
Matt Bailey	Bailey Project Lead			
Willie MacKinnon	Ward Manager			
Amy Smith	Project Manager			

SECTION 4: PROJECT DETAILS

Please refer to the **Guidance Notes** to complete this section. It provides important information, definitions, and examples to ensure you answer each section correctly.

4.1 Project location - Please include postcode.

The Old Man of Storr, IV51 9HX

4.2 Do you own the land/building or have a lease agreement in place? Please provide evidence of ownership/lease with the application. If not in place, what are the arrangements to obtain this and by when?

Yes, the land is owned by THC.

4.3 The Project

(a) Please summarise the project, explaining how it will achieve the funds' themes as noted in 1.7, and list which outcomes it hopes to achieve.

The project aims to install 1 x 22kW and 1 x 50kw EV chargers at the Old Man of Storr site on the Isle of Skye as part of wider developments at the site.

The ambition of the overall project is to deliver a world class experience for visitors to the Old Man of Storr on the Isle of Skye, that showcases our unique heritage and culture. The project will deliver improvements at the Old Man of Storr which will generate income for reinvestment in the Ward, covering the Isle of Skye and Raasay, and will support the management of the whole site to ensure that it has a sustainable future.

The project will achieve the theme of 'Environment by supporting the Scottish and UK Government initiatives by providing EV chargers in a remote location of the Highlands. The project facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport to ensure maximum connectivity across the area and supports the Net Zero agenda.

The project will achieve the theme of 'Economy' by supporting the Scottish and UK Government initiatives to ensure maximum digital connectivity across the area and by working with the Scottish Government on the delivery of improved transport infrastructure throughout the Highlands. The installation of EV chargers and the developments at the Storr will also encourage private and public sector economic development partners to ensure that Highland remains a top destination for inward investment. The project clearly sets out how it will build community wealth. The installation of EV chargers increases accessibility to transport networks for access to work and services in the area.

The project also supports the 'Economy' theme by promoting a more environmentally sustainable economy.

The charges for EV charging will be in line with THC policy. Any surplus income generated from chargers will be reinvested in THC EV network. The installation of chargers aims to promote environmentally friendly travel in the Highlands and to improve transport infrastructure on Skye and Raasay. This will benefit both locals and visitors.

(b) How will the project benefit local communities or the local economy?

Whilst the Old Man of Storr is a draw for many international visitors to the Isle of Skye each year, the site holds great importance for the community surrounding it. Some locals interact with the site on a daily basis and as it supports tourism in the area, it plays a significant role on the island. The unit will generate community wealth as income generated will be reinvested in the area.

The installation of EV chargers at the Storr will make Skye and Raasay a better place to live, work, and stay, by increasing sustainable transport options, and improving transport links. This will therefore improve the quality of life for island communities as there would be better connectivity and a reduction in isolation for islanders. The project ensures that all key partners, including minority groups, are not discriminated against. The project will promote good community relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not, by increasing communication and interaction by improved transport links, ensuring better connectivity across Skye and Raasay.

The projects align with Community Wealth Building principles as the improved transport links contribute to an improved experience for visitors to Skye, which increases tourism, on which the communities depend. It also improves links around the island which mean that local businesses are more accessible and that there is greater ease of access to local supply chains. Spend on the island is expected to increase as the Old Man of Storr site becomes accessible to users of electric vehicles.

The project mainly benefits the Isle of Skye and Raasay, but the wider area will also benefit from tourism spend as visitors are likely to go elsewhere in Scotland during their trip. The developments aim to increase the length of time that visitors spend on the island as there has been a rise in short stay tourism (Visitor Flow Modelling and Management on the Isle of Skye Report by SkyeConnect) which translates to economic benefits.

The community will benefit from economic development as a result of the project, as the project creates employment opportunities both directly and indirectly. The project also benefits the community as it encourages improved tourism behaviours which reduces damage to the environment, for example, spreads an educational message through signs displayed about keeping to paths in order to reduce erosion or damage to the environment.

(c) What need or opportunity will the project address? How do you know there is local support for the project? Please provide evidence of community support with the application i.e. letters of support/consultation reports.

The planned improvements for the Storr deliver against the strategic aspirations and objectives set out in the place based investment framework for the area known as Skye & Raasay Future (SARF), adopted by the Skye & Raasay Area Committee on 30 August 2021, and therefore addresses local identified needs.

Although led by The Highland Council, SARF is an excellent example of partnership between public agencies and the community/third sector coming together to agree the place-based priorities for the area. The plan was very widely consulted on as part of its development, and local stakeholders

have had significant input. The redevelopment of The Old Man of Storr site is a specific aspiration set out within this plan and shows that there is a wealth of local support for the project. Whilst the Old Man of Storr is a draw for many international visitors to the Isle of Skye each year, the site holds great importance for the community surrounding it.

The installation of EV chargers was presented in the SARF report from November 2021 which was adopted by local Members with accompanying involvement from local stakeholders. The community have been heavily involved in discussions around sustainable travel at the site.

The National Islands Plan was also developed after consultation with island communities in 2019, during which participants identified 'Transport' as their most common concern, the installation of EV chargers alleviates and responds to these concerns in Skye and Raasay. The installation of EV chargers at the Storr site empowers Skye to become a hub of sustainable electricity generation and a leader in tackling climate change. This also contributes to the outcome of a reduction in isolation as it improves connectivity.

Skye and Raasay feedback gathered by the University of Strathclyde in 2019 further supports that islanders are concerned with Transport on the islands. Road travel is of great importance to the Isle of Skye and is the main method of travel on the island. The installation of EV chargers encourages locals, and visitors, to switch to electric vehicles, and the installation of EV chargers provides reassurance that their journey will not be impeded or restricted by the lack of supporting infrastructure on the island.

In 2021, Glenmorven Associates were commissioned to undertake a feasibility study for the project. They worked closely with The Highland Council representatives based in both Skye and Inverness to ensure appropriate consultation with the wider community. A fully inclusive approach was adopted to understand the complex interplay between environmental, cultural, financial, legal, and logistical factors associated with the Storr site. With this philosophy taking centre stage, a range of experiences and opinions were garnered from 27 individuals, representing 7 departments, within The Highland Council and 5 key stakeholders and organisations represented at the site. Whilst this necessarily included a large representation from various The Highland Council departments, the study was also careful to canvas external opinion.

The Project Manger regularly engages with elected Councillors, who are representatives of the local community, with scheduled monthly meetings and ad hoc communications as required in addition to this. This ensures that the local community play an integral role in how the project is delivered, that the project will meet their aspirations, and defines how they will benefit from the outcomes. The Councillors are consulted on each decision that has an impact on the community.

(d) List the main activities to deliver the project including timescales – this will be the project delivery plan.

Activity name	Achieve by (date)
Installation of EV chargers	October 2023
Installation of Visitor Hub	March 2024

(e) In developing the project, please detail how you have considered the following:

Environmental impact – describe how you intend to mitigate negative environmental impacts that may arise in delivering the project. It may also be that the project specifically seeks to address climate change issues or implement net zero ambitions/solutions.

The crisis facing the environment is clear and The Highland Council have a duty of care to ensure that any development at the site is more than environmentally neutral.

The proposal to install EV chargers at the Old Man of Storr directly supports the National Islands Plan Strategic Objective 2 (to improve and promote sustainable economic development), Objective 3 (to improve transport services) and Objective 9 (to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation and promote clean, affordable, and secure energy) in addition to supporting the wider principles of the Plan, as these aspirations back a green future and would enable the Scottish Government to work towards achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045. Skye is subject to large tourist numbers, especially at the Old Man of Storr, receiving approximately 200,000 visitors per year. The installation of EV infrastructure therefore fits with the Islands Programme's objectives as it enables the growth of sustainable tourism, delivers on the Scottish Government's Net Zero Ambitions, and supports a green recovery from the pandemic.

The installation of EV chargers at the Storr site empowers Skye to become a hub of sustainable electricity generation and a leader in tackling climate change. Road travel is of great importance to the Isle of Skye and is the main method of travel on the island. The installation of EV chargers encourages locals, and visitors, to switch to electric vehicles, and provides reassurance that their journey will not be impeded or restricted by the lack of supporting infrastructure on the island.

Equalities impact – explain how you have taken groups with protected characteristics into account in the development/delivery of the project. How will you ensure that no one is excluded or disadvantaged from benefitting from the project? Will the project target specific groups for example?

The project ensures that all key partners, including minority groups, are not discriminated against. The project will promote good community relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not, by increasing communication and interaction by improved connectivity across Skye and Raasay.

All signs at the Old Man of Storr site are translated to Gaelic and ensure the promotion of Gaelic where possible. The EV chargers will have signs in both English and Gaelic to maximise exposure to and development of Gaelic. Signage on site also takes account of visual impairments by using large font and easy to understand language. The Storr website is also fully accessible.

(f) How will the project be supported after CRF funding and what will be the lasting benefits/legacy?

The long-term management of the EV chargers and 'business as usual' will be managed by the Energy team in conjunction with the Environment team within The Highland Council. The ongoing cost of running the chargers will be covered by income generated from the chargers and from site charges at the Old Man of Storr. Funding for the SSEN connections for the chargers has been secured from the Scottish Government Islands Programme. No long-term funding is required in order to maintain the chargers.

The installation of EV chargers at the Storr will make Skye and Raasay a better place to live, work, and stay, by increasing sustainable transport options, and improving transport links. This will

therefore improve the quality of life for island communities as there would be better connectivity and a reduction in isolation for islanders.

The project mainly benefits the Isle of Skye and Raasay, but the wider area will also benefit as visitors are likely to go elsewhere in Highland/Scotland during their trip, with improved EV infrastructure encouraging visitors to travel to the islands. The developments aim to improve the experience for visitors to Skye and Raasay by providing sustainable travel options for EVs.

Improved transport links benefit visitors to Skye, which increases tourism, on which the communities depend. It also improves links around the island which mean that local businesses are more accessible and that there is greater ease of access to local supply chains. Spend on the island is expected to increase as the Old Man of Storr site becomes accessible to users of electric vehicles. The installation of chargers therefore benefits both locals and visitors.

(g) Please outline how the project fits with other relevant local plans and strategies.

The installation of EV chargers will contribute directly to 5 of the 7 outcomes of Skye and Raasay Future Plan, adopted by The Highland Council at Area Committee on 31st August 2021, for which there is a wealth of local support:

- Climate Action and Resilience A net zero emission place where actions have been taken
 to decarbonise all key sectors including buildings and transport, whilst communities and
 businesses have been prepared and are ready for the impacts of our changing climate.
- Strengthening Communities A resilient, inclusive, and resourceful community network where everyone has access to good quality, affordable housing options, appropriate access to essential services, and where Gaelic and the area's unique culture and identity is celebrated.
- Diverse and Green Economy An economy which builds on the area's natural assets, delivers sustainable tourism, and embraces a range of employment opportunities to promote wellbeing, attract investment and supports a thriving population.
- Transport Infrastructure An integrated and well-maintained network of high-quality sustainable transport options which support social inclusion, a competitive economy, and deliver the wider ambitions for the area.
- Digital Infrastructure Reliable, affordable, and future proofed digital connections which are accessible for all and support the growth of the economy and the communities.

This is a place-based plan, developed by the local community in collaboration with The Highland Council, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, and Community Planning Partners. The plan aims to improves the lives of people and to support inclusive and sustainable economic growth. Skye and Raasay rely heavily on tourism, so it is imperative that the community is resilient and able to deal with the large visitor numbers. The improvements to EV charging infrastructure ensures that tourism can continue on Skye and Raasay and that there is economic development in the areas to the benefit of communities.

The proposed improvements also directly support the Scottish Government's National Islands Plan Strategic Objective 2 (to improve and promote sustainable economic development) as transport links to local businesses are improved, Objective 3 (to improve transport services) with increased access to EV chargers, transport services are improved on Skye, and Objective 9 (to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation and promote clean, affordable, and secure energy) by providing EV chargers at the Old Man of Storr.

The project addresses a local infrastructure need and also works closely in partnership with SkyeConnect to improve transport information on Skye and Raasay. SkyeConnect are in the process of developing an app to inform visitors and locals of traffic conditions on Skye. The benefits of this are, most notably, that road users can plan to avoid congested times to visit sites in Skye, view transport information such as EV charger locations, and data related to carbon emissions. This app relies on the provision of EV chargers to improve travel options for users of the app.

4.4 Does the project require planning permission regulatory consents?	NO			
If YES, please detail below - provide evidence with the application if granted.				
Туре	Granted – Yes/No (include date)			

SECTION 5: BUDGET

This can be provided in a separate excel spreadsheet if preferred. Delete the example below before completing this section.

5.1 Main project expenditure — these should be as accurate and current as possible from recent quotations, price comparisons or advice from professionals.

Budget Heading	Detailed costs	Revenue/Capital	Amount	
Swarco	22kW eVolve Unit	Capital	£2,175.00	
	50kW Raption Unit	Capital	£21,500.00	
	Branding	Capital	£400.00	
	Full Installation	Capital	£19,507.00	
	Commissioning	Capital	£200.00	
	5 year maintenance package	Capital	£2,875.00	
	Extended Warranty	Capital	£3,100.00	
	5 year Chargeplace Scotland Sim Card	Capital	£600.00	
	EV Charging Signage	Capital	£240.00	
	Delivery	Capital	£140.00	
	Protection Bollards	Capital	£425.00	
	Total	capital expenditure	£51,162.00	

Total revenue expenditure	£0
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
TOTAL PROJECT COST	
Is VAT included in these costs?	Yes / No
Project expenditure before March 2023	£

5.2 Reasonableness of cost – project expenditure as detailed in 5.1 should be from recent price quotations. If you have been unable to seek current quotations, please explain how you have obtained project costs whilst developing the project?

Quote received from Swarco. Price correct as of 12/10/2022. Updated quote has been requested as previous quote now expired. Procurement process has been confirmed via Energy team.

SECTION 6 - MATCH FUNDING

6.1 Please give details of confirmed or pending match funding: If match funding is confirmed, please provide letters of awards with the application.					
Name of funder	Applied YES / NO (include date)	Granted YES / NO (include date)	Amount £		
Scottish Government Islands Programme	YES 01/09/22	YES 01/09/22	£20,000		
	Tot	al match funding	C20,000		
	£20,000 £51,162				
	£71,162				

6.2 Will the project involve "in kind" support?

This should <u>not</u> form part of the overall budget or counted as confirmed match funding for the project.

NO

Please detail: n/a

6.3 Please explain why public funding is required to deliver the project. Will the project happen without funding support?

Without funding, the project will be unable to deliver EV chargers at Storr as there is no internal THC project budget for developments.
SECTION 7 – REVENUE GENERATION PROJECTS
To be completed by revenue generation projects ONLY. If the project does not generate revenue, please go to SECTION 8. Please submit a business plan with the application.
7.1 Will the project generate revenue? Please provide a copy of the budget forecast with the application.
NO
If yes, how will the revenue benefit the organisation? Will it be re-invested to help with the long-term sustainability of the project – if so, how?
7.2 How will you ensure that local organisations/businesses are not disadvantaged as a result of the project?
7.3 Have you considered taking out a loan for the project?
YES / NO
Please state your reasons:
7.4 Have you had support from other organisations in developing the project?
For example: Details
Business Gateway HIE
Other
7.5 Have you previously received public funds for the organisation?

YES

If yes, please provide details of awards for the last 3 fiscal years:				
Funding	Year of award	Amount £		

SECTION 8 – SIGNATURE

I declare that the information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I have read the guidance notes and understand and accept the terms and conditions noted within them.

The data you have provided in the application (and claim) forms are subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

8.1	Main applicant, chairperson or equivalent – the person signing this application has the authority within the organisation to apply for grant funding			
	Signature:	Print: AMY SMITH	Date: 13/06/2023	

8.2 You <u>n</u>	YES / NO or Not				
	vailable, please state why. e refer to the guidance note on how to name/label the documentation.	applicable			
ricas	e refer to the guidance note on now to hame/laber the documentation.				
1	Constitution or articles and memorandum	n/a			
2	Committee Members or Directors List	n/a			
3	Permissions – i.e. planning, building warrants, marine licences	n/a			
4	Policies – i.e. child protection, health and safety, equal opportunities	n/a			
5	Confirmation of match funding letters	YES			
6	Bank statement – latest available * please provide a statement below declaring what the remaining bank balances are for.	n/a			
7	Annual financial accounts – latest available	n/a			
8	Evidence of need and demand i.e. letters of support, community consultation reports, photos	n/a			
9	Business plan (revenue generation projects only)	n/a			
10	Relevant insurance policies	n/a			
11	Job descriptions (CRF funded posts only)	n/a			
12	Evidence of control/ownership of asset – i.e. lease, title deeds	YES			
13 Partnership agreement n/a					
Reas	son for missing documentation:				
Decl	aration what the remaining bank balances are for:				

Completed forms and supporting documentation should be emailed to the following email address quoting your unique project reference number: communityregenerationfund@highland.gov.uk



Community Regeneration Funding - application technical assessment

Project Ref:	CRF 2016	Applicant Organisation	nisation Broadford & Strath		Skye & Raasay
			Community Company		
Organisation	Company limited	Project Title:	Elgol Path Project	Decision meeting	26 th June 2023
Type:	by			date	
	guarantee/Charity				

Project Summary		Programme theme (delete as appropriate)			
Total project costs	£50,230.16	HCCF Y	PBIP Y	CLLD N	Place
Total CRF funding sought	£11,910.16				7
Match funding	£38,320	Est	mated start date	August 2023	
CRF intervention rate	24%	Estimated	completion date	October 2023	

Assessment Criteria	RAG	Comments
Application has demonstrated:	Status	
Project Robustness		Graded amber solely due to the lack of evidence of consent from the landowner. Applicant has been contacted. Otherwise it is a well-planned project, the final part of major infrastructure improvements in Elgol.
Engagement & Support		There is evidence of strong community support for the Elgol toilets and parking project. This path is the final phase of the project.
Meeting a Need of Demand/Market Demand		The path will allow for safe access to the village for pedestrians, taking them away from the single track road. It will also relieve congestion on the pier where there is limited amount of parking.
Legacy & Exit Strategy		The applicant will fund the ongoing maintenance of the path. The income generated from the Elgol toilets will be ring-fenced for Elgol projects and these funds will be used for ongoing maintenance.
Consideration of equalities issues/impacts		The applicant states the path has been designed to be accessible for all.
Environmental sustainability		Graded red as the question was not answered in the application form but the project aims at creating a path which will promote active travel and reduce motorised traffic in the village.
Value for Money		The applicant has secured funding from HCCF, RTIF and IIF for the Elgol infrastructure improvement project. This CRF application is to cover a shortfall in funding due to increases in costs and it would allow the applicant to finish off the path work.
Match funding		Match funding is confirmed and secured.

Meets Local Priorities	The project is listed as part of the Elgol infrastructure project on the SARF masterplan.
Additionality CRF funding is required to: • Allow the project to proceed • Increase the scope of quality of the project • Accelerate the implementation of the project	The path work has been at a standstill until funding can be secured. The path will not get done without support from CRF.

Ар	Application Technical Check		Comments
1	Project summary		
Α	Is CRF grant requested within the area thresholds?	Υ	
В	Has the Privacy Notice been acknowledged?	Υ	
С	Are project timescales within CRF programme timescales?	Y	Applicant states completion date of October 2023.
2	Contact details		
Α	Is the organisation's details on OSCR or Company's House as per registered number?	Y	https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/SC246279
В	Does the organisation address match the bank statement?	Y	Although a bank statement was not provided in support of this application, the applicant is already working with the CRF team on a few other projects funded via CRF, bank statements are readily available in other project sharepoint folders.
3	Organisation details		
Α	Is project activity being proposed by a public sector statutory duty?	N	
В	Is the project being proposed by a private business?	N	
С	Is it a partnership project and is there a partnership agreement in place?	N	
	Is the CRF applicant the lead organisation?		
D	Is applicant organisation VAT registered?	N	
	If yes, has number been provided?	n/a	
	Is the VAT being reclaimed from HMRC?	n/a	
	(Note: question about whether VAT is included/excluded in the project costs in section 5 below)		
4	Project details		

Α	Is the proposed activity/project within eligible area?	Υ	Project location is on the Isle of Skye
В	Does the applicant own or lease the land or building? If not, has the ownership transfer/lease agreement been applied for/pending? When will this be in place?	N	Land is owned by John Muir Trust. Applicant states consent for the path construction was secured. Evidence will need to be provided.
С	Is the project activity plan achievable within the timeframe? Are there any notable potential delays?	Υ	
D	Does the project have to comply with any Statutory Regulatory Requirements? i.e. planning, building warrants, SEPA consents, marine licences? Are these in place, pending decision, or not applied for? If pending or not applied for, when are they likely to be in place?	Y	Planning permission was granted. Evidence has been provided.
5	Budget		
Α	Have project costs been sufficiently broken down and itemised?	Y	
В	Are project costs eligible/essential?	N	The costs relating to path design and planning permission have already been incurred. If successful in securing CRFunding, these costs will be ineligible.
С	Have the recommended CRF procurement requirements been met, where required? If not, are steps taken to obtain project costs reasonable?	Υ	
D	Has VAT been removed or included in the project costs? As per section 2 above?	Y	Applicant states VAT is included in the costs.
6	Match funding		
Α	Is match funding confirmed? If not confirmed, has it been applied for or pending decision?	Partial	IIF match is confirmed. Evidence is needed for contribution from the Community Council and Donation.
В	Will there be in-kind support? How does this add value to the project?	Y	Applicant states the project will benefit from in kind support via volunteer time but provides no detailed information.
С	Has any work already started/costs been incurred prior to the application?	Υ	Design fees and planning permission fees have already been incurred and paid for via match funding. The construction works have not started as the applicant is waiting to have the costs fully funded.
7	Revenue generation projects ONLY	N/A	

Α	Will the project generate revenue?	n/a	
	If yes, how will the revenue be utilised?		
В	Has a business plan and budget forecast been provided?	n/a	
С	Has loan finance been considered?	n/a	
	Yes or no answer, has explanation been provided?		
D	Has the applicant received previous funding from public sources in the last three fiscal years?	n/a	
8	Signature		
Α	Is the application form signed and dated by chairperson or equivalent (authorised signatory)?	Y	Signed by Shirley Grant, Director
	Document checklist:	Yes/No N/A	Comments
	Expression of Interest	n/a	
	Constitution or articles and memorandum	*	*All supporting documents can be found in other BSCC project sharepoint folders
	Committee members or directors' list	*	
	Permissions – such as planning, building warrant, SEPA	Y	
	Policies – such as equal opportunity, environmental, child protection (if working with young or vulnerable people)	*	
	Confirmation/evidence of match funding	Partial	MF evidence needed for contribution from the Community Council and Donation
	Most recent bank statement provided	N	
	Statement demonstrating why public funding is required		
	Statement declaring what the remaining bank balances are for		
	Latest annual accounts	N	
	Research/evidence of need and demand i.e. letters of support, consultation reports, photos	*	
	Business plan (revenue generation projects only)	n/a	
	Relevant insurance policy	*	
	Job descriptions for any post which funding is sought towards	n/a	

Evidence of control/ownership of asset – i.e. lease, title deeds	N	
Partnership agreement	n/a	

Recommended grant condition	ons
Pre- approval conditions	•
Pre - start conditions	 Evidence of consent from landowner Bank statement & remaining funds statement
Specific conditions	 Ongoing maintenance plan Match funding evidence from Community Council and Donations Latest annual accounts

I confirm that I have completed the technical assessment for this project as	Name:	Marie-Anne Gray	
set out above.	Date:	15/06/2023	

Decision meeting outcome	Decision	Approved / Deferred / Rejected /Decision not required from this group
LAG Community Local Led Development	Grant amount awarded:	Community Local Led Development
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		£
	Date:	

Decision meeting outcome	Decision	Approved / Deferred / Rejected / Decision not required from this group		
Area Committee Highland Coastal Communities Fund/ Placed	Grant amount awarded	Highland Coastal Communities Fund	Placed Based Investment Programme	
Based Investment Programme	Date:	£	£	
	Date.			



Community Regeneration Funding - application technical assessment

Organisation Public body/Local Project Title: The Storr – EV chargers Decision meeting 26	26 th June 2023
Type: authority date	

Project Summary					Programme theme (delete as appropriate)
Total project costs	£71,162	HCCF Y	PBIP Y	CLLD N	Environment
Total CRF funding sought	£51,162				
Match funding	£20,000	Est	Estimated start date July 23		
CRF intervention rate	72%	Estimated	Estimated completion date Oc		

Assessment Criteria	RAG	Comments	
Application has demonstrated:	Status		
Project Robustness		Well planned project ready to start once funding is secured. Graded amber solely since the quote provided is out of date. The applicant awaits an updated quote.	
Engagement & Support		The applicant evidenced a good level of indirect community engagement via the SARF and consultation with island communities as part of the National Islands Plan. Although no letters of support for this particular project were submitted in support of the application.	
Meeting a Need of Demand/Market Demand		The EV chargers will be installed in a remote location on the isle of Skye.	
Legacy & Exit Strategy		The income generated will be used to maintain the chargers. Applicant states no further funding will be needed to maintain the chargers long-term and maintenance will be in conjunction with The Highland Council Energy Team.	
Consideration of equalities issues/impacts		Good consideration of equalities has been demonstrated.	
Environmental sustainability		The project specifically aims to address the climate change emergency.	
Value for Money		The project demonstrates a significant level of benefit in relation to the level of CRF requested	
Match funding		Match funding is confirmed and secured.	
Meets Local Priorities		The project meets 5 of the 7 outcomes of the SARF plan and 2 of the Scottish Government's strategic objectives.	
Additionality CRF funding is required to:		The project will not happen without CRF support.	

- Allow the project to proceed
- Increase the scope of quality of the project
 Accelerate the implementation of the project

Ар	plication Technical Check	Yes / No N/A	Comments
1	Project summary		
Α	Is CRF grant requested within the area thresholds?	Υ	
В	Has the Privacy Notice been acknowledged?	Υ	
С	Are project timescales within CRF programme timescales?	Y	EV chargers can be installed as soon as funding is secured. Applicant states installation will be achieved by October 23. The wider Storr project including the retail unit will be completed by March 24.
2	Contact details		
Α	Is the organisation's details on OSCR or Company's House as per registered number?	Y	https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/officers/DoAH1SlvvE4Ogt4sXHV_v5rd80w/appointments
В	Does the organisation address match the bank statement?	n/a	The applicant is The Highland Council. If the applicant is successful in securing funding the CRF award will be transferred into the relevant budget code. Copies of bank statement are not necessary.
3	Organisation details		
Α	Is project activity being proposed by a public sector statutory duty?	N	
В	Is the project being proposed by a private business?	N	
С	Is it a partnership project and is there a partnership agreement in place?	N	
	Is the CRF applicant the lead organisation?		
D	Is applicant organisation VAT registered?	Y	Applicant states VAT on project costs will be reclaimed whole.
	If yes, has number been provided?	Y	
	Is the VAT being reclaimed from HMRC?	Y	
	(Note: question about whether VAT is included/excluded in the project costs in section 5 below)		
4	Project details		
Α	Is the proposed activity/project within eligible area?	Y	Project postcode is IV51 9HX on the Isle of Skye

<u> </u>			
В	Does the applicant own or lease the land or building?	Υ	The land is owned by the applicant and evidence has been provided.
	If not, has the ownership transfer/lease agreement been applied		
	for/pending? When will this be in place?		
С	Is the project activity plan achievable within the timeframe?	Υ	
	Are there any notable potential delays?		
D	Does the project have to comply with any Statutory Regulatory	N	
-	Requirements? i.e. planning, building warrants, SEPA consents,	. ,	
	marine licences?		
	marine necrees:		
	Are these in place, pending decision, or not applied for?		
	Are these in place, pending decision, or not applied for ?		
	If nanding as not applied for when are they likely to be in place?		
	If pending or not applied for, when are they likely to be in place?		
5	Dudget		
Э	Budget		
Α	Have project costs been sufficiently broken down and itemised?	Υ	
В	Are project costs eligible/essential?	Υ	
С	Have the recommended CRF procurement requirements been	Υ	The quote provided from Swarco is expired but the applicant has requested an
	met, where required?		updated quote.
	·		Procurement process has been confirmed via the Energy Team using the ESPO
	If not, are steps taken to obtain project costs reasonable?		Framework.
	, ,		
D	Has VAT been removed or included in the project costs? As per	Υ	
	section 2 above?	•	
	333,311 2 43313.		
6	Match funding		
Α	Is match funding confirmed?	Υ	Match funding from the SG Islands Programme is confirmed and secured.
	If not confirmed, has it been applied for or pending decision?		
В	Will there be in-kind support?	N	
	How does this add value to the project?		
С	Has any work already started/costs been incurred prior to the	N	
	application?		
7	Revenue generation projects ONLY		
Α	Will the project generate revenue?	Υ	The charges for EV charging will be in line with The Highland Council policy. Any
1			

	If yes, how will the revenue be utilised?		surplus income generated from chargers will be reinvested in the EV network to maintain the chargers.
В	Has a business plan and budget forecast been provided?	N	mamam the shargerer
С	Has loan finance been considered?	N	
	Yes or no answer, has explanation been provided?		
D	Has the applicant received previous funding from public sources in the last three fiscal years?	Y	
8	Signature		
Α	Is the application form signed and dated by chairperson or equivalent (authorised signatory)?	Y	Signed by Amy Smith as the Corporate Improvement Project Manager
	Document checklist:	Yes/No N/A	Comments
	Expression of Interest	n/a	
	Constitution or articles and memorandum	n/a	
	Committee members or directors' list	n/a	
	Permissions – such as planning, building warrant, SEPA	n/a	
	Policies – such as equal opportunity, environmental, child protection (if working with young or vulnerable people)	n/a	The applicant is The Highland Council. All policies are available on THC Intranet
	Confirmation/evidence of match funding	Y	
	Most recent bank statement provided	n/a	
	Statement demonstrating why public funding is required		
	Statement declaring what the remaining bank balances are for		
	Latest annual accounts	n/a	
	Research/evidence of need and demand i.e. letters of support, consultation reports, photos	N	
	Business plan (revenue generation projects only)	n/a	
	Relevant insurance policy	N	
	Job descriptions for any post which funding is sought towards	n/a	
	Evidence of control/ownership of asset – i.e. lease, title deeds	Y	

Partnership agreement	n/a	

Recommended grant conditions				
Pre- approval conditions	•			
Pre - start conditions	Updated quote			
Specific conditions	Insurance certificate •			

I confirm	that I have completed the	Name:	Marie-Anne Gray
technical a	ssessment for this project as		
	set out above.		
	Set out above.	Date:	15/06/2023

Decision meeting outcome	Decision	Approved / Deferred / Rejected /Decision not required from this group
LAG Community Local Led Development	Grant amount awarded:	Community Local Led Development
		£
	Date:	

Decision meeting outcome	Decision	Approved / Deferred / Rejected / Decision not required from this group	

Area Committee Highland Coastal Communities Fund/ Placed Based Investment Programme	Grant amount awarded	Highland Coastal Communities Fund	Placed Based Investment Programme
Based investment i rogianime	Date:		