

Agenda Item	9
Report No	SCC/10/25

# The Highland Council

**Committee:** Sutherland County Committee

**Date:** 17 February 2025

**Report Title:** Realignment of the boundary between Creich and Ardgay & District Community Councils

**Report By:** Chief Officer – Communities and Housing

## 1 Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 Due to an administrative error the boundary between Creich and Ardgay & District Community Councils is incorrect. This report proposes a minor realignment to correct the error.

## 2 Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:

- i. Approve the realignment of the boundary between Creich and Ardgay & District Community Councils

## 3 Implications

3.1 **Resource** - None

3.2 **Legal** – The realignment will move six households and two commercial premises to the correct Community Council and will also mean that they are registered to a polling station within their own community.

3.3 **Risk** – None

3.4 **Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)** - None

3.5 **Gaelic** - None

## 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 **Integrated Impact Assessment - Summary**

4.3.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment screening has been undertaken on the proposed budget and the conclusions have been subject to the relevant Manager Review and Approval.

4.3.2 The Screening process has concluded that there are no impacts identified in relation to the proposed budget.

4.3.3

<b>Impact Assessment Area</b>	<b>Conclusion of Screening/Full Assessment</b>
Equality	<i>No impact</i>
Socio-economic	<i>No impact</i>
Human rights	<i>No impact</i>
Children's rights & well-being	<i>No impact</i>
Island and mainland rural	<i>No impact</i>
Climate change	<i>No impact</i>
Data rights	<i>No impact</i>

## 5 **Background**

5.1 Several years ago, the boundaries for Community Councils across Highland were digitised and maps produced which were published on the Highland Council website. The boundaries are also used in some cases to determine the polling station where an elector votes.

5.2 In the case of the boundary between Creich and Ardgay & District Community Councils, which follows the natural boundary formed by the Kyle of Sutherland and River Oykel, the digital boundary drawn on the map contained some errors causing six households and two commercial properties to the south of the Kyle or river being assigned to Creich CC and vice versa. See Map 1 in Appendix 1.

## 6 **Proposal**

6.1 It is proposed to correct the error by realigning the boundary along the Kyle of Sutherland and River Oykel (see Map 2 in Appendix 1). The current and proposed boundaries can also be viewed at <https://highland.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/sidebar/index.html?appid=a58081346bfa44c28148c990ca546a4c>

6.2 Both Creich and Ardgay and District Community Councils have been consulted and support the proposed realignment.

Designation: Chief Officer – Communities and Housing

Date: 3 February 2025

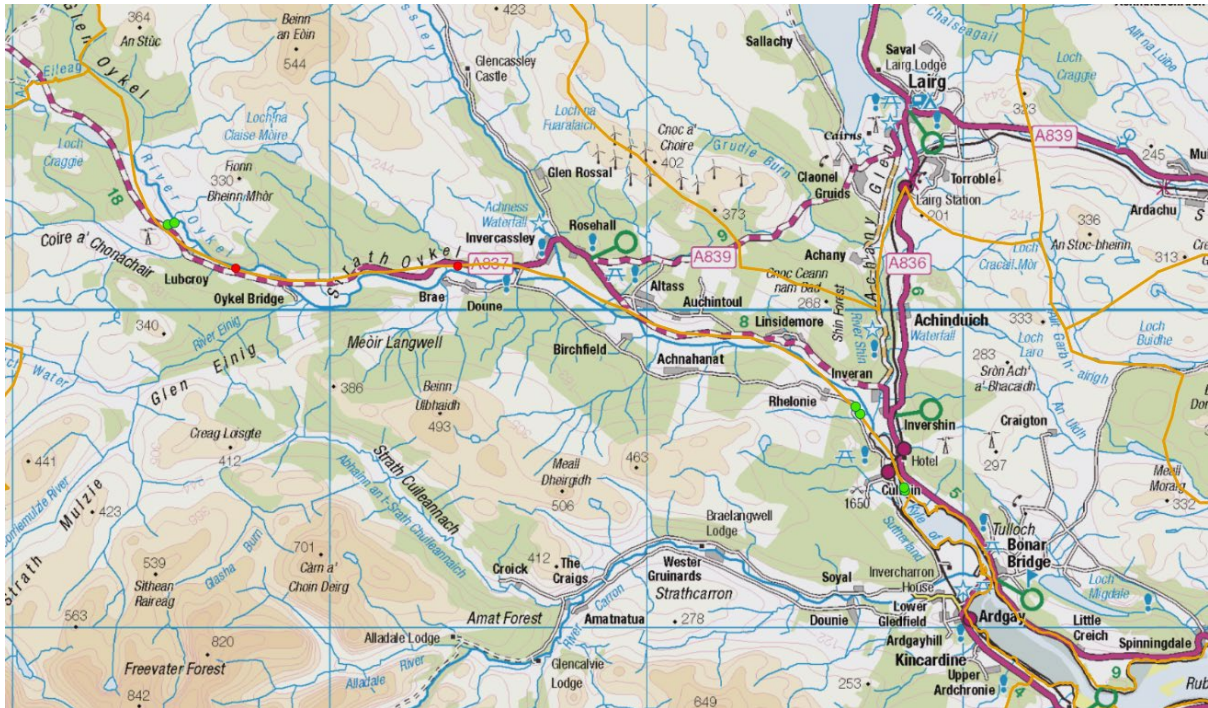
Author: Phil Tomalin, Community Development Manager

Background Papers: None

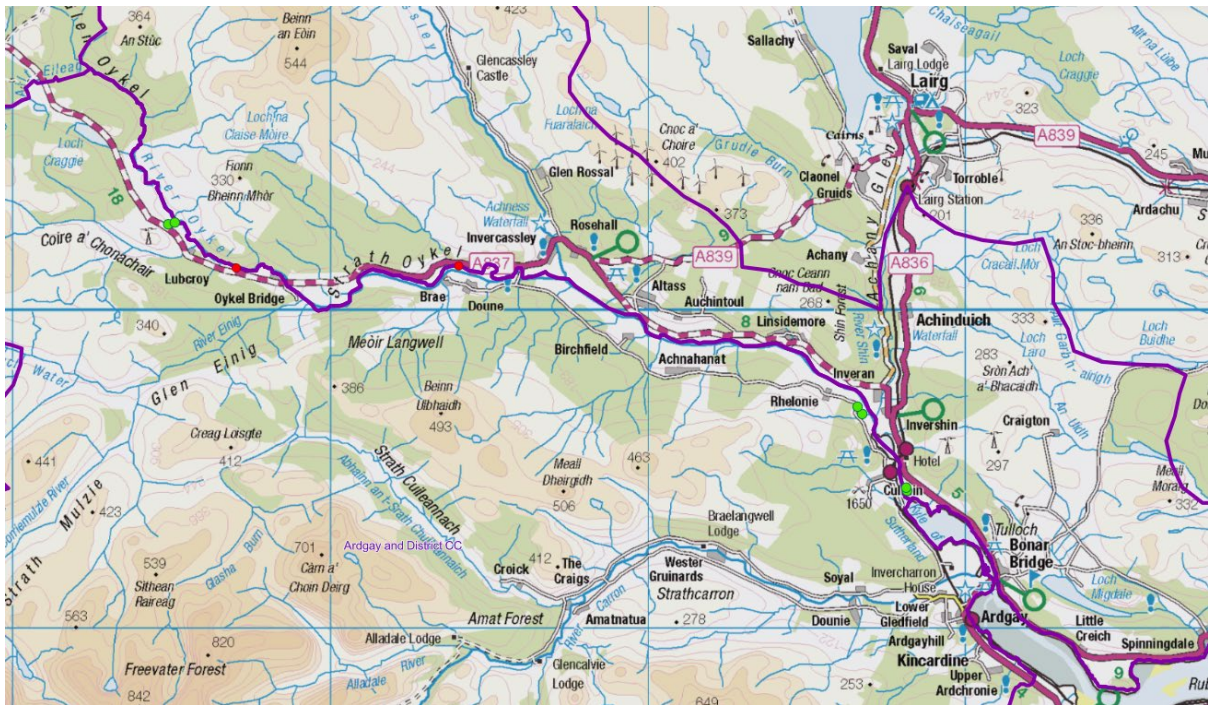
Appendices: Appendix 1 – Current and Proposed Boundaries

## Appendix 1

Map 1. Current Creich/ Ardgay CC Boundary (orange line)



Map 2. Proposed Oykel Creich/ Ardgay CC Boundary (purple line)



NB Green dots are residential properties, red dots are commercial properties.