

The Highland Council

Agenda Item	8
Report No	SR/10/25

Committee: Isle of Skye and Raasay

Date: 30 June 2025

Report Title: Community Regeneration Funding Award

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report summarises the background to the homologation of £14,291.56 Community Regeneration Funding (CRF) investment in the Broadford Toilets – Access Improvements project.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to:-
- i. **Note** the risk of external grant conditions not being met; and
 - ii. **Agree** by homologation the Council investing £14,291.56 CRF grant for access improvement works to the Broadford Toilets.

3 Implications

- 3.1 **Resource** – Isle of Skye and Raasay have available funding of £777,269.58. The grant amount under consideration totals £14,291.56, therefore there are no resource implications in approving the funding award.
- 3.2 **Legal** – 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 **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 receipt, release of funds related to invoices/works completion certificates etc are considered in such assessments.

- 3.4 **Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)** – No risks arising directly from this report. Risks within projects are identified and managed on a project-by-project basis by the applicant organisations.
- 3.5 **Gaelic** – Consideration given within individual project applications in line with the Council's policy.

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 monitoring and update report. Therefore, an impact assessment is not required.

5 Background

- 5.1 Community Regeneration Funding is an umbrella term for several 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.
- 5.2 Within Isle of Skye & Raasay, at present, the following allocations are available for distribution in 2025/26:-
- Highland Coastal Communities Fund (capital/revenue) - £777,269.58

6. Investment into Broadford Toilets

- 6.1 Members will be aware of The Highland Council commitment to supporting the construction of new Broadford public toilets, identified as a priority project in the Skye and Raasay Future Plan. With support from the Town Centre Fund and the Place Based Investment Programme, the Broadford Public Toilets were built and opened in July 2023. The facility is community-owned via Broadford and Strath Community Company and is well-used by locals and visitors to the area.
- 6.2 Members have also been made aware of the ongoing issues with the access and payment system for the Broadford Public Toilets, which is compromising the long-term sustainability of the facility. In consultation with the local Access Panel and building control, the Broadford and Strath Community Company identified urgent improvements to rectify these issues.

6.3 In March 2025, and following discussions with Broadford and Strath Community Company, Members indicated support for an award of £14,291.56 of CRF to be made to Broadford and Strath Community Company towards urgent access improvement works at the Broadford Public Toilets to be carried out as early as possible in order to be in full use by peak tourist season.

Designation: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

Date: 13 May 2025

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Background Papers: None

Appendices: None