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| Agenda Item | <b>10</b>        |
| Report No   | <b>CIA/42/26</b> |

# The Highland Council

**Committee:** City of Inverness Area

**Date:** 17 August 2026

**Report Title:** Inverness Floral Clock – Update

**Report By:** Assistant Chief Executive - Place

## 1 Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update to Members on the proposal to reinstate the historic Inverness Castle Clock. The project seeks to compliment the recently completed Inverness Castle Experience, restoring a much-loved civic landmark.
- 1.2 The former clock mechanism is beyond economic repair and requires fully replaced. Initial design and cost appraisal works have been completed, which identify options for a reinstatement that sets out options for the area that will create a new visual impact with sustainability considered and ongoing maintenance requirements outlined.
- 1.3 The project aims to enhance the visitor experience, strengthen Inverness cultural identity and a focal point for visitors and locals to enjoy.

## 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to:-
  - i. **Note** the progress to date; and
  - ii. **Consider** the options presented and **Agree** next steps.

## 3 Implications

- 3.1 **Resource** –£0.035m has been secured through the Community Regeneration Fund (CRF), which is sufficient to procure and install the replacement clock mechanism. A funding shortfall remains, as detailed in the report, and no additional resources have currently identified to deliver the wider project proposals beyond the mechanism installation.
- 3.2 **Legal** – There are no implications.

- 3.3 **Risk** – There is a risk, that without securing additional funding. Only the replacement clock mechanism will be delivered. This would prevent completion of the wider landscaping options proposed which would reduce the overall impact of the project.
- 3.4 **Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)** – There are no implications.
- 3.5 **Gaelic** - There are 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 **Integrated Impact Assessment - Summary**
- 4.3.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment screening was undertaken on 4 August 2026. 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.

4.3.3

| Impact Assessment Area           | Conclusion of Screening/Full Assessment |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Equality                         | <i>no impact</i>                        |
| Socio-economic                   | <i>no impact</i>                        |
| Human Rights                     | <i>no impact</i>                        |
| Children's Rights and 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 Introduction

- 5.1 The Inverness Castle clock has long been a recognised and much-loved feature of the Inverness Castle Hill. The Clock was removed in 2016 as it was inoperative and believed to be beyond economic repair. City Elected Members have asked for the reinstatement of the Castle Hill Clock is conducted to compliment the recently opened Inverness Castle.

The works to reinstate the Castle Hill Clock and associated planted bedding would undoubtedly enhance and compliment the reopened Inverness Castle as the key centre piece visitor destination attraction in the city which would have a positive impact on visitor and associated business need.

5.2 Initial feasibility works established a budget of around £0.080m was required to provide the following:-

1. replace the mechanism for the clock; and
2. provide bedding plants which replace previous floral design

A proposal was put forward for CRF funding to fund this full proposal. The decision made at the City of Inverness Area Committee in February 2026 was to part fund the application and award £0.035m.

5.3 Works have been progressed to obtain costs for the clock mechanical installation and to seek other options for the design and installation of the clock face feature and surround.

## 6 Options

6.1 A landscape design study has been conducted to explore options for the reinstatement of the floral clock and its surrounding areas. The options appraisal was to establish different options for landscaping which would provide a sustainable solution and seek to reduce the maintenance burdens for future years.

Please note that options 3-6 are detailed within the Feasibility Study – please refer to **Appendix 1**.

The options are as follows:-

1. **Remove all planting** – grass over the current planted areas.
2. **No change to current arrangements** - continue to plant at the as it has been in previous years with costs to the ICGF. But install the clock mechanism.
3. **Traditional Carpet Bedding** – this display would mirror previous styles which relates to have themed clock face with town twinning recognition in the other areas.
4. **Hard landscape the Clock Face** – replace the traditional planted clock face with permanent hard landscaped design.
5. **Planted Stone Frame** – provides permanent stone framework with a mixture of hard landscaped and planted sections within the clock face.
6. **Naturalistic Highland Landscape** – a landscape clockface which is inspired by the Highlands which incorporates meadow planting, heather, stone and natural materials.

6.2 **Option 1 Remove all planting** – this would be to cease all planting to the Castle Hill and no clock installed. This would mean that the current plant spaces could be grassed over and maintained burden is reduced and only grass cutting would be required to the embankment.

### Advantages

- Cost reduction in planting meaning cost saving for the ICGF.
- Maintenance burden in the planting for the floral area and upkeep is removed.
- No requirement for future refurbishment costs
- Management responsibilities for maintenance is reduced, and only regular cutting would be required.

### Disadvantages

- Loss of a Historic Landmark.
- Potential reduction in visitor interest.
- Loss of any place making value as there would be no feature on the hill.
- Perception of sign city centre decline with the removal of the feature.
- Loss of tourism and civic branding.

### Costs

Indicative costs provided through the amenities team to turf over the areas would be as follows.

- Turf over all the beds but leave the lavender      £20,000 or
- Turf over all the beds and the lavender      £25,000

### Maintenance

- Lowest maintenance requirement.
- Ongoing maintenance limited to routine grass cutting of the embankment and surrounding areas.
- No seasonal planting, refurbishment or specialist horticultural maintenance required.

6.3 **Option 2 No change to current arrangements** – currently the ICGF pays towards the current planting arrangements on the Castle Hill. This is through the Civic Space Maintenance budget line. This option is for this to continue as the costs are being covered already. With funding in place, the option of the clock being on display is available for May 2027.

### Advantages

- No change to current set up with Amenities team.
- Ensures Castle Hill continues with planted features next to newly refurbished cultural asset.
- Addition of clock provides focal point and restores a former civic site.
- Funding in place for mechanism installation

### Disadvantages

- No major enhancement to the Castle Hill to create a unique feature.
- Potential increase in planting costs.
- Currently planting may not reflect expectation in having the clock feature as traditionally it was carpet bedding and bespoke design.

### Maintenance

- Maintenance requirements remain broadly unchanged from existing planting arrangements.
- Seasonal bedding and planted areas continue to require annual planting, watering, weeding, and general upkeep by the Amenities Team.
- Additional annual maintenance required for the clock mechanism.

- 6.4 **Option 3 Traditional Carpet Bedding** – This option reinstates the clock in a traditional style using seasonal Carpet Bedding and planting within the clock face and additional areas.

The surrounding areas would be enhanced with permanent perennial planting design to compliment the planting scheme within the Inverness Castle Garden Area.

This option is what has been in place in the previous years before the machoism was removed. Each year the central design was something different.

#### Advantages

- Restores the floral clock consistent with its historical appearance.
- Provides a colourful and highly visible display.
- Creates opportunities for changing seasonal designs and civic commemorations.
- Has strong heritage and place making value.

#### Disadvantages

- High ongoing maintenance requirement
- Bedding display requires replacement more than once a year.
- Limited biodiversity benefits and lower sustainability than other options.
- Funding to be sourced for the new display.

#### Costs

Estimated total implementation cost, including clock reinstatement, is between £52,500 –£64,500.

Annual bedding replacement costs thereafter estimated at £18,000–£32,000 per annum.

#### Maintenance

- Highest maintenance requirement of all options.
- Bedding displays may require replacement up to three times per year.
- Regular watering, weeding, feeding, and horticultural maintenance required throughout the growing season.
- Peripheral perennial planting would require 2–4 maintenance visits per year.
- Ongoing annual replacement costs associated with the bedding displays.

- 6.5 **Option 4 Hard Landscape Clock Face** – this option replaces the tradition planted clockface with a permanent hard landscaping design. The design within the options appraisal references the rose window in display within the Inverness Castle Experience. This option uses natural stone and decorative materials. This option also includes a perennial plating design when the lavender is currently in place.

#### Advantages

- Durable long-term solution.
- One off cost associated with this install.
- Provides a consistent appearance through the whole year.
- Materials used could compliment the design of the Inverness Castle Experience.

### Disadvantages

- Potentially less visual impact than a floral display
- No flexibility in seasonal or civic designs

### Costs

Resin-bound hard landscape option estimated at £45,000–£60,000, including clock reinstatement, depending on the extent of surrounding planting.

Costs for the natural stone version require further development.

### Maintenance

- Limited maintenance requirement.
- Annual cleaning and inspection of hard landscape materials and clock face.
- Surrounding perennial planting would require 2-4 maintenance visits per year.
- No annual replacement planting within the clock face itself.

- 6.6 **Option 5 Planted Stone Frame** – This option combines permanent stone framework elements with a mixture of planted and hard landscaped sections within the clock face. The design allows for seasonal planting while reducing the extent of traditional bedding option and associated maintenance requirements. For this option, the rose window has been used as an indicative design template.

### Advantages

- Balances heritage, visual impact, and sustainability.
- Allows seasonal variation of planting where required in the design.
- Creates a distinctive design linked to Inverness Castle
- Provided more flexibility than a fully hard landscaped section.

### Disadvantages

- More complex to deliver and maintain than option 2.
- Maintenance and operational costs remain dependant on the extent of planting.
- Will require ongoing design development so that the best balance is taken between hard and planted areas in the design.

### Costs

Costs remain subject to further design development. The SLR report advises costs would fall between the Traditional Carpet Bedding and Hard Landscape options, depending on the balance between hard and soft landscaping.

### Maintenance

- Moderate maintenance requirement.
- Maintenance levels depend on the proportion of planted and hard landscaped elements included within the final design.
- Areas of bedding planting would require seasonal maintenance and replacement.
- Hard landscape elements require occasional inspection and cleaning.
- Surrounding perennial planting would require 2-4 maintenance visits per year.

- 6.7 **Option 6 Naturalistic Highland Landscape** – This option moves away from the traditional floral clock concept and instead creates a landscape inspired by the Highlands, incorporating meadow planting, heather, stone features, and natural

materials. The clock would function as a feature within a broader landscape interpretation.

#### Advantages

- Strong biodiversity and sustainability benefits.
- Lower long-term maintenance requirements once established.
- Creates a unique landscape feature linked to the natural environment of the Highlands.
- Aligns with approaches to greenspace design and climate resilience.

#### Disadvantages

- Represents a significant departure from the historic floral clock.
- Seasonal appearance may reduce visual impact during winter months.
- Potentially weaker heritage connection and public recognition.

#### Costs

Estimated total implementation cost, including clock reinstatement, of £64,000-£69,000.

#### Maintenance

- Lowest maintenance requirement of the landscaped options once established.
- Meadow areas require cutting once per year.
- Heather planting requires annual pruning.
- Around 5–6 maintenance visits required during the initial establishment period, reducing thereafter.
- Periodic overseeding and occasional hard landscape maintenance required.
- Reduced intervention compared with traditional bedding display

## **6.8 Summary of options**

Overall, the options presented demonstrate a balance between heritage, visual impact, sustainability, and long-term maintenance considerations. Members are invited to consider which approach best aligns with objective of reinstating the Castle Hill Clock as a feature that will complement the Inverness Castle Experience while remaining sustainable and affordable for future years.

## 7 Funding

- 7.1 The report outlines that there is £35k in place to develop an options appraisal, install the clock mechanism and power supply instead to support this.

While the asset is seen as a civic asset it does not sit within the Inverness Common Good Fund. While the ICGF provides a budget for maintenance to the high amenity areas, additional funding would be needed to deliver the options outlined at section 6. Potential funding routes could be:-

- Contribution from the Inverness Castle Experience;
- Sponsorship ;
- Third party funding through Grants; and
- Continuation of a contribution through the ICGF

However, it should be noted that a number of the options detailed at section 6 require ongoing maintenance and therefore an ongoing source of revenue funding would be required.

Members are asked to note that with no additional funding identified or confirmed, the option currently affordable and deliverable would be **Option 2**. Any other option considered would need further development and budget sourced.

Designation: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

Date: 28 July 2026

Author: Mark Greig, Community Development Manager

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix 1 – Feasibility Study

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# Inverness Castle Floral Clock

Client: The Highland Council  
Document Number: 191434\_SLR\_RP\_Floral\_Clock  
Date: 06.08.2026  
Revision No: 02





# Executive Summary

SLR were instructed by The Highland Council to prepare a report illustrating concept designs and high level cost estimates for the landscape design around the reinstated floral clock on Castle Street, Inverness.

This report is intended to illustrate possible design approaches, constraints and considerations for the wider floral clock landscape, taking into account desired visual impact, sustainability concerns and ongoing management and maintenance costs.

While costs have been sought from suppliers, and taken from previous project experience, these are high level estimates, and cannot be taken fully developed costs. As the project moves forward, a detailed project budget should be developed by a suitably qualified quantity surveyor or cost consultant to gain an accurate understanding of implementation costs.



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# 1. History, Constraints and Context

# History

The floral clock on Castle Street was a mainstay of Inverness city centre, until its removal in 2016. The clock was removed due to the failure of its movement mechanism. The photo opposite dates from c.1990. The clock featured differing designs each year, often marking key anniversaries and civic imagery.

Floral clocks are a traditional feature of parks across Scotland, the rest of the UK, and internationally. The first floral clock was created in 1903 in Princes Street Gardens in Edinburgh, where it is still maintained. Traditionally, floral clocks have featured carpet bedding planting to create displays.

The Highland Council have now received funding to restore the clock and its mechanism, so it can be repaired and re-instated to its historic position.

At the top of the banking above the clock is Inverness Castle, a 19th century former sheriff's court at Inverness Castle, which has now been transformed into a world-class visitor attraction, with new gardens open to the public free for everyone to enjoy.



# Precedents



Most floral clocks around the world use traditional carpet bedding planting, which has to be replaced up to 3 times per year.

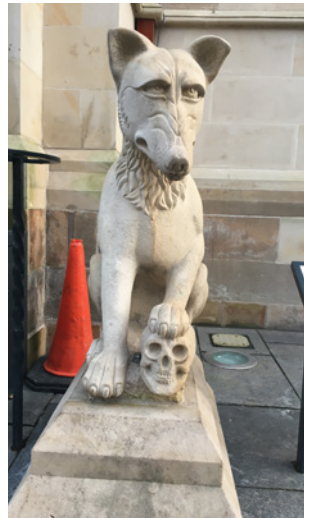
However, some instances have integrated hard standing or areas of aggregate to reduce the planted area and therefore ongoing cost.

Others have framed the design with signage to create greater placemaking opportunities, or even broken out of the traditional clock face design.

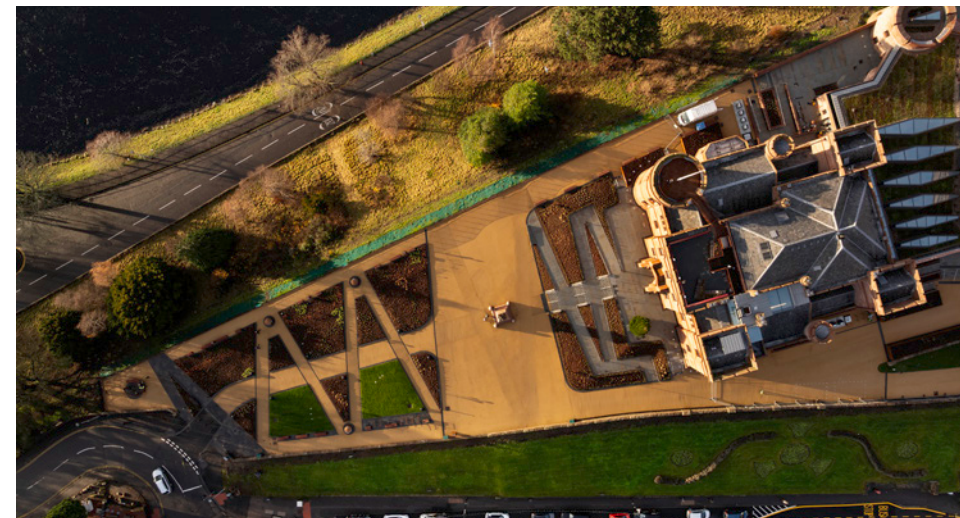


# Context

The floral clock sits centrally within Inverness, the capital of the Highlands. The city features strong historic architecture and imagery such as the Town House and Victorian Market. It also the starting or finishing point for various long distance walks and routes such as the Great Glen Way and the North Coast 500.



The recently re-developed Inverness Castle next to the clock site now provides a centrepiece visitor attraction for the city, and introduces a new design language for the area, with extensive naturalistic planting, corten steel elements, and natural stone planters, kerbing and paving - which includes Scottish stone such as Whin and Caithness.



Further afield, the wider Inverness area features historic and recognisable landmarks such as the Clava Cairns, Loch Ness and Urquhart Castle.

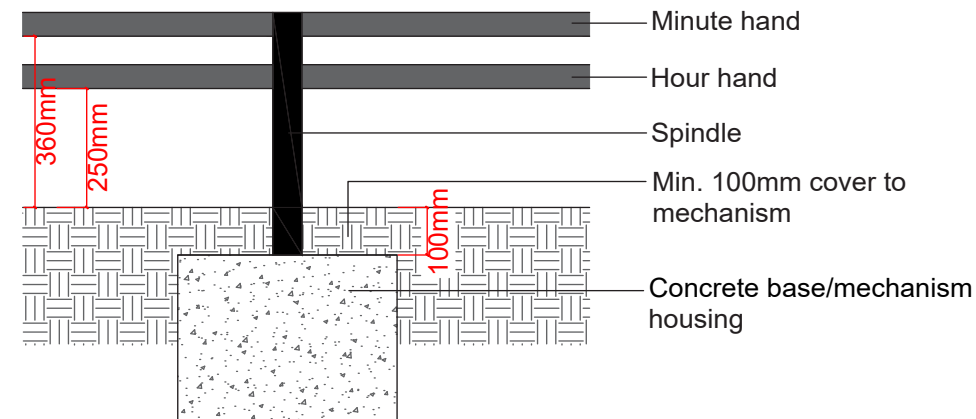
The wider landscape of the Highlands is world famous for its rugged beauty and sense of wilderness.



# Constraints



**Hands** - Design has to account for length of hands and central pivot. Hands have to be able to move unencumbered. Possibility to plant hands with bedding plants/succulents.



**Clearance** - Clearance for hands and position above housing has been confirmed by Smith of Derby who are undertaking refurbishment of the mechanism. Any planting or objects below the hand cannot exceed these measures.



**Mechanism Maintenance** - The clock mechanism will require annual maintenance, with access required to the area around the mechanism housing. It is recommended this remains soil, or will need to be removable if in another finish. (Existing base shown).



**Viewing Distance** - The viewing distance from Castle Street is approximately 5m, and so any design needs to be legible and impactful from this distance.



**Vegetation Maintenance** - Proposed vegetation has to be able to be managed and maintained to suit the clock arrangement and to allow viewing from both Castle Street and the Castle Esplanade. It also has to minimise maintenance burden and resource.



**Historic design, pattern and siting** - It is understood that the mechanism will be re-installed in its previous location and so this point is fixed. It is also understood that it is preferable to retain the current historic arrangement.



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## 2. Design Options

# Option 1 Traditional Carpet Bedding

## Design

Traditional carpet bedding design within the clock roundrel, and the protruding 3 segments which form the abstract thistle. This element will be planted with annual bedding and half hardy succulents, to be changed annually where a new seasonal design can be implemented. A second design could put in place in Autumn with winter bedding plants, and a third for Spring if required. This is the traditional style of the clock planting. Our design to the left shows a design modeled on the Rose Window within Inverness Castle.

We suggest the rest of the clock design area, the curlicues and far circles, are planted in a mixed perennial style similar to the Inverness Castle Gardens, which allows for dynamic flowering events from Spring-Autumn, with waves of bulb and perennial species flowering. This would be a permanent planting. Another option would be to maintain the lavender plants that are in situ.

## Impact

Bedding is highly impactful, with strong colour and opportunity for a range of designs and styles. Main clock display would be notionally June-October/November outwith possible frosts. Perennial planting would give impact February-October with bulbs and waves of perennial flowering.

## Maintenance

With the display being replaced up to 3x a year, ongoing costs are high to grow on and maintain the planting. The uniformity of carpet bedding means they need to be maintained to a high horticultural standard to keep the display attractive. The peripheral perennial planting would require less maintenance once established, with a minimum of 2 maintenance visits per year, but 4 would be optimal.

## Other Considerations

Bedding plants are non-native and have negligible biodiversity benefits as compared to native or near-native shrubs and perennials. Their propagation and production is also very intensive, and can be considered unsustainable given they need to be replaced at least annually.

## Cost

Inverness Botanic Gardens have given a cost for supply of the bedding elements, for a single display per year - this amounts to **£32,000** and includes implementation, maintenance and removal in November.

We estimate for the perennial elements to the periphery, implementation costs would be **c.£3500+VAT**, including cultivation, planting and mulching, but excluding maintenance.



Traditional bedding layouts utilise succulents for delineation.



Species such as begonia and geranium

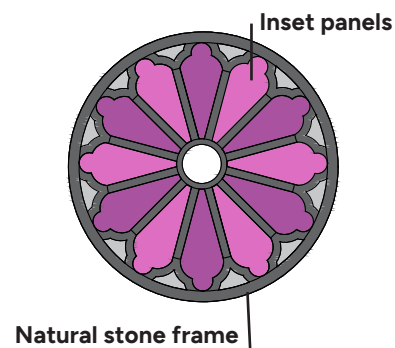
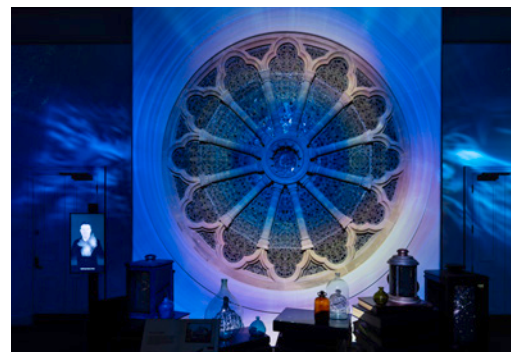


Perennial planting to periphery gives colour and architectural form.

# Option 2 Hard Landscape Clock Face

## Design

Floral clock face to be implemented in a hard landscape material, a permanent design to relate to the city and the location, notionally inspired by the Rose Window within Inverness Castle.



We suggest the outer frame of the design is constructed from natural stone - possibly of Scottish origin such as whinstone or caithness, and that the central 'panels' are then infilled with a contrasting or coloured hard landscape material such as a resin-bound aggregate, or contrasting stone sections. We have also provided an option for a resin-bound face. As per the previous design, the curlicues and far circles would be planted in a mixed perennial style similar to the Inverness Castle Gardens, however, the 3 protruding elements could also be planted if required.

## Impact

A design in hard landscape is likely to be less impactful than a planted clock face, however its advantage would be it remains consistent throughout the year. Material choice for the inset panels would be key to providing a long-lasting and high quality finish.

## Maintenance

Given the finish, maintenance would be virtually non-existent, with a annual cleaning the only real ongoing maintenance item. Natural stone has a very long service life, and so the design could potentially last for decades and be re-used if taken up.

## Other Considerations

We suggest the central section is left as earth or as a gravel finish to allow for maintenance of the mechanism.

## Cost

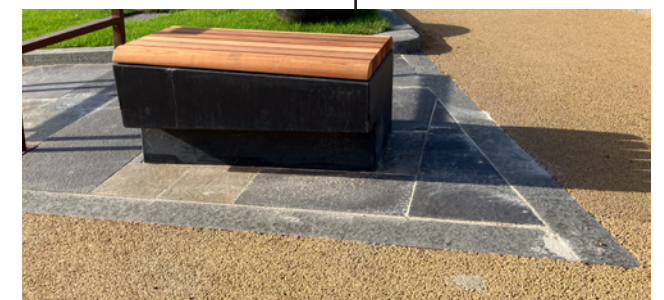
Cost would be heavily dependent on materials, and extent of natural stone. We estimate implementation costs would be between **£27,500-£55,500**, including **£3500** for peripheral planting as above.



Option for outer sections to be maintained as a hedge or parterre style planting.



Clock face design inspired by Rose Window, with panel sections in a resin or coloured hard landscape material.



Surround natural stone edging could match Inverness Castle materiality, using Scottish stone like Whinstone.

## Option 3 Planted Stone Frame

## Design

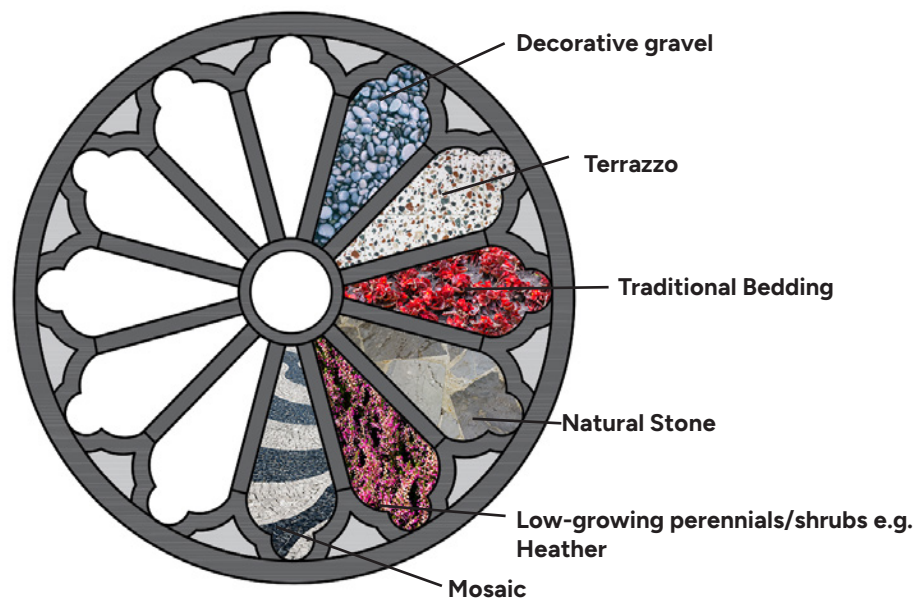
Maintain the natural stone frame inspired by the Rose Window, and instead plant the inner segments with bedding plants or a mix of bedding plants and low growing perennials/shrubs. This would allow for different segments to carry visual interest through the year, and maintain a more permanent planting within the stone framework. The 3 protruding elements from the clock face would be planted with perennials or shrubs, to create a more permanent display.

## Impact

We believe this option would provide strong visual impact and the opportunity for dynamic seasonal change, based on the extent and type of planting developed for the inner segments of the face.

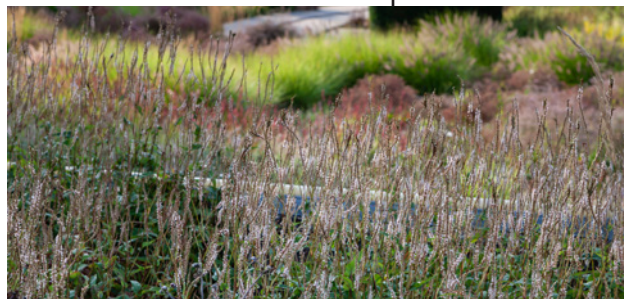
### Maintenance/Cost

Maintenance and cost would be dependent on the extent of planting undertaken within the clock face frame. Given the different segments, a varying mix of these could be planted, or installed as lower maintenance hard landscape types, with ideas shown in the diagram below:



These could be fitted within liftable metal trays or similar to be rearranged or easily changed.

Given the proposed design, we the cost for implementation should fall somewhere between Option 1 and Option 2, based on the extent of planting.



**Option for more permanent perennial or shrub planting to outer segments.**



**Inner planted segments of clock face partitioned by natural stone frame.**



**Outer perennial planting to complement planting within central clock.**

# Option 4 Naturalistic Landscape

## Design

This design is inspired by Highland landscapes, and does away with a traditional clockface and instead uses the clockface more like a compass, to point toward stones or boulders from different parts of Scotland. These are connected back to the central spindle through thin channels of corten steel, a material that is commonplace at Inverness Castle. The clockface areas then becomes an abstracted map of Scotland, featuring a mix of gravel, mosaic/natural stone, low growing meadow and heather planting. The clockface area is then surrounded by meadow planting and multistem birch trees.

## Impact

The meadow planting would be highly seasonal, giving visual impact from May-August, with the possibility of bulb planting to extend the season. It would then be cut down at the end of August, leaving the hard landscape elements and the birch to provide Winter interest. Heather planting would provide Spring interest but would not look great otherwise. There is a risk this design would not be as strong through the Winter season.

## Maintenance

Once established, the meadow would only require cutting once a year in August/September, while heather require pruning out once a year. Potentially this would be the lowest maintenance vegetation, however it is also the most difficult to keep neat and may require some additional maintenance for its high profile location.

## Other Considerations

Perennial meadow mixes such as from Scotia Seeds are of Scottish origin and provide strong biodiversity and sustainability benefits.

## Cost

We estimate the cost of this proposal for implementation would be c. **£30,000-£40,000+VAT**. However, this is dependent on developing a construction methodology, and sourcing the required boulders.



Design inspired by Highland landscapes



Stone roundels or boulders relating to the locations of the stone type within Scotland - could be more natural of worked.



Meadow planting at rear to extend further around the back of the clock.

# Summary and Next Steps

### Cost Summary

Below is a summary of indicative costs for implementation, and guidance on levels of maintenance required and ongoing costs for the different options discussed previously.

These costs have been developed with suppliers or are based on previous project experience. **As of 06.08.2026, we are awaiting detailed natural stone costs from Hardscape.** These are high level estimates, and cannot be taken as fully developed. As the project moves forward, a detailed project budget should be developed by a suitably qualified quantity surveyor or cost consultant to gain an accurate understanding of implementation costs and maintenance costs.

The totals given for each option includes £29,000 for the clock mechanism repair and re-instatement.

### Next Steps

Once an approach has been decided on, this will need to go through a detailed design process before implementation. This should be developed alongside a detailed budget to form a robust pack of information which can be tendered.

It is likely that any design will not be implemented until 2027. Prior to this, there is potential for a temporary scheme to be implemented within the floral clock area to generate anticipation for later works.

| Option    | Design                                                                                                                                      | Implementation Cost                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Maintenance Level                                                                                                                                                        | Ongoing Costs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Notes                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Option 1  | Traditional carpet bedding scheme                                                                                                           | Clockface bed and three surrounding beds: £32,000<br>Clockface bed only: £18,000<br>Surrounding 3 sections in perennial/shrub planting: £2,000<br>Outer sections in perennial planting: £3,500<br><b>Total including clock works : £52,500-£64,500</b>                                                         | Maintenance for bedding costed within proposal from Inverness Botanic Gardens - to include removal. Surrounding perennial planting would require 2-4 maintenance visits. | Bedding plants would require annual replacement, at a cost of implementation (£18,000-£32,000 per year). Perennial planting to surround areas would require 2-4 maintenance visits per year, with possible replacement planting every ~5 years to maintain visual amenity.                                                     | Bedding supply quote based on order being placed by October 2026, and on generic design.                                                                                  |
| Option 2a | Hard landscape clockface in natural stone, with surrounding perennial planting                                                              | Clockface in natural stone: c. £22,000-£32,000<br>Surrounding 3 sections in stone: £12,000-20,000<br>or Surrounding 3 sections in perennial/shrub planting: £2,000<br>Outer sections in planting £3,500<br><b>Total including clock works : £56,500-£84,500</b>                                                | Yearly maintenance visit to clean and inspect stone. Surrounding perennial planting would require 2-4 maintenance visits.                                                | Yearly maintenance visit to clean and inspect stone. Perennial planting to surround areas would require 2-4 maintenance visits per year, with possible replacement planting every ~5 years to maintain visual amenity.                                                                                                         | Natural stone is very durable, and could potentially be re-used at end of design life.                                                                                    |
| Option 2b | Hard landscape clockface with design in resin bound gravel, with surrounding perennial planting                                             | Clockface in resin bound: c. £10,500<br>Surrounding 3 sections in resin: c. £17,000<br>or Surrounding 3 sections in perennial/shrub planting: £2,000<br>Outer sections in planting: £3,500<br><b>Total including clock works: c. £45,000-£60,000</b>                                                           | Yearly maintenance visit to clean and inspect resin surface. Surrounding perennial planting would require 2-4 maintenance visits.                                        | Yearly maintenance visit to clean and inspect resin surface. Perennial planting to surround areas would require 2-4 maintenance visits per year, with possible replacement planting every ~5 years to maintain visual amenity.                                                                                                 | Lifespan typically 10-25 years. If using coloured aggregates/resin, potential for design to fade due to UV light degradation over time.                                   |
| Option 3a | Natural stone frame with bedding plants to internal panels                                                                                  | Natural stone frame: c. £12,000-15,000<br>Bedding plants to clockface: c. £9,000<br>Surrounding 3 sections bedding plants: c. £6,000<br>or Surrounding 3 sections in perennial/shrub planting: £2,000<br>Outer sections in perennial planting: £3,500<br><b>Total including clock works:c. £61,500-£64,500</b> | Maintenance for bedding to a high level of horticultural skill, includes removal. Surrounding perennial planting would require 2-4 maintenance visits.                   | Bedding plants would require annual replacement, at a cost of implementation (£9,000-£15,000 per year). Perennial planting to surround areas would require 2-4 maintenance visits per year, with possible replacement planting every ~5 years to maintain visual amenity. Yearly maintenance visit to clean and inspect stone. | Natural stone is very durable, and could potentially be re-used at end of design life.                                                                                    |
| Option 3b | Natural stone frame with varied panels, including some hard elements and planting.                                                          | Natural stone frame: c. £12,000-£15,000<br>Total to vary, based on balance of hard and soft landscape, and types of materials.                                                                                                                                                                                 | Variable, based on design make-up, to include elements as described for other options.                                                                                   | Variable, based on design make-up, to include elements as described for other options.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Natural stone is very durable, and could potentially be re-used at end of design life. If using varied panels, potential to look at arts funding for works.               |
| Option 4  | Contemporary style 'clockface' with planting, hard landscape elements and boulders - Naturalistic sown/planted surround with specimen trees | c. £35,000-40,000, dependent on approach to hard landscape within clockface area and boulder sourcing.<br><b>Total including clock works: c. £64,000-£69,000</b>                                                                                                                                               | 5-6 maintenance visits within first year to allow good germination, control weeds and establish meadow sward.                                                            | 1-2 maintenance visits per year for meadow cut. Additional visit for heather pruning and hard landscape maintenance. Possible overseeding of wildflowers every ~3-5 years to maintain visual amenity, at a cost of c. £1000.                                                                                                   | Lowest level of maintenance, but has reduced visual impact from August-May following meadow cut. If using mosaic or similar, potential to look at arts funding for works. |

