

The Highland Council

Agenda Item	CIA/26/24
Report No	11

Committee: City of Inverness Area Committee

Date: 19 August 2024

Report Title: Allocation Process for Area Share of Invitation to Pay Income

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 To agree a process for the allocation of area invitation to pay income within the communities in which it has been generated.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:

- i. **Consider** the options set out for distribution in paragraph 6.1
- ii. **Approve** the proposed process for the area allocation of invitation to pay income
- iii. **Note** that the process will be reviewed after the first year of implementation
- iv. **Note** that in line with the Scheme of Delegation, the delegated powers for the authorisation of spend up to £10,000 would be assigned to the Senior Community Development Manager and over £10,000 would be subject to Committee approval.

3. Implications

3.1 Resource

Invitation to Pay income supports the maintenance of infrastructure and releases funds to the Area Committee to allocate to local community priorities.

3.2 Legal

No Implications

3.4 Risk

No Implications

3.5 Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)

Council's policies will be applied to ensure full compliance where appropriate.

3.6 **Gaelic**
No Implications

4. **Impacts**

4.1 In Highland, all policies, strategies or service changes are subject to an integrated screening for impact for Equalities, Poverty and Human Rights, Children’s Rights and Wellbeing, Climate Change, Islands and Mainland Rural Communities, and Data Protection. Where identified as required, a full impact assessment will be undertaken.

4.2 Considering impacts is a core part of the decision-making process and needs to inform the decision-making process. When taking any decision, Members must give due regard to the findings of any assessment.

4.3 This is a budget allocation report and therefore an impact assessment is not required at this time.

5. **Background**

5.1 The Council approved a £1.5m Visitor Management Strategy at its meeting on 4 March 2021 in response to the increased numbers of tourists visiting the Highlands. The strategy recognised that there was a need to invest in infrastructure and council services to improve the visitor experience, and to address some of the issues arising from over- crowding in popular hotspots, including insufficient parking areas, bad/inconsiderate parking and consequential damage to roadside verges.

5.2 £250,000 from the Visitor Management Fund was allocated for improvements to parking management across Highland comprising installing charging at tourist dominated sites, improved signage, lining, minor repairs and increasing staff resources.

5.3 The amount available for this committee from 2023/24 after all relevant costs are deducted:

Area Committee earmarked funds.

£35,397

Torvean Car Park (MH)	£ 4,845
Drumnadrochit Village Car Park	£ 19,418
Invermoriston Village Car Park	£ 3,313
Foyers Village Car Park	£ 6,109
Inverness Sports Centre Car Park	£ 1,464
Inverness Whin Park Car Park	£ 49
	£35,397

6. Proposed Process for Allocation of Area Share of Invitation to Pay Income

- 6.1 Members are asked to approve a process that will allocate the 2023/24 Area share of invitation to pay income - **£35,397**. The options are:
1. the income is allocated to the Ward within which each of the car parks above are located.
 2. The income share is allocated equally across all City Area Wards annually.
 3. The income share is allocated equally to Aird & Loch Ness, Inverness South and Culloden & Ardersier.
 4. The income share is allocated for distribution to the ICGF Sub-Committee upon applications being made on projects based and principally benefitting in the Wards mentioned in 3 above.
- 6.2 Authorisation of spend of £10,000 or less would be delegated to the Senior Community Development Manager and £10,000 or over would be subject to Committee approval, as per the Scheme of Delegation.
- 6.3 At the end of the 2024/25 financial year a review of the process will be undertaken to consider any changes that may be required for future implementation.

Designation: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

Date: 1 August 2024

Author: David Haas, Senior Community Development Manager, Inverness & South

Background Papers: THC Parking [Policy](#) 2018 to 2023
[Item 15 - Parking Strategy 2021](#)

Appendices: