

The Highland Council
Resources Committee – 8 February 2017

Agenda Item	13
Report No	RES/12/17

Capital Discretionary Fund – Applications for Financial Support

Report by Director of Finance

Summary

This report asks Members to consider a number of applications for financial support from the Capital Discretionary Fund. The report highlights that there is insufficient funds to agree to all applications, draws reference to the financial pressures on the overall Capital Plan, and recommends (with one exception) that no final decision is taken to award funding at this stage.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Capital Discretionary Fund forms part of the Council's Capital Plan, and as such is fully funded through the borrowing commitment in the Loans Fund Revenue Budget.
- 1.2 Resources Committee, at its meeting on 24 August 2016, agreed revised criteria for considering all applications. These are:-
- Applications should not be for more than 50% of the total project cost
 - Applications should generally be from Third Sector or Community Groups, but include Common Good or Trust Fund related projects
 - All applications must support the principles of, and evidence support for, the delivery of the Council's objects in line with the Programme "*Highland First*" and successor Administration's programmes
 - All applications must meet the definitions of capital expenditure
 - All applications must use stand grant application form, supplemented by additional information if appropriate
 - The Council will not consider a further application from the same Group within a period of twelve months from the date the application is approved by the Committee, although resubmissions of the same project would be considered
 - Any grant award will be time limited to a maximum period of three years

- 1.3 In general terms all six applications meet the above conditions as appropriate.

2. Applications for Funding

- 2.1 The Capital Discretionary Fund is virtually fully committed at present, however will be "topped up" by £500,000 from April under the agreed Capital Plan. It is therefore assumed that the applications presented today will not be paid until 1 April 2017 at the earliest.

Resources Committee is asked to consider six applications for funding as follows:-

	£	£
Uncommitted Balance on Fund (as at 8 February 2017)		66,601
Additional Funding from 1 April 2017		500,000
Total Available funds from 1 April 2017		<u>566,601</u>
Applications Submitted:-		
• Dornoch and District Community Association	95,000	
• Lovat Shinty Club	60,000	
• Isle of Canna Community Development Trust	20,000	
• Linnhe Leisure t/a Nevis Centre	250,000	
• The Ledge - Marina Climbing Wall	200,000	
• Muir of Ord Hall and Facilities Company	<u>50,000</u>	
Total Value of Applications		<u>675,000</u>
Excess value of applications over available funds		<u>(108,399)</u>

- 2.2 The above list of submissions shows that there will be insufficient funds to allow the Committee to agree to all applications. In considering which, if any, applications to agree the Committee should also be minded of the following additional information.
- 2.3 If the Capital Discretionary Fund is fully committed before the start of financial year 2017/18, then it means that the Committee will be unable to consider any further applications for the duration of the year. The Committee may therefore wish to consider whether the current practice of considering applications on a “first come first served” basis is appropriate, and whether it wishes to suggest dates by which all applications can be considered for a financial year. This could include deferring any decision just now on these projects.
- 2.4 The Committee is reminded of the report presented to Highland Council on 15 December 2016, and the subsequent discussion, around the current Capital Plan and future revisions. Council was advised by the Director of Finance that, in his opinion, the existing Capital Plan is no longer affordable due to the pressures on the Revenue Budget. This is before Council considers amendments to the Plan later in 2017/18. The Committee is therefore asked to consider the wider funding consequences and choices around the Capital Discretionary Fund in the context of significant financial demands on the Capital Plan and its affordability.
- 2.5 These proposals will incur annual borrowing costs of c£60,000 which are provided for within the Loans Fund Revenue Budget. Nevertheless it does represent an opportunity to generate revenue budget savings if the borrowing is not incurred.

3. Discussion

3.1 A short analysis of each project is highlighted below, with detailed information attached as appendices to the report.

3.2 Dornoch and District Community Association (Appendix 1)

The Community Association is seeking funding to build a new community centre in Dornoch which will replace the existing Social Club building which is inaccessible and inadequate to meet the needs of the growing community.

The total cost of the project is £1,620,000, and the Community Association has been successful in attracting support from the Dornoch Common Good Fund of £100,000. It also proposes to raise £230,000 from its own funds, including the sale of the existing building. Grant awards, from a range of bodies totalling £1,195,000 are awaiting decision. A gap of £95,000 still remains in the overall funding package, assuming a successful outcome to all applications, and this is requested from the Capital Discretionary Fund.

3.3 Lovat Shinty Club (Appendix 2)

The Club is seeking funding to build a new sports and recreational pavilion in Kiltarlity.

The total cost of the project is £481,784, and the Club has been successful in attracting grant awards, from a range of bodies, totalling £163,812. Outstanding applications awaiting decision total £225,000. The application to the Council is for £60,000 to bridge the funding gap should all applications be successful.

3.4 Isla of Canna Community Development Trust (Appendix 3)

The Trust is seeking funding to create a non-tidal vehicle access track on the Isle of Sanday. This will enable Sanday to utilise the road bridge that joins Sanday to the Isle of Canna and to access the existing road without being dependent on tides.

The total cost of the project is £89,000, and the Trust has been successful in attracting grant awards, from the National Trust for Scotland and the Campbell Fund, totalling £10,000. No detail has been provided on any further grant applications. The value of the bid to the Capital Discretionary Fund is £20,000, meaning that the Trust would have to raise a further £59,000 from outside bodies.

3.5 Linnhe Leisure t/a Nevis Centre –Renovation and Enhancements for a Sustainable Future (Appendix 4)

The Centre is seeking funding towards a major enhancement plan over the next three years to provide a fully resourced facility which will ensure the Centre meets the needs of the local community and provide the standard of venue expected by tourists and commercial users.

The total cost of the project is £794,889, and is split across two years, with the immediate focus on the roof and installation of solar panels, with internal enhancements following in year two.

The Centre has been successful in attracting grant awards from LEADER and An Aird Reserve Trust Fund, which, together with their own capital reserves, totals £149,000. Outstanding grant applications total £117,750, with a further interest free loan of £100,000 being sought.

The amount sought from the Capital Discretionary Fund is £250,000. However this would still leave a balance of funding of £178,139 to be identified.

The Council currently provides revenue grant funding of £165,803 to the Centre. However further reductions to this funding level are projected. Any award of grant funding should be conditional on the long term viability of the Centre being established within reasonable certainty.

There is however no doubt that repairs to the roof, and installation of solar panels, will enable the Centre to reduce running costs.

3.6 The Ledge – Marina Climbing Walls (Appendix 5)

A new company is being formed to take forward the development of a “state of the art” climbing wall within Inverness. Further clarity around the status of the Company is required to ascertain whether it meets the Council’s criteria regarding Third Sector or Community Group as this project would require to be managed on a commercial basis.

Due diligence is also required around the Company and its viability, as initial information suggests that a high turnover is expected.

The total value of the project is estimated at £956,000 and the Council is being asked for £200,000 from the Capital Discretionary Fund. A further application to the Inverness Common Good of £45,500 is anticipated.

This means that significant external funding of £710,500 is required to support the overall project cost.

3.7 Muir of Ord Hall and Facilities Company (Appendix 6)

The Company is seeking funding for the refurbishment and extension of Muir of Ord Hall.

The total project cost is £163,933 and the Council is being asked to provide a grant of £50,000 from the Capital Discretionary Fund. The Company has already been successful in raising the balance of funding (£113,933) from various sources.

This is the only application where the full external funding package is in place.

4. Implications

- 4.1 Resource – these are outlined in Section 2 of this report. Particular attention is drawn to the fact that there is insufficient funding to agree all applications. Wider aspects of funding are highlighted in paragraphs 2.3 to 2.5.
- 4.2 Legal – all projects will meet the definition of Capital Expenditure as outlined in Scottish Government regulations.
- 4.3 Equalities – there are no specific issues to highlight, although individual projects will benefit users in that locality.
- 4.4 Climate Change/Carbon Clever – most of the applications have positive outcomes through more efficient buildings and health benefits.
- 4.5 Risk and Gaelic – there are no specific issues arising. Any financial risks can be managed through ensuring that full funding packages are in place, and work undertaken, before any financial contribution is paid by the Council.
- 4.6 Rural – the range of applications cover a large area of the Highlands.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:-

- 1) Consider the six funding applications, but in particular in the context of the financial implications set out in Section 2 of this report, and the potential to refuse or defer applications at this stage;
- 2) Agree to support the application for the Muir of Ord Hall on the basis that the full funding package is in place to allow the project to proceed;
- 3) Defer agreement on the other projects until there is confirmation that other funding is in place;
- 4) If minded to support the application from Linnhe Leisure, that a full assessment of the ongoing viability of the Company is undertaken; and
- 5) If minded to support the application from The Ledge that this is conditional on establishing the status and viability of the new Company.

Designation: Director of Finance

Date: 30 January 2017

Author: Derek Yule



APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR GRANT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDING AND FUNDING IN KIND FROM THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – Over £10,000

Name of Organisation:

Dornoch and District Community Association

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Dornoch Community Centre

Which of the Council's funding streams are you applying to?
(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Capital Discretionary Budget

Is the amount you are applying for:

£5,000 or under Under £10,000 £10,000 or over

Total amount applied for: £.....£95,000.....

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £...0.....

Please detail what funding in kind has been applied for e.g. Council staff time, use of premises or equipment, waiving of fees or administration support

None

What type of organisation are you? (Please tick all that apply)

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation		Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number SC013716.....	✓	Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number SC375856.....	✓
Other - please specify.....			

Please remember guidance to completing the application form is available [here](#).

For official use only Application reference number			
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PART 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

Guidance on completing part 1 can be found on Page 8 of the guidance document.

1.1 What is the name of your activity or project?

Dornoch Community Centre

1.2 When will your activity or project take place? (specifically those for which you are seeking an award from The Highland Council)

Start date (month and year)..... May 2017.....

End date (month and year)..... June 2018.....

Location..... Dornoch.....

1.3 What activity or project do you want us to support?

For example:

- *Aims of the project and how you are going to do it*
- *Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?*
- *Who will benefit*

Please note that the Council will be unable to provide any resources not specified on this form or supporting information.

Our project is to replace an existing community building with one which is fit for our town's use in the twenty-first century and beyond and we are seeking a contribution of £95,000 from the Highland Council towards the overall cost..

Our aim is to deliver a new build community centre in Dornoch which will make the town a great place for young and old, deliver strong outcomes contributing to social, health and economic prosperity and will be viable and sustainable in its operation. It will replace the existing Social Club building which is inaccessible and inadequate to meet the needs of this growing community.

The project will directly benefit the residents of the Dornoch Community council area – a total of 2,500 people (2011 Census).

Other groups will also benefit, such as visitors to Dornoch. Visitor numbers are not available, but Dornoch, with its Cathedral, golf courses and beaches, is a popular holiday and day trip destination. According to the Dornoch Economic Masterplan there are 970 tourist rooms in Dornoch and accommodation and food services account for a third of all employment. VisitScotland shows 2.25 million tourist trips to the Highland area in 2014, excluding day visitors.

Beneficiaries and segments of the community can be broken down as:

The community as a whole: a central meeting place providing refreshments, wi-fi, an informal social space in which to meet others, a wide-ranging programme of activity and performances and flexible facilities for meetings and events (**2,476 people** lived in the Community Council area at the 2011 Census);

User Groups: the 70+ groups and organisations affiliated to DADCA who provide much of the activity and social life in Dornoch through organising events, classes, exhibitions and regular meetings (at only 10 people per group this represents **700 group members**);

Young people: a youth café operating one or two evenings per week, with occasional film shows at the weekend and during holidays (**197** people aged 10 to 25 in Dornoch town are shown in NRS's population estimate for 2012. The town is about half the population of the Community Council area, suggesting a total of around **400** in the age group);

Children and families: with playgroup, clubs, films and events supported by an occasional crèche facility (**227 households** with dependent children at 2011 Census);

Those at risk of **social isolation:** including older people, where they can find a range and variety of activities and events to suit their needs and casual drop in sessions where they can socialise (**400 people** living alone at the 2011 Census, including **226 aged 65 or over**);

Students: with wi-fi, film shows and, performances (**107 students** aged 16 and over at 2011 Census, plus **250** term time UHI students predicted by 2020);

North Highland College/UHI: complementary space for teaching, conference and seminar space and a facility which will help attract students to Dornoch as a place to study;

Visitors to the area: with comfortable indoor facilities where they can see films, performances and events, use wi-fi and with local arts and crafts available to buy (the Economic Masterplan shows 970 tourist rooms in Dornoch – this might translate into around **400,000 tourist bednights** at 75% occupancy, plus day visits from within and outside the Highlands);

Local businesses: with the opportunity to cater for events such as weddings and conferences as well as high quality facilities for meetings, seminars, conferences and workshops (the Economic Masterplan shows **161 businesses** based in Dornoch, including 7 hotels) ;

Local arts and crafts makers and musicians: space to promote, exhibit and sell products and the opportunity to perform at concerts and weddings (the Economic Masterplan shows **57 people** employed in arts and entertainment);

Local government, health and social care service providers: high quality facilities for meetings, seminars, conferences and workshops, but also for supervised access and clinics.

In terms of attendances at the new community centre, the current Social Club hosts 900 events each year with an estimated attendance figure of 13,500 people. A 10% increase in events is targeted in the first year, growing that figure to almost **15,000**. The increase in events is conservative and is based on returns from a user group survey and planned increases in eg film showings and performances. To this can be added casual use, for example by visitors looking to use the wi fi facility, view the crafts on display and use the coffee facilities.

The project arises from consideration of the needs of the community which have been explored through an extensive programme of consultation and research. We have carried out community surveys in 2008, 2013 and 2015, and a user group survey in 2013 and have held associated public meetings and exhibitions to discuss the results and gain further feedback. Highlands and Islands Enterprise has also consulted widely in developing an Economic Masterplan for Dornoch. We have carried out demographic analysis of the Dornoch area and looked at the strategic context locally, regionally and nationally. The project will fit with and complement the Highland Council's plans to develop a sports hall at Dornoch Academy and with North Highland College's plans to

develop student accommodation in the town.

The needs the project addresses include:

- To provide an accessible and comfortable venue for community activity
- To provide more opportunities for people to be involved in community life
- To address social isolation
- To encourage young people to stay in the area and improve their confidence and life skills
- To make Dornoch a more attractive location for students
- To make Dornoch a more attractive place for families
- To engage with older people and bring them into community life
- To provide a venue which can link the community to local business and academic activity and contribute to Dornoch's future prosperity.

With support from a Big Lottery development grant we appointed a professional team to the project. We carried out an options appraisal which pointed towards a new build community centre as the best option for meeting community need and have worked with the professional team to translate our research into a building that can truly deliver for the community.

The result is a proposal to develop a building of around 485 square metres, all on the ground floor, with an additional 150 square metres in an external store/plant room. It includes the following spaces:

- Main hall – 198 square metres
- Multi purpose room – 35 square metres
- Meeting room – 31 square metres
- Foyer/Reception/Coffee lounge/Gallery – 99 square metres, plus 34 square metres additional circulation space
- Toilets – 33 square metres
- Kitchen and servery – 29 square metres
- Storage space – 26 square metres
- External store – 150 square metres

The building will incorporate renewable sources and will have a wi-fi network. Planning permission is in place.

The outcomes that the project is aiming to achieve are:

- Through coming together to develop and operate a sustainable community hub, the community of Dornoch will have more opportunities to participate in community activities and will feel more empowered.

To achieve this we have consulted fully on community needs, carried out detailed research and worked with a professional team to design a community centre which responds to our needs. We have developed a business plan which shows how the hub will operate sustainably. We will work through our sub committees, affiliated groups and partners to grow the number and promotion of activities in the new building and we will promote them to the whole community. We have built in ongoing opportunities for user and community feedback and involvement in the centre.

- Local people will have easy access to opportunities to improve their skills, health, fitness and well-being.

To achieve this we will make volunteering opportunities available, along with appropriate training including SVQ qualifications. We will work with our affiliated groups and partners to make training opportunities available, both formal and informal through the transfer of skills.

- The lives of the project's key target groups - young people, older people and families with young children - will be improved.

To achieve this we have ensured that the hub is fully accessible and has space for equipment such as wheelchairs and pushchairs. We will target and give priority to activities for older people and families and look to integrate activities aimed at such groups. At certain times crèche facilities will also be available to make it easier for parents to attend activities and events. We will extend the hours of the youth café in the building, so that it is open longer and on more days. We will also integrate young people into the activities in the centre by involving them, for example, in the cinema (where they can choose films to be shown) and in inter-generational work such as helping older people to use phones and tablets.

- The operation of the community hub will enable the community to play a full part in delivering Dornoch's regeneration strategy, overcoming disadvantage and inequality and providing a sustainable future for the town.

To achieve this we will promote the community centre as a venue for events, festivals and conferences and provide opportunities for local business to deliver catering, music and other services for functions such as wedding receptions. We will ensure that activities such as the cinema and summer play activities are promoted and open to visitors and tourists and provide opportunities for local groups to fundraise, for example through offering Sunday cream teas through the holiday season. Through festivals such as Fibre Fest and the Book Fair we will attract visitors to the town and through our gallery we will provide the opportunity for local craftspeople to market their products. Working with North Highland College/UHI we will help develop the contribution of educational tourism to the local economy while our facilities will make Dornoch a more attractive location for degree and postgraduate studies.

We have prepared a full business plan for the project which is currently being revised. following Highland Council's decision to incorporate fitness facilities at their Sports Hall.

The total capital costs of the project are estimated at £1,620,000. This estimate has been based on work produced by Doig & Smith, our Chartered Surveyors, following information provided by the project architects, Angus Design Associates. They are based on an anticipated site start date of Q2 2017.

This application asks the Highland Council for a contribution of £95,000 towards the project. We already have a commitment of £100,000 from Dornoch Common Good Fund, and the sale of our current Social Club building would raise another £180,000. The balance would come from sources such as the Big Lottery, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, the Robertson Trust and the community. Within the overall costs are the cost of the renewable heating systems. To be clear, the Highland Council grant would not go towards those costs which will be met from the community's own funds, from DADCA fundraising and the sale of the Social Club building.

Applications are being made to the other funders and a commitment from the Highland Council will be instrumental in demonstrating local support for the project and give comfort on the achievability of the overall funding package.

1.4 Does your activity or project involve building or landscaping work?

Yes No

If yes please answer both a) and b) below.

a) Does your organisation (Please tick):
Have ownership of the land or building

Yes No

OR

Hold at lease of at least 5 years that cannot be ended by the landlord?

Yes No

b) Is planning permission needed for your project? Tick one option below.

Planning permission not required

Planning permission required and has been granted

1.5 Please tell us how your project or activity will help the Council to meet its Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Make sure that people from different groups* are treated fairly and have equal chances to use services and that there is more equality between groups*;
- Make sure that people from different groups* get on together.

*Groups are people who have "protected characteristics" in the Equality Act: age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and sex.

For example are people with protected characteristics likely to face barriers; how you intend to tackle these barriers; does your project promote inclusion?

Under DADCA's Equal Opportunities Policy we are committed to:

- Promoting equality of opportunity for all persons
- Promoting a good and harmonious working environment in which all persons are treated with respect
- Preventing occurrences of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Fulfilling all our legal obligations under the equality legislation and associated codes of practice
- Complying with our own equal opportunities policy.

DADCA was one of the first community groups in Highland to achieve the Keystone quality award for Hall management from SCVO. The principles of that quality management approach inform all our activity, including our approach to equality.

The new building has been designed to provide maximum flexibility and thus enable as many users as possible to access and take advantage of its spaces and resources. All

users, regardless of mobility, will be able to access all parts of the building. We will also provide a building with improved heating and services. Our survey showed us that older people were reluctant to use the Social Club because they did not find it a comfortable environment, especially for sedentary activities, while services such as the toilets inhibited use by all groups in the community. Less obvious, but no less important, is the fact that, to help people with hearing difficulties, we have aimed for acoustic excellence in the building's internal spaces.

We intend to operate an occasional crèche facility so that parents with young children – who are often isolated from community activity – will be able to attend events at the community centre, whether fitness classes, cinema showings or performances.

1.6 Where relevant and appropriate please describe any contribution your project may make towards promotion of the Gaelic language?

We will use bi-lingual signage in the building.

1.7 Please tell us if you have spoken to anyone about your application for advice and support – e.g. Local Highland Council Elected Member, Community Council Member, Council Staff, local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) – If yes, please provide details:

Cllr Jim McGillivray – has provided advice and support and has joined our Board.
 Cllr Graham Phillips – has provided advice and support
 The Big Lottery has provided support and funding towards the development of the project
 Other organisations such as High Life Highland and HIE have provided advice on aspects of the project.

1.8 Please tell us about any funding in kind you are seeking from the Council:

Detail i.e. premises, facilities, staff time, waiving of fees	Estimated value
n/a	

1.9 Please provide a breakdown of how much will your activities/project will cost and how much funding you are applying for from The Highland Council:

Item/Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs £	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Staffing					
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	Building costs, inclusive of contingencies and fees	1,270,000	350,000		
Total Project Cost £		1,270,000	350,000		1,620,000
Total Funding Request £		50,000	45,000		

1.10 **Other funding relating to this project** Please include other funders and own resources and income. Continue on separate sheet if required.

Organisation and status of application	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Big Lottery Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	870,000	100,000		970,000
Dornoch Common Good Fund Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	75,000	25,000		100,000
DADCA – own funds including sale of existing building Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	50,000	180,000		230,000
Highlands and Islands Enterprise Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	100,000	100,000		200,000

Robertson Trust	25,000			25,000
Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Totals	1,120,000	405,000		1,525,000

*See guidance notes for specific funding stream to see if you are able to apply for more than one year of funding.

- 1.11 Please tell us how you know that there is a need for this activity or project and how your approach will meet this need. This might include:
- Community support for your project (e.g. surveys, etc.)
 - Statistics which show the need for your project (e.g. unemployment figures, crime statistics)
 - Evidence from similar projects which shows that they have worked (e.g. research from elsewhere or evaluations of previous local work)

The project aims to develop a community facility which helps make Dornoch a great place for young and old, contributing to the social, health and economic prosperity of the town. It will help us address some of the challenges we face as a community, such as rural isolation, a potential significant growth in population through new housing development, a rising number of elderly people and the need to retain and attract families and young people to the town

The needs addressed have been identified through:

- DADCA's experience and feedback in operating the Social Club in Dornoch
- Demographic analysis of the Dornoch area
- Participation in the creation and related consultation processes for Highland and Islands Enterprise's (HIE) Dornoch Economic Masterplan
- Major consultation surveys of local people carried out in 2008, 2013 and 2015 and related public meetings and exhibitions
- An examination of the policy context for the proposal.

There is a clear need in the town for an attractive and contemporary facility where local people can relax, meet friends and take part in community life. This is shown in the survey, public engagement and research carried out by DADCA and HIE (in developing the Dornoch Economic Masterplan). DADCA's most recent survey was carried out in late 2015, complementing public and user group surveys carried out in 2008 and 2013. It demonstrates wide community support for the new building and the difference it will make to the people in the area.

For each of our surveys consultation papers were available in hard copy around the IV25 postcode, and in our final survey they were taken by hand to all households in the IV25 3 postal code area. All our surveys were also available online. After allowing for duplicates and people living outside the area, there were 534 valid responses in 2015 compared with 389 responses in 2008 and 580 in 2013. There are some 2,100 people aged 16 and over living in the Community Council area, giving a response rate of over 25%.

In 2008 54% of respondents said there was a need for a new community centre; in 2013 this rose to 76%; in 2015 a total of 93% of those responding supported the building of the new community centre at Meadows Park.

Our surveys were complemented by public meetings and exhibitions where results were displayed and discussed and feedback on our proposals was sought.

For HIE's Economic Masterplan, the consultants Ironside Farrar held a charrette to identify challenges, vision and opportunities, a business survey and interviews and an open public consultation event to inform their preparation of a vision and action plan for the future development of the town.

Despite growth in use of the current Social Club building, community consultation consistently highlights that accessibility is a major issue. Many older and less mobile people find it difficult to negotiate the steep slopes leading to the entrance and limited parking means that even those with cars are excluded from community activity. In addition, users feel they are restricted by the inflexibility of the building. The lack of space and layout of the building means that it is difficult to have more than one user group at a time and this in turn restricts the amount of activity that can take place. We are currently in the position of turning away bookings through lack of available space. As well as accessibility, the poor quality of the Social Club (poor toilets, heating and seating) featuring strongly in public responses while availability of space was highlighted by user and community groups.

Demographic analysis highlights the challenges facing Dornoch. It shows that Dornoch has a high percentage of older people and of people with poorer health and limiting conditions who would find access to the current building challenging. The age profile in the future is expected to move even further to the older age groups, with a projected 94% increase in people aged 75 and older while younger age groups decline. Many older people live alone. Analysis of the 2012 SIMD shows that while Dornoch is largely in the middle rank of Highland datazones, there is a spike in the health indicator for alcohol related hospital admissions, where part of the town is ranked among the 20% most deprived in Highland. Alcohol misuse is often associated with isolation which can be a particular issue in rural communities. In addition, HIE's Economic Masterplan identifies the promotion of Dornoch as a quality retirement destination as a priority objective. To achieve this the needs of this older population must be reflected in the community centre design and in its ongoing programme.

At the same time there have been a number of new housing developments in and around the town in recent years, and more housing developments are planned which will further increase the local population. Alongside growth in the older population the Masterplan recognises a need to retain and attract young families to the area, ensuring demographic diversity and retaining the labour force imperative to the local economy. This growing population will need supporting services and facilities which the current Social Club cannot provide due to its size and inflexible spaces. In particular it is important that DADCA can provide a programme of relevance to families and young people and ensure that incomers have the opportunity to become part of the community.

Issues highlighted in the consultations include:

- cinema and performances were identified in our surveys as key events to address Dornoch's challenges. DADCA already organises cinema showings at least monthly and the new centre will allow these to be expanded to allow more people to attend and more frequent showings. As well as allowing us to target priority groups this also helps meet the need for indoor activity identified in the Economic Masterplan and will be attractive for UHI students;
- catering and coffee lounge facilities were seen as important in our surveys. They will be available for those holding meetings, activities and training courses in the

centre and will be staffed by volunteers during special events such as festivals and fairs. We will build a partnership with the hospitality courses at North Highland College/UHI to build regular drop in cafe sessions for older people and for carers. Dornoch Cathedral is developing specialised support services for older and isolated members of the community at its Creag Mhor facility and the community centre will allow people identified through that work to socialise informally in a safe location. The catering facilities will also support events such as wedding receptions and conferences held in the centre

- additional and affordable meeting and activity space was identified as a key need. It will enable many existing local groups to meet regularly in comfortable and more appropriate surroundings. The new centre will also allow the promotion of new groups across the age and interest spectrum to involve and engage with more of the community. Among those anticipated are Book Groups, in partnership with Highland Libraries, and Singing Groups;
- one of the priorities identified in the Economic Masterplan is to promote Dornoch as a base for home-working. In recent years the Struie Room in the Social Club was transformed into the Dornoch Gallery by a DADCA sub committee, and this proved very successful. The flexible foyer space that will be available in the new centre will provide a year-round display of local crafts and arts, giving opportunities for local people to promote and sell their works. Having a permanent display base locally will help to attract artists and craftspeople to the town and the centre would also provide a venue to expand business activity, for example, a place to run workshops;
- the Economic Masterplan identifies a need for additional festivals in Dornoch. DADCA already runs a successful 3 day crafts event each year, Fibre Fest, which combines masterclasses, workshops demonstrations, exhibitions and a small trade show. Although successful, attracting people from throughout the Highlands and further afield, the event is disjointed, having to use a number of venues through the town. With the new community centre as a hub the event has the capacity to grow and develop;
- the Economic Masterplan identifies promoting Dornoch as a wedding destination as a priority action. Dornoch is a well established and popular wedding venue, both in the Dornoch Cathedral (thanks to the 'Madonna' influence) and civil ceremonies conducted by the local Registrars in the historic Council Chambers. There are approximately 60 weddings per year in Dornoch (2012-15 figures) but the choice of venue for wedding receptions is very limited and there is the opportunity for the community centre to meet this need. We will work in partnership with local catering providers who would dress the venue and provide the catering and discussions with such providers show they are keen to take this forward.

Our identification of needs also takes into account national and regional strategic priorities. For example, the national outcomes that are particularly relevant to DADCA's project are:

- We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people
- Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed
- We live longer, healthier lives
- We live in well designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need.
- We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take

responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.

- We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production
- Our people are able to maintain their independence as they get older and are able to access appropriate support when they need it.

This project also contributes to achieving a number of the Highland improvements and outcomes identified in the Highland Single Outcome Agreement, including:

- The Highlands develop as an international study destination;
- To improve access to services for hard to reach and disadvantaged groups;
- For older people to be geographically and socially connected and for them not to become isolated;
- People are healthy and have a good quality of life;
- Children get the best start in life and enjoy positive, rewarding experiences growing up;
- To improve the wellbeing of families to support children;
- People are supported to realise their potential and to maximise their independence;
- Work with relevant partners to ensure that Highland Region possesses the necessary characteristics to make it attractive to young people to live, work and study;
- To improve the ways in which communities participate and are empowered;
- To increase and develop the use of renewable energy;
- Supporting communities to be resilient to extreme weather events.

1.12 Is this a new or additional activity or project? – Yes No

If yes, what change will your activities or project make in your community?

This is a new project inasmuch as it replaces an existing inadequate and inaccessible facility with a new community centre expressly designed to meet community needs into the future.

It addresses a number of specific needs and challenges, including:

- To provide an accessible and comfortable venue for community activity – addressing the inaccessibility of current provision which inhibits use and resulting community cohesion;
- To provide more opportunities for people to be involved in community life – promoting community cohesion among long standing residents, incomers and students, empowering them and creating opportunities for them to improve their lives and develop skills;
- To address social isolation – addressing a particular issue in rural communities, especially with older people, those living alone and parents with young children;
- To encourage young people to stay in the area and improve their confidence and life

skills – retaining young people through relevant activities and volunteering opportunities;

- To make Dornoch a more attractive location for students – bringing more young people to the town, helping to retain our own young people and addressing one of the main planks of the Dornoch Economic Masterplan;
- To make Dornoch a more attractive place for families – addressing the challenge of retaining the workforce and bringing the age profile of the community into balance;
- To engage with older people and bring them into community life – responding to the Economic Masterplan's objective to make Dornoch a great place to retire to.
- To provide a venue which can link the community to local business and academic activity and contribute to Dornoch's future prosperity – addressing the need for all sectors to work in partnership to regenerate the economy of Dornoch.

If No, how has your activities or project been funded in the last three years?

The provision in the current Social Club building has been operated by DADCA in its current form for over 8 years, since it took over when the building had serious structural faults which led to its temporary closure. We have taken action to rectify those faults and to build a base of regular activities, events and festivals which add to community life and are self sustaining, largely through income from hall hires, cinema showings and fundraising events. In the year to March 2016 we had an income of £66,724 and expenditure of £60,669.

We have been able to build substantial cash reserves allowing us to commit £50,000 to this new build project while keeping a prudent amount in reserve for future operation.

1.13 Please tell us how you will know that your activities or project is working and that you are benefiting your community. You only need to provide targets for the years in which your project will operate. See the detailed guidance for examples of targets.

How you will know you have made the change?		
Year 1 Measurable Outcome	Year 2 Measurable Outcome	Year 3 Measurable Outcome
construction complete	number of bookings increasing from the base of 900 – 10% increase	attendances at the youth café – 750
	number of individual members of DADCA increasing from the base of 324 – 10% increase	number of crèche sessions - 75
	number of special events, wedding receptions and conferences - 10	number of people stating that they feel more involved in community life – over 50%
		number of older people stating they feel less socially isolated through attending activities at the hub – over 50%.

1.14 If it is intended that this activity or project continue beyond the period of Council support, how will it be funded?

This is a capital project so that the building is complete we will have a new community centre designed and built to our specification.

We have a full business plan (currently under revision) showing the ongoing viability of the centre and the Board has many years of operating the current Social Club building successfully. We will also continue to benefit from DADCA volunteers' efforts, which have been a major contributory factor in our success – financial and otherwise, over the past eight years.

Our new community centre will allow us to build on the income streams we have at the Social Club, though additional activities and services. We will have new income streams from sources such as wedding receptions and commercial lets and will be able to expand popular events such as cinema showings. As income levels build we intend to introduce paid staff after the first year, and this will ensure that the momentum of increased use and activity levels is maintained.

In our first five years of operation current projections show our income and expenditure as follows:

Income	Year 1 estimate	Year 2 estimate	Year 3 estimate	Year 4 estimate	Year 5 estimate
Donations	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000
Gift aid	£250	£250	£250	£250	£250
Grants	£3,000	£4,000	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000
Fundraising	£4,000	£4,200	£4,410	£4,631	£4,862
Hire of Hall	£15,000	£16,500	£18,150	£19,965	£21,962
Other income	£300	£300	£300	£300	£300
Events	£16,000	£17,600	£17,952	£18,311	£18,677
Weddings	£1,200	£1,800	£2,400	£3,060	£3,745
Commercial Lets	£2,080	£2,288	£2,334	£2,380	£2,428
RHI payments	£4,000	£4,000	£4,000	£4,000	£4,000
Total Income	£47,830	£52,938	£56,796	£59,897	£63,224
Expenditure					
Fundraising expenses	£2,000	£2,100	£2,205	£2,315	£2,431
Events	£11,000	£11,220	£11,444	£11,673	£11,907
Repairs & Maintenance	£1,000	£2,000	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000
Heat & Light	£4,000	£4,400	£4,488	£4,578	£4,669
Office expenses/comms	£1,500	£1,530	£1,561	£1,592	£1,624
Caretaking Contract	£6,240	£6,365	£6,492	£6,622	£6,754
Caretaking supplies	£1,000	£1,020	£1,040	£1,061	£1,082
Insurance	£2,000	£2,040	£2,081	£2,122	£2,165
Licences	£600	£612	£624	£637	£649
Glebe Field project	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Advertising	£7,000	£4,000	£4,080	£4,162	£4,245
Accounting	£600	£612	£624	£637	£649
Miscellaneous	£4,000	£1,000	£1,020	£1,040	£1,061
Wages	£0	£9,000	£9,180	£9,364	£9,551

Volunteer/staff training	£1,500	£500	£510	£520	£531
National Insurance	£0	£125	£128	£130	£133
Pension	£0	£100	£102	£104	£106
Cost of Payroll	£0	£120	£122	£125	£127
Total Expenditure	£42,440	£46,744	£48,701	£49,682	£50,684
Annual Surplus (Deficit)	£5,390	£6,194	£8,095	£10,215	£12,540

3.4 Does or has your organisation receive(d) any other funding from The Highland Council? Please provide information relating to Council funding for the last 3 years:

Yes



No



If yes –

a) What is/was it for, and from which Service or Ward budget was it provided?

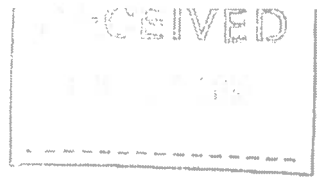
<p>Year 1: 2013-14 Village Hall grant – £1,000 Highland Council – legal expenses for lease of Glebe Field. £1,000 – (Dornoch Common Good Fund)</p>
<p>Year 2: 2014-15 Village Hall grant – £1,000 Highland Council – Beach walk booklet. £1,000 – (Ward Discretionary Budget)</p>
<p>Year 3: 2015-16 Village Hall grant – £1,000 Highland Council – Golf 400 banners. £1,000 – (Dornoch Common Good Fund) Highland Council - Community Resilience - £1,000 – (Dornoch Common Good Fund) Highland Council – Glebe Field development - £2,000 – (Ward Discretionary Budget)</p>

b) How much funding do/did you receive?

<p>Year 1: 2013-14 £2,000</p>
<p>Year 2: 2014-15 £2,000</p>
<p>Year 3: 2015-16 £5,000</p>

c) Estimated value of existing funding in kind, and from which Service or Ward budget was/is it provided?

<p>Year 1: n/a</p>
<p>Year 2: n/a</p>
<p>Year 3: n/a</p>



APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR GRANT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDING AND FUNDING IN KIND FROM THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – Over £10,000

Name of Organisation:

Lovat Shinty Club

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

New Sports Pavilion

Which of the Council's funding streams are you applying to?
(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Discretionary Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

- £5,000 or under Under £10,000 £10,000 or over

Total amount applied for: £60,000

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £.....

Please detail what funding in kind has been applied for e.g. Council staff time, use of premises or equipment, waiving of fees or administration support

None

What type of organisation are you? (please tick all that apply)

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation		Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration numberSC046154.....	✓	Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number	
Other - please specify.....			

Please remember guidance to completing the application form is available [here](#). Appropriate links to the guidance are situated throughout the form: [This page](#)

For official use only Application reference number			
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PART 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

Guidance on completing part 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

1.1 What is the name of your activity or project?

New Sports Pavilion

1.2 When will your activity or project take place? (specifically those for which you are seeking an award from The Highland Council)

Start date (month and year) March 2017.....
End date (month and year) December 2017.....
Location Balgate Park, Kiltarlity IV4 7HL.....

1.3 What activity or project do you want us to support?

For example:

- Aims of the project and how you are going to do it
- Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?
- Who will benefit

Please note that the Council will be unable to provide any resources not specified on this form or supporting information.

Lovat Shinty Club was formed in 1888. We cover Kiltarlity and Kirkhill areas and provides shinty activities for players of both sexes and from age 4-adult. Club membership is open to all. As a registered charity we have a board of 20 trustees with a sub-committee of 5 currently looking after the building project.

Lovat Shinty Club is embarking on an ambitious project to build a new sports and recreational pavilion to sustain the club's shinty coaching activities, widen participation in the sport and ensure that the Camanachd Cup win in 2015 creates a legacy for the local community. Specifically, the new pavilion will create:

- Improved male changing rooms (long overdue upgrading)
- New children and ladies changing rooms (a first for the club)
- Treatment room (available on match and practice days and for open hire)
- Kitchen (to provide catering for shinty matches and community events)
- Social Space (to celebrate the wins in)
- Disabled access (building in 1983 did not accommodate the needs of disabled people)
- Toilets

We have been working hard to increase our numbers of youth members, which was identified in our development plan as a critical issue, for the long-term success and sustainability of the club. Youth teams will commonly have both boys and girls playing alongside each other and currently we have no changing facilities for girls. In addition, we have recently formed a ladies' team, and between the youth membership and ladies section, the club has grown considerably.

We hope the new pavilion will provide enhanced opportunities for children to develop

new skills, confidence and to feel part of the community. Having won the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup in 2015, the club is keen to capitalise on this success and inspire the next generation of players. The new pavilion would provide a sense of pride and identity.

Currently we have support from SportsScotland, the Robertson Trust and together with the club's own funds we will make a significant contribution towards the cost of the project. However, we are not quite there yet. A grant of £60,000 from the Discretionary Fund would help us tremendously to fill the gap.

1.4 Does your activity or project involve building or landscaping work?

Yes No

If yes please answer both a) and b) below.

a) Does your organisation (Please tick):
Have ownership of the land or building

Yes No

OR

Hold at lease of at least 5 years that cannot be ended by the landlord?

Yes No

b) Is planning permission needed for your project? Tick one option below.

Planning permission not required

Planning permission required and has been granted ✓

1.5 Please tell us how your project or activity will help the Council to meet its Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Make sure that people from different groups* are treated fairly and have equal chances to use services and that there is more equality between groups*;
- Make sure that people from different groups* get on together.

*Groups are people who have "protected characteristics" in the Equality Act: age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and sex.

For example are people with protected characteristics likely to face barriers; how you intend to tackle these barriers; does your project promote inclusion?

Fairer Highland – Advancing Equality Issues

The Project will provide changing / toilet/ shower facilities which will benefit our recently formed ladies' teams. In addition, youth teams are often mixed sex and at present there are no separate facilities to accommodate them. The new facility will also have enhanced access and facilities for disabled people

Innovation

By making the new pavilion available to other agencies / community groups such as the NHS, Alzheimer Scotland, outwith the planned use by the shinty club, the facility is an innovative use of the sports pavilion.

Sustainability / Legacy

Shinty will continue and the club will continue to develop within the community well beyond the process of building the new facility, which will continue to be available for the benefit of the community. The club was established in 1888 and it has always had a presence within the area

1.6 Where relevant and appropriate please describe any contribution your project may make towards promotion of the Gaelic language?

1.7 Please tell us if you have spoken to anyone about your application for advice and support – e.g. Local Highland Council Elected Member, Community Council Member, Council Staff, local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) – If yes, please provide details:

Councillor Margaret Davidson

1.8 Please tell us about any funding in kind you are seeking from the Council:

Detail i.e. premises, facilities, staff time, waiving of fees	Estimated value

1.9 Please provide a breakdown of how much will your activities/project will cost and how much Funding you are applying for from The Highland Council:

Item/Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs £	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Staffing					
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	Tender and procurement Prelims and Sub-Structure External Structure Internal structures/fitings Connection to Services & Landscaping End of project reporting	0 76599.47 133349.06 216435.3 41001.06 14400			
Total Project Cost £		481,784.89			
Total Funding Request £		60,000			

1.10 Other funding relating to this project Please include other funders and own resources and income. Continue on separate sheet if required.

Organisation and status of application	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Robertson Trust Gloag Foundation MacLean Electrical Club contribution Benefactor (up to max of £100k)	20,000 5,000 10,000 28,812 100,000			
Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Sportscotland Baxter Foundation Leader	140,000 10,000 75,000			
Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Totals	388,812			

*See guidance notes for specific funding stream to see if you are able to apply for more than one year of funding.

- 1.11 Please tell us how you know that there is a need for this activity or project and how your approach will meet this need. This might include:
- Community support for your project (e.g. surveys, etc.)
 - Statistics which show the need for your project (e.g. unemployment figures, crime statistics)
 - Evidence from similar projects which shows that they have worked (e.g. research from elsewhere or evaluations of previous local work)

I have attached copies of letters of support from;

Kiltarlity Community Council
Kiltarlity Hall Association
Head Teacher Tomnacross Primary
Camanachd Association
NHS
Scottish Football Museum, Hampden (for Alzheimer Memory Project)

- 1.12 Is this a new or additional activity or project? – Yes No

If yes, what change will your activities or project make in your community?

- Enhanced sports facilities
- Equal provision for both sexes and all ages
- Kitchen facilities to provide hospitality for visiting teams and other community users
- Disabled access and toilet for members and spectators
- Public meeting space available to other community groups
- First aid room available to NHS for outreach clinics
- Shinty Memory wall to provide a talking point and social focus for the older generation

If No, how has your activities or project been funded in the last three years?

- 1.13 Please tell us how you will know that your activities or project is working and that you are benefiting your community. You only need to provide targets for the years in which your project will operate. See the detailed guidance for examples of targets.

How you will know you have made the change?		
Year 1 Measurable Outcome	Year 2 Measurable Outcome	Year 3 Measurable Outcome

- 1.14 If it is intended that this activity or project continue beyond the period of Council support, how will it be funded?

3.4 Does or has your organisation receive(d) any other funding from The Highland Council? Please provide information relating to Council funding for the last 3 years:

Yes

No

If yes –

a) What is/was it for, and from which Service or Ward budget was it provided?

Year 1:
Year 2:
Year 3:

b) How much funding do/did you receive?

Year 1:
Year 2:
Year 3:

c) Estimated value of existing funding in kind, and from which Service or Ward budget was/is it provided?

Year 1:
Year 2:
Year 3:



APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR GRANT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDING AND FUNDING IN KIND

FROM THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – Over £10,000

Name of Organisation:

Isle of Canna Community Development Trust

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Non-tidal vehicle access track to Isle of Sanday

Which of the Council's funding streams are you applying to?

(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Capital Discretionary Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

- £5,000 or under
 Under £10,000
 £10,000 or over

Total amount applied for: £.....20,000.....

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £.....

Please detail what funding in kind has been applied for e.g. Council staff time, use of premises or equipment, waiving of fees or administration support

n/a

What type of organisation are you? (Please tick all that apply)

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Council	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number SC046276.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number447755	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other - please specify.....			

Please remember guidance to completing the application form is available [here](#).

For official use only Application reference number			
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PART 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

Guidance on completing part 1 can be found on Page 8 of the guidance document.

1.1 What is the name of your activity or project?

Non-Tidal Vehicle Access Track to Island of Sanday

1.2 When will your activity or project take place? (specifically those for which you are seeking an award from The Highland Council)

Start date (month and year).....May 2017.....

End date (month and year).....May 2017.....

Location.....Sanday, Isle of Canna, Small Isles.....

1.3 What activity or project do you want us to support?

For example:

- *Aims of the project and how you are going to do it*
- *Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?*
- *Who will benefit Please note that the Council will be unable to provide any resources not specified on this form or supporting information.*

Aim of the project:

To create a non-tidal vehicle access track on the island of Sanday. This will enable Sanday to utilise the road bridge that joins Sanday to the Isle of Canna and to access the existing road without being dependent on tides.

How will this happen?:

Agreement: this has been agreed with NTS, SNH and all the crofters, whose land this track will cross.

Land: The Sanday crofters have agreed to provide land, materials and access for this track.

Costs: we have received an initial quote for creating the non-tidal vehicle access track for £89,000 inc VAT

Funding: we have a commitment of £9,000 from the NTS and £1000 from the Campbell Fund. Applications have also been submitted to the MacIntosh Foundation and Highland Council Discretionary Fund.

Timeline: The Canna Renewables project, sited on Sanday, starts in Spring 2017. We would like to develop the Sanday non-tidal access track at the same time to utilise the opportunity of having contractors on the island.

Currently there is only vehicular access to Sanday at low tide via the shoreline. A total of 4 households and 3 self-catering cottages are located on Sanday and 3 new crofting tenants aiming to develop the potential of their crofts. The local Highland Council primary school is also on Sanday.

The project will be managed by the Isle of Canna Community Development Trust who will engage a suitable contractor to carry out the works.

Ongoing maintenance will be carried out by qualified members of the community as currently happens on the adjacent island of Canna.

Who will benefit?:

The beneficiaries from this project will be the populations of both Canna and Sanday, visitors, contractors, school children and Highland Council staff. This will be the first time in the island's history that proper vehicle access has been provided.

1.4 Does your activity or project involve building or landscaping work?

Yes No

If yes please answer both a) and b) below.

a) Does your organisation (Please tick):
Have ownership of the land or building

Yes No

OR

Hold at lease of at least 5 years that cannot be ended by the landlord?

Yes No

b) Is planning permission needed for your project? Tick one option below.

Planning permission not required

Planning permission required and has been granted

1.5 Please tell us how your project or activity will help the Council to meet its Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Make sure that people from different groups* are treated fairly and have equal chances to use services and that there is more equality between groups*;
- Make sure that people from different groups* get on together.

*Groups are people who have "protected characteristics" in the Equality Act: age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and sex.

For example are people with protected characteristics likely to face barriers; how you intend to tackle these barriers; does your project promote inclusion?

This project will allow full access to the island of Sanday for the first time. also allowing safe access for those with restricted mobility as well as safe access to the primary school for children.

The project allows the communities of Canna and Sanday to become more integrated and less dependent on tidal conditions.

1.6 Where relevant and appropriate please describe any contribution your project may make towards promotion of the Gaelic language?

Any signage will be in both English and Gaelic

1.7 Please tell us if you have spoken to anyone about your application for advice and support – e.g. Local Highland Council Elected Member, Community Council Member, Council Staff, local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) – If yes, please provide details:

Councillor Allan Henderson
 Dot Ferguson - Highland Council
 Martin Jones - Education
 Martin Culbertson (LEADER)

1.8 Please tell us about any funding in kind you are seeking from the Council:

Detail i.e. premises, facilities, staff time, waiving of fees	Estimated value

1.9 Please provide a breakdown of how much will your activities/project will cost and how much **funding you are applying for from The Highland Council**:

Item/ Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs £	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Staffing					
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	Supply of plant and labour to create the access track Quotations attached	89,000 inc VAT			89,000 inc VAT
		89,000 inc VAT			89,000 inc VAT
Total Funding Request £		20,000			20,000

1.10 **Other funding relating to this project** Please include other funders and own resources and income. Continue on separate sheet if required.

Organisation and status of application	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
National Trust for Scotland Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	9,000			
The Campbell Fund Successful <input type="checkbox"/> X Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	1,000			
Totals				

*See guidance notes for specific funding stream to see if you are able to apply for more than one year of funding.

1.11 Please tell us how you know that there is a need for this activity or project and how your approach will meet this need. This might include:

- a. Community support for your project (e.g. surveys, etc.)
- b. Statistics which show the need for your project (e.g. unemployment figures, crime statistics)
- c. Evidence from similar projects which shows that they have worked (e.g. research from elsewhere or evaluations of previous local work)

A community survey was carried out in 2016 and has been attached to demonstrate local need for the project.

Physical evidence – There is no existing road resulting in vehicular and foot access being restricted according to tidal conditions.

Currently there is no safe access to the primary school. In bad weather there is no vehicle access to the island and there are health and safety issues surrounding primary school children walking to the school via a bridge and then across an exposed hillside (this is particularly true in the winter with no street lighting on either island) or around the shore if the tide is sufficiently out.

No access for emergency services or those with restricted mobility.

1.12 Is this a new or additional activity or project? – Yes X No
If yes, what change will your activities or project make in your community?

Having a non-tidal vehicle access track for the houses on Sanday would mean that members of the community can get to and from the Canna road without being reliant on the tide. This will have several economic, social and environmental benefits to both communities.

What difference will this project make?

School: The primary school is on Sanday, in bad weather the schoolchildren travelling over from Canna to the primary school on Sanday can get to / be collected from the school.

Medical Services: the Doctor can visit patients on Sanday at their homes without relying on the tides.

Crofting: there are 9 crofts on Sanday and 3 new crofters, all of these crofts will have significantly better opportunities for development of agriculture and other small businesses if there is vehicle access.

Social events and inclusion: with vehicle access islanders can attend community events on either island.

Animal husbandry and welfare: Vehicle access will enable emergencies to be dealt with quickly and safely both for livestock and those attending the situation.

Small Businesses: those living on Sanday with businesses on Canna can get to and from work at any time. Examples are Cafe Canna whose day ends later at night and vital for the farm manager attending to livestock.

Housing: any new housing development will use land or existing buildings on Sanday so vehicle access will be essential both at the development stage and then for the people who will live in those new houses.

Environment: a track makes the use of bicycles easier, reducing vehicle use on the Canna road.

Visitors: key attractions on Sanday are St Edwards and the seabird colonies, especially puffins. Vehicle access makes these accessible to those with reduced mobility or small children who find the walk too long or difficult.

Emergency Services: In the event of an accident casualties can be taken to the helicopter landing site on Canna or if emergency services are needed they can be accessed e.g. if there is a fire

Economic Development: Marine Harvest have a proposal to site a fish farm at Canna. Staff housing would be sited on Sanday with vehicle access essential.

If No, how has your activities or project been funded in the last three years?

--

1.13 Please tell us how you will know that your activities or project is working and that you are benefiting your community. You only need to provide targets for the years in which your project will operate. See the detailed guidance for examples of targets.

How you will know you have made the change?		
Year 1 Measurable Outcome	Year 2 Measurable Outcome	Year 3 Measurable Outcome
The non-tidal vehicle access track for Sanday has been completed		
Days that children do not attend school due to weather reduced		
Increase in numbers and types of visitors to sites of interest on Sanday		
Development of new visitor accommodation on Sanday		
Development plans for new crofting activities on Sanday		
Draft development plans for housing development on Sanday are in place		

1.14 If it is intended that this activity or project continue beyond the period of Council support, how will it be funded?

<p>Additional activity would include maintenance of the track. There is a commitment from community volunteers and the Isle of Canna Community Development Trust to provide volunteer hours for this as already done for the road on Canna. Materials for maintenance are available e.g. rock rubble are available on the island.</p>

3.4 Does or has your organisation receive(d) any other funding from The Highland Council? Please provide information relating to Council funding for the last 3 years:

Yes

No

If yes –

a) What is/was it for, and from which Service or Ward budget was it provided?

Year 1:
Year 2:
Year 3:

b) How much funding do/did you receive?

Year 1:
Year 2:
Year 3:

c) Estimated value of existing funding in kind, and from which Service or Ward budget was/is it provided?

Year 1:
Year 2:
Year 3:



APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR GRANT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDING AND FUNDING IN KIND FROM THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – Over £10,000

Name of Organisation:

Linnhe Leisure t/a Nevis Centre

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Renovation & Enhancements for a Sustainable Future

Which of the Council's funding streams are you applying to?
(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Capital Discretionary Budget

Is the amount you are applying for:

- £5,000 or under Under £10,000 £10,000 or over

Total amount applied for: £250,000.....

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £0.....

Please detail what funding in kind has been applied for e.g. Council staff time, use of premises or equipment, waiving of fees or administration support

What type of organisation are you? (Please tick all that apply)

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation	X	Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration numberSCO26074.....	X	Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number173320.....	X
Other - please specify.....			

Please remember guidance to completing the application form is available [here](#).

For official use only Application reference number			
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PART 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

Guidance on completing part 1 can be found on Page 8 of the guidance document.

1.1 What is the name of your activity or project?

Renovation & Enhancement for a sustainable future

1.2 When will your activity or project take place? (specifically those for which you are seeking an award from The Highland Council)

Start date (month and year).....April 2017.....

End date (month and year).....December 2018.....

Location..... Fort William.....

1.3 What activity or project do you want us to support?

For example:

- *Aims of the project and how you are going to do it*
- *Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?*
- *Who will benefit*

Please note that the Council will be unable to provide any resources not specified on this form or supporting information.

The Nevis Centre operating as a social enterprise, is an entirely unique community resource. It provides a range of activities for residents of Lochaber; is one of few indoor facilities available to the local community and tourists; and is the largest venue in the West Highlands with the capacity to host large scale events. Unlike most community venues, the Centre is open seven days per week throughout the year including public holidays except Christmas Day and Boxing Day. The Nevis Centre currently employs 14 full-time and 4 part-time staff plus additional staff as and when required during peak holiday periods and for large events.

The Nevis Centre is a complex building both in terms of design and infrastructure. Now over 25 years old, the fabric of the building is showing its age both in terms of deterioration of materials and energy efficiency compared with current building standards. In addition, we need to address the implications of reductions in local authority grant funding.

Board of Directors and the Centre Manager recognise the potential for development in a variety of ways to increase the customer base including commercial, business and leisure users. This subsequently would improve financial stability and growth in addition to increased employment opportunities. In this respect, Highlands & Islands Enterprise are working with the Board to facilitate a Strategic Review and establish a five-year strategy plan focusing on growth of income streams in both existing and new markets. We are in process of further engagement with the local community to ensure their interests and aspirations are part of future planning.

We are embarking on a major enhancement plan over the next three years to provide a fully resourced facility which will ensure the Centre continues to meet the needs of the local community and provide the standard of venue expected by tourists and commercial users.

It is anticipated that in Year 1 issues relating to the fabric of the building such as the roof

be addressed followed by internal development of the foyer including improved disability access. This would enhance the venue in time to host the Royal National Mod in October 2017. A Resource Opportunity Assessment (9 Jan.2017) demonstrates that combined energy saving measures have the potential to make savings of £13,749 per annum. This includes more energy efficient lighting, a staff awareness programme and installation of solar PV arrays. We believe that development of the Centre in conjunction with improved marketing would maximize both existing income streams and future income growth. Our Business Plan provides a framework for the next three year and we are looking for major investment to enable the enhancements to take place and secure the future sustainability of the Nevis Centre.

1.4 Does your activity or project involve building or landscaping work?

Yes No

If yes please answer both a) and b) below.

a) Does your organisation (Please tick):
Have ownership of the land or building

Yes No

OR

Hold at lease of at least 5 years that cannot be ended by the landlord?

Yes No

b) Is planning permission needed for your project? Tick one option below.

Planning permission not required

Planning permission required and has been granted subject to further discussion

1.5 Please tell us how your project or activity will help the Council to meet its Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Make sure that people from different groups* are treated fairly and have equal chances to use services and that there is more equality between groups*;
- Make sure that people from different groups* get on together.

*Groups are people who have "protected characteristics" in the Equality Act: age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and sex.

For example are people with protected characteristics likely to face barriers; how you intend to tackle these barriers; does your project promote inclusion?

This proposal offers positive equality implications in terms of accessibility to key facilities and services. The Centre offers a wide range of activities which are fully

inclusive. However, this enhancement will offer improved physical access and allow more use for social hubs thus improving wellbeing. The refurbishment of changing areas will improve the experience for all sports users and will further improve access for individuals with disability including visitors to the area. Improved backstage facilities such as the installation of a stage lift would increase participation in the performing arts. We will work to make sure the opportunities are advertised to all suitable groups.

1.6 Where relevant and appropriate please describe any contribution your project may make towards promotion of the Gaelic language?

There are no negative Gaelic implications and it is anticipated that marketing materials and signage will incorporate where possible and appropriate, the use of the Gaelic language. The Centre wishes to encourage and integrate Gaelic where possible to all users of the Centre. As part of our cultural heritage and as a community facility, it is important that use of the Gaelic language is promoted. By hosting the 2017 Royal National Mod, the centre will be promoting and showcasing our Gaelic heritage.

1.7 Please tell us if you have spoken to anyone about your application for advice and support – e.g. Local Highland Council Elected Member, Community Council Member, Council Staff, local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) – If yes, please provide details:

D Yule, Director of Finance
 D Ferguson, Area Ward Manager
 B Thompson, Ward 12 Councillor
 L Benfield, CEO, Chamber of Commerce
 M Boyd, Development Officer, Voluntary Action Lochaber

1.8 Please tell us about any funding in kind you are seeking from the Council:

Detail i.e. premises, facilities, staff time, waiving of fees	Estimated value

1.9 Please provide a breakdown of how much will your activities/project will cost and how much funding you are applying for from The Highland Council:

Item/Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs £	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
External Building Refurbishment	Roof improvements	308,000			308,000
	Upgrade frontage incl improved disabled access	25,000			25,000
	Bi-lingual signage	6,000			6,000
	Solar panel installation	126,735			126,735
Internal Enhancements	Mains water storage tank	10,000			10,000
	Energy efficiency measures	2,776			2,776
	Foyer (layout, flooring, toilets)		35,000		35,000
	Sports hall flooring		50,000		50,000
	Backstage / sports hall changing rooms, showers & toilets		50,000		50,000
	Professional Fees	10,000	10,000		20,000
	VAT liability @ 20% on above	97,702	29,000		126,702
	Statutory permissions	3,000	1,000		4,000
	Contingency 5%	23,926	6,750		30,676
Total Project Cost £		613,139	£181,750		£794,889
Total Funding Request £		250,000			

Please note: the business has partial VAT exemption and we would anticipate reclaiming approximately ¾ of the VAT figure.

1.10 **Other funding relating to this project** Please include other funders and own resources and income. Continue on separate sheet if required.

Organisation and status of application	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Capital reserves Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	£30,000	£35,000		£65,000
LEADER Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	£50,000			£50,000
An Aird Reserve Trust Fund Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	£34,000			£34,000
Resource Efficient Scotland – interest free loan, subject to application Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	£100,000			£100,000
Sportscotland – subject to application Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>		£100,000		£100,000
Big Lottery Fund – subject to application Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>		£17,750		£17,750
Totals	£214,000	£152,750		£366,750

*See guidance notes for specific funding stream to see if you are able to apply for more than one year of funding.

- 1.11 Please tell us how you know that there is a need for this activity or project and how your approach will meet this need. This might include:
- Community support for your project (e.g. surveys, etc.)
 - Statistics which show the need for your project (e.g. unemployment figures, crime statistics)
 - Evidence from similar projects which shows that they have worked (e.g. research from elsewhere or evaluations of previous local work)

The Nevis Centre is widely used by the local community for a variety of purposes. The following information on local clubs / organisations currently using the Nevis Centre gives an indication of the attendance and frequency of use:

Activities which are:	Event	Frequency	Attendance
Health Promoting	Table tennis	weekly	20
	Badminton	weekly	20
	Nevis Range football	weekly	10
	J Stafford	weekly	12
	Ft Wm Senior Shinty	weekly	20
	Lochaber Ladies Shinty	weekly	20
	Blair Football	weekly	10
	Cricket	weekly	10
	Winter 5's	weekly	70
	Knackergym	weekly	20
Community Based	Archery	weekly	15
	Montrose Centre	weekly	15
	Canine Club	weekly	40
For Young People	Lochaber Showstoppers	2 x weekly	50
	Roller skating	weekly	100
	Gymnastics	2 x weekly	250
	Fort Wm Youth shinty	weekly	20
	College Fitness	weekly	20
	Tennis individual	weekly	30
	Badminton individual	weekly	30
Drama	weekly	10	

The youth club which runs in the centre provides a range of diversionary activity particularly for young people in addition to the range of other clubs/opportunities which allow people to participate in a safe, friendly environment.

In addition, individuals may hire the multi-use games area for tennis and badminton.

Furthermore, the Nevis Centre is regarded locally as Lochaber's 'Eden Court' in that it provides a range of cultural events as well as monthly cinema screenings.

It is also frequented by visitors to the area accessing the bowling alley and children's soft play area especially during inclement weather periods.

The Nevis Centre plays a significant part in boosting the local economy particularly in

the hospitality and retail sectors when large events are hosted.

The following table indicates recent and current bookings with events specifically attracting visitors to the area indicated in red. Attendees at such events predominately book at least one night's accommodation in the area and significantly boost the tourism sector.

Month	Event	Duration	Estimated Footfall
Jul-16	West Highland Way Race	1Day	350
Jul-16	3 Peaks Challenge	1 Day	250
Jul-16	Performance: Fun Box Show (for children)	1 Day	250
Aug-16	Performance: Fred Macaulay	1 Day	200
Aug-16	Blood Donors	1 Day	250
Aug-16	Lochaber Piping Gathering Competitions	1 Day	100
Sep-16	Lochaber Dog Show	1 Day	250
Sep-16	Performance: Blas festival: Red Hot Chilli Pipers	1 day	800
Sep-16	Ben Race Presentation	1 Day	350
Oct-16	NHS Blood Donor Session	1 Day	250
Oct-16	Glencoe Marathon	1 Day	450
Oct-16	Judo Competition	1 Day	400
Nov-16	Strongman Competition	1 Day	150
Nov-16	Cinema	1 Day	300
Nov-16	Roller Skating Show	1 Day	300
Nov-16	Rotary Club Christmas Festival	2Days	3,000
Dec-16	Cinema	1 Day	200
Dec-16	Christmas Concert	1 Day	600
Dec-16	NHS Blood Donor Session	1 Day	250
Dec-16	Hogmanay	1 Day	350
Jan-17	Performance: Skerryvore & Skipinnish	1 Day	900
Jan-17	Cinema	1 Day	250
Jan-17	Glengarry Shinty	1 Day	150
Feb-17	Cinema	1 Day	200
Feb-17	Lochaber Mountain Film Festival	4 Days	1000
Feb-17	Ronald Ross Shinty	1 Day	150
Mar-17	Performance: Manran & Tidelines	1 Day	800
Mar-17	Cinema	1 Day	200
Mar-17	Performance: Burnistoun Tour	1 Day	400
Mar-17	Performance: Kevin Bloody Wilson	1 Day	800
Apr-17	Performance: Russell Kane	1 Day	400
Apr-17	Cinema	1 Day	200
Apr-17	NHS Blood Donor Session	1 Day	250
Apr-17	Performance: Patsy Cline Show	1 Day	250
Apr-17	Lochaber Phoenix Boxing Club – Competitive Show	1 Day	500
May-17	Scottish Six Days Trials Presentation	1 Day	500
May-17	Cinema	1 Day	250
May-17	Performance: Elaine C. Smith	1 Day	400

May-17	John Muir Trust AGM	1 Day	300
Jun-17	St Andrew's Hospice event	1 Day	350
Jun-17	Caledonian Challenge	2 Days	600
Jun-17	Ben Nevis Challenge	2 Days	400
Jun-17	NHS Blood Donor Session	1 Day	250
Jun-17	Performance: Ballet West	1 Day	350
Jun-17	West Highland Way Presentation	1 Day	400
Jul-17	Performance: Fun Box (Singing Kettle)	1 Day	300
Jul-17	Cinema	1 Day	200
Aug-17	Performance: Phil Cunningham & Ally Bain	1 Day	300
Aug-17	Cinema	1 Day	200
Aug-17	NHS Blood Donor Session	1 Day	250
Aug-17	Lochaber Piping Competitions	1 Day	150
Sept-17	Ben Race Presentation	1 Day	500
Sept-17	Medical Research Ben Climb	1 Day	150
Sept-17	Cinema	1 Day	200
Sept-17	Lochaber Canine Society Show	1 Day	250
Oct-17	Cinema	1 Day	200
Oct-17	NHS Blood Donor Session	1 Day	250
Oct-17	Royal National Mod	10 Days	??
Oct-17	West Highland College UHI Graduation Ceremony	1 Day	500

1.12 Is this a new or additional activity or project? – Yes No

If yes, what change will your activities or project make in your community?

Over the next three years we aim to transform the Nevis Centre as a 'community hub', to broaden our appeal, customer base and economic avenues. The development will include renewal of the roof, energy efficient measures to reduce energy costs and enable Feed-in-Tariff income, enhancement of all public areas, and enhancement of all backstage facilities / sports changing areas, showers & toilets. These improvements will increase the range of activities which reflect the aspirations and interests of local people and help improve health and wellbeing across the community. The current monthly cinema screenings could be extended and live streamings introduced. These improvements will also increase the Centre's appeal to commercially driven events such as conferences, trade fairs, etc which generate a higher level of income for the Centre. This will impact positively on our ability to be financially sustainable and less dependent on Council grant funding.

If No, how has your activities or project been funded in the last three years?

1.13 Please tell us how you will know that your activities or project is working and that you are benefiting your community. You only need to provide targets for the years in which your project will operate. See the detailed guidance for examples of targets.

How you will know you have made the change?		
Year 1 Measurable Outcome	Year 2 Measurable Outcome	Year 3 Measurable Outcome
Indicators: Roof improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All roof areas wind & water-tight • No forced zonal closures due to water ingress • Flat roof areas able to support solar PV arrays 	Indicators: Foyer (layout, flooring, toilets) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced customer experience • Reductions in water & waste 	
Installation of solar PV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy bills will have reduced • Income from Feed-in-Tariff scheme • Successful commissioning 	Sports hall flooring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased attendance at sports club activities • Enhanced participant experience 	
Upgrade frontage incl improved disabled access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in user numbers with enhanced customer experience especially those with disability 	Backstage /sports hall changing room refurbishment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased attendance at sports club activities • Enhanced participant experience • Increased use of showers by tourists 	
Mains water storage tank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced / no risk of flooding or damage to fabric of building 		
Energy efficiency measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy bills will reduce • Staff awareness increased 		

1.14 If it is intended that this activity or project continue beyond the period of Council support, how will it be funded?

Please see attached:

1. Business Plan
2. Building Condition Report
3. Resource Opportunity Assessment
4. Disability Access Audit

**3.4 Does or has your organisation receive(d) any other funding from The Highland Council?
Please provide information relating to Council funding for the last 3 years:**

Yes X

No

If yes –

a) What is/was it for, and from which Service or Ward budget was it provided?

Year 1: Revenue grant funding from ECS
Year 2: Revenue grant funding from ECS
Year 3: Revenue grant funding from ECS

b) How much funding do/did you receive?

Year 1: 2014-15 £174,528
Year 2: 2015-16 £174,528
Year 3: 2016-17 £165,803

c) Estimated value of existing funding in kind, and from which Service or Ward budget was/is it provided?

Year 1: n/a
Year 2:
Year 3:



APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR GRANT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDING AND FUNDING IN KIND FROM THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – Over £10,000 – _____

Name of Organisation:

The Ledge

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Marina Climbing Walls and Adventure Sports Gym – Social Enterprise

Which of the Council's funding streams are you applying to?

(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

CAPITAL DISCRETIONARY FUND

Is the amount you are applying for:

£5,000 or under Under £10,000 £10,000 or over

Total amount applied for: 200,000

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £0.00

Please detail what funding in kind has been applied for e.g. Council staff time, use of premises or equipment, waiving of fees or administration support

None

What type of organisation are you? (please tick all that apply)

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Council	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registered Charity YES If yes – Registration number SCIO no.to follow ...	<input type="checkbox"/>	Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other - please specify.....			

Please remember guidance to completing the application form is available [here](#). Appropriate links to the guidance are situated throughout the form: [This page](#)

For official use only Application reference number			
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PART 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

Guidance on completing part 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

1.1 What is the name of your activity or project?

The Ledge – Climbing Performance and Adventure Centre

1.2 When will your activity or project take place? (specifically those for which you are seeking an award from The Highland Council)

Start date (month and year	April 2018
End date (month and year	April 2058
Location	Inverness Marina, Inverness

1.3 What activity or project do you want us to support?

For example:

- *Aims of the project and how you are going to do it*
- *Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?*
- *Who will benefit*

Please note that the Council will be unable to provide any resources not specified on this form or supporting information.

Full Plan attached

- *Aims of the project and how you are going to do it*

The aims of the project are to develop a commercially successful business producing a surplus (profit), which as a SCIO will be used to support and develop our social impacts.

Our SIP (Social Impact Plan) is to support various groups and initiatives i.e.

- Including disabled sport,
- Youth at risk,
- Young offenders
- And those from remote and small communities who are otherwise excluded by physical or social circumstances
 - To encourage entry into Mountain Sports by funding training, equipment purchase, guides and external teaching and instructor services
 - To promote green tourism and responsible travel in the mountain environment
 - To fund/support vocational training for those with limited resources to start a career in Outdoor Sports
 - To promote healthy active living through adventure and outdoors sports
 - To subsidise entry to the Centre Facilities, for school groups, youth groups and community groups
 - To support members of Highland Youth Climbing when required

Support is required to fit out the climbing walls with additional equipment to support the delivery of training, coaching and compatibility with specific community, disabled and youth development groups. This equipment includes 12 True Blue Auto Belay machines (£25,000) 10 Full body adult support harnesses, Specialist abseil and rope climbing equipment (Jumars etc.) and 60m2 (@ £270 per m2) of intro climbing surface adapted for group, disabled and special needs groups.

The Social Impact Plan (SIP)

The Social Impact Plan outlines a number of goals for the project over the first three to five years of the operating centre. These outcomes are based on conversations with members of Highland Council's Youth Action Service, Reach Climbing Coach Mark McGowan, Lee Craigie of Cycletherapy, and Nicola Diggins Department of Sport and Outdoors Studies Inverness College UHI

Phase I) During the initial phase we plan to subsidise or provide free entry to the project for established groups, community and welfare, to the centre that think their clients may benefit from engagement with adventure and climbing activities. In addition we aim to provide dedicated staff support to these groups and individuals to maximise the impact of the sessions and programmes. Part of this phase is to work with Highland Highlife's Active School Co-ordination team to deliver adventure and climbing activities.

Phase II) We plan work with Mark McGowan (BG Paraclimbing Team Coach) to develop and adapt specific programmes for Disabled, Autistic Children and Young Adults, and those with learning disabilities to ensure positive outcomes for visiting groups and those within own locally developed programmes. In addition we plan to work with Lee Craigie to develop our delivery plans and to establish links with groups to build bespoke programmes based on our (Section 8) SCIO Aims and Objectives – Social and environmental impact (see Lee Craigie Appendix One.)

Phase III) Mid term aims include the employment of a full-time dedicated Community Programme Manager who will develop a full local programme of initiatives and courses

Phase IV) To develop our remote communities outreach programme. This has two facets 1) to fund/encourage/subsidise visits for remote community groups 2) to fund our mobile initiative, which may include the purchase of a mobile climbing/cc tower and equipment to allow outdoor programs to be delivered locally to communities out with our local catchment. We also plan to develop the potential to deliver the John Muir Trust Award, which connects young people with the natural environment

Phase V) From our work in the community we will no doubt become aware of certain individuals who wish to develop a career in outdoors sports and climbing walls. We plan to develop a mentoring and development pathway to identify these individuals and then help develop their professional qualifications and training to offer gateways into full time employment in adventure and outdoor sports.

Vocational Training and Education. We are developing a working relationship with Inverness College UHI to become a delivering partner of Foundation Apprenticeships, as well as providing work experience in courses such as Coaching and Developing Sport, Fitness Health and Exercise, Outdoor Pursuits, Sport and Fitness, Sports Management, Hospitality and Sustainable Development.

Our SIP will also include supporting access, environmental works and to foster relationships between landowners and the mountaineering and climbing communities to fund low cost or free lectures on Avalanche Awareness, Mountain Navigation and remote location First Aid. We also plan to develop and support a "bolt fund". Fixed equipment on "sport" climbs needs to be regularly replaced if the routes are to remain safe for all to use. We aim to fund equipment replacement and provide rope and tool management courses to a volunteer force of climbers to ensure the continuing safety of Highland sport climbing venues.

- *Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?*

The funding is required to complete our Capital funding package which includes contributions from HIE, Highland Council's Social Discretionary Fund, sportscotland, and Social Investment Scotland.

Common Good Funding will be specifically targeted towards equipment purchase, which will be primarily used in the delivery of the SIP.

- *Who will benefit*

The SIP Groups and those identified in the SCIO's Aims and Objectives and those support Active Schools programs and Highland Council's PEPAS (PE, Physical Activity and Sport)

1.4 Does your activity or project involve building or landscaping work?

Yes

If yes please answer both a) and b) below.

- a) Does your organisation (Please tick):
Have ownership of the land or building

NO

OR

Hold at lease of at least 5 years that cannot be ended by the landlord?

Yes

- b) Is planning permission needed for your project? Tick one option below.

Planning permission not required

Planning permission required and has been granted. - **Planning permission is being sought and applied for**

1.5 Please tell us how your project or activity will help the Council to meet its Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Make sure that people from different groups* are treated fairly and have equal chances to use services and that there is more equality between groups*;
- Make sure that people from different groups* get on together.

*Groups are people who have “protected characteristics” in the Equality Act: age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and sex.

For example are people with protected characteristics likely to face barriers; how you intend to tackle these barriers; does your project promote inclusion?

The SCIO's registration with OSCR means that the project has satisfied their criteria as set out by the Scottish Government for Charitable Organisations and therefore we have duty of care to all our members, clients and guests.

Adventure activities when approached for the angle of social impact have a strong ethos of egalitarianism and community inclusion. A full inclusion policy covering ethics, inclusion, anti discrimination has been written into the constitution of the project. These ambitions are then going to be an integral part of our employment, volunteer and staff training. The management team will then guide and implement this ethos and policy through positive enforcement and action.

Climbing traditionally as all adventure sports, have always been inclusive irrespective of race, sexual orientation, gender age and ability. It is a community sport with a strong ethos of inclusion. The Ledge will be fully supportive of this historical legacy and on-going enforce these values to all comers to the project.

1.6 Where relevant and appropriate please describe any contribution your project may make towards promotion of the Gaelic language?

Dual signage where appropriate and basic climbing terms dual language notice boards. Equal Font proposed.

1.7 Please tell us if you have spoken to anyone about your application for advice and support – e.g. Local Highland Council Elected Member, Community Council Member, Council Staff, local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) – If yes, please provide details:

The project has been in the pipeline for 18 months prior to this application and we have an on-going dialogue with... Councillor David Haas, and Director of Planning and Development Stuart Black. Initial discussions have also taken place with Chris McCormack of the Council's Youth Action Service and Robin Jackson Business Growth Advisor.
In addition detailed discussions have taken place with Mags Duncan for the Active Schools and PEPAS groups and Ian Murray of Highlife Highland.

1.8 Please tell us about any funding in kind you are seeking from the Council:

Detail i.e. premises, facilities, staff time, waiving of fees	Estimated value

1.9 Please provide a breakdown of how much will your activities/project will cost and how much Funding you are applying for from The Highland Council:

Item/Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs £	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Staffing					
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	Climbing Walls Gym Equipment Climbing Equipment (Council Supported) Climbing Equipment Youth Play Equipment Operational Fit-out Matting Initial set up costs & Working Capital	200,000 134,397 45,500 66,000 263,000 26,000 56,000 165,614			
Total Project Cost £		956,511			
Total Funding Request £		200,000			

1.10 **Other funding relating to this project** Please include other funders and own resources and income. Continue on separate sheet if required.

Organisation and status of application	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Highland Council <i>INVERNESS Common Good Fund</i>	£ 45,500			
HIE	£235,000			
sportscotland Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	£200,000			
Social Investment Scotland	£250,000			
Private Resources Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	£26,011			
Totals	756,511			

*See guidance notes for specific funding stream to see if you are able to apply for more than one year of funding.

- 1.11 Please tell us how you know that there is a need for this activity or project and how your approach will meet this need. This might include:
- a. Community support for your project (e.g. surveys, etc.)
 - b. Statistics which show the need for your project (e.g. unemployment figures, crime statistics)
 - c. Evidence from similar projects which shows that they have worked (e.g. research from elsewhere or evaluations of previous local work)

The initial concept was investigated by Adventure Concepts Ltd on behalf of the Scotlog Group who are the building investors. This work identified the gap in the market within the Highland Region and notably Inverness for a major Climbing Centre. This has been further confirmed by Mountaineering Scotland the sports governing body, who have identified that Inverness is the ideal site for the much needed Highland National Performance Centre as identified in their Facilities Development Statement 2015. A Facebook campaign called Climb Inverness further highlighted the base demand for a modern climbing facility in the City and Region. A full set of research statistics, demographic research and evidence is contained in the Business plan attached.

This plan has been reviewed by HIE and Social Investment Scotland in the preparation of their individual Grants and investments.

Highland Highlife are fully supportive of the development and see the project as being part of the future of the sporting life of the Highland Region. They also recognise that the management and operational skills required to operate a modern climbing centre are beyond the reach of many public sector leisure operators.

Similar projects in the region which have had a notable effect on the health and well being of similar groups are Outward Bound, Cycletherapy and Day 1.

- 1.12 Is this a new or additional activity or project? – **Yes**
If yes, what change will your activities or project make in your community?

This is a new project. Following discussions with both Highland Council and Highlife Highland both agree that the current climbing wall in the city is out-dated, overcrowded at peak times and not fit for purpose. A decision on its future is pending. Furthermore all parties funding the project understand the great social and community benefits that will come from a successful project and then using its surplus (profits) to support and fund access to the many school, community and social groups who may benefit from inclusion in climbing and adventure sports activities. It is estimated that the surplus, which the SCIO will target towards its charitable activities is estimated to be in the region of £35,000 in year one rising to £60,000 in year three.

The 5 Phase SIP plan offers a thought-out development plan, which will be supported by the plan. In addition we will work towards fulfilling our commitments in supporting the Highland Councils social and educational principles.

“Working together for the Highlands” is the Council’s “bold and ambitious” programme of priorities for delivery over the period 2012-2017. The programme sets out 139 actions across seven main themes, which focus on working together for:-

*the economy;
children and young people;
caring communities;
better infrastructure;
better housing;
empowering communities; and
strong and safe communities.*

The Ledge answers or will work with the following...

Its principles of job creation, a living wage, quality jobs, youth employment, vocational apprenticeships and training, supporting social enterprise, maximising its impact as major tourism attraction, supporting and promoting green and destination tourism, developing sports outreach into rural communities, building the infrastructure of The Highland Capital.

In addition its quality of life aspirations for children’s and young people namely active play, physical activity and the proven benefits of adventurous activities on educational attainment will be further supported by the project and through its Active Schools programmes and its links with UHI. The SCIO’s fund will aim to work towards the principles of “caring communities” by improving the quality of life for young people , and adults struggling with deprivation, tackle childhood obesity, promote activity in the wilderness areas, promote and support cycling initiatives, work with local food producers, harbour development, develop a volunteering programme, partner in developing train and jobs, provide training for mountain rescue teams, and difficult access training for the police and fire rescue services, provide mentored opportunities for low level and low risk offenders with the appropriate services, and support climate change education.

If No, how has your activities or project been funded in the last three years?

- 1.13 Please tell us how you will know that your activities or project is working and that you are benefiting your community. You only need to provide targets for the years in which your project will operate. See the detailed guidance for examples of targets.

How you will know you have made the change?		
Year 1 Measurable Outcome	Year 2 Measurable Outcome	Year 3 Measurable Outcome
User numbers on climbing wall and activities between 36,000 and 38,000	User numbers rise by 2000 – 3000 visits per annum	User numbers rise by 2000 per annum
The community fund (surplus cash flow) achieved and targeted at £30,000 - £35,000 in year one	The fund grows by 15%-20% in year two	Continued effective growth
Schools engaged with the SCIO Aims and Objectives and the PEPAS (PE, Physical Activity and Sport) group. Youth Action Service engaged and community outreach established and relevant social services and groups introduced and pathways established	Programmes established following the Aims and Objectives of the SCIO. Increased numbers within the social development plans	As year 2
Measurable outcomes developed	Full time Community Manager engaged and outreach program developed with outreach	Outdoors programme established and community engagement developing
Vocational Training pathways established	Vocational training moving towards professional qualifications for selected participants	Extension of vocational opportunities
Management plan fully developed for SCIO Aims and objectives measurement standards developed	Full SCIO A&O's underway and outcomes monitored	
Tourism market engaged	Growth in numbers on Fun Climb and Highropes	Growth in awareness and no specialist visitor numbers

- 1.14 If it is intended that this activity or project continue beyond the period of Council support, how will it be funded?

There is a robust business plan until year 4 and a finance plan to match. The project life will extend to 25years + and is self-sustaining.

3.4 Does or has your organisation receive(d) any other funding from The Highland Council? Please provide information relating to Council funding for the last 3 years:

Yes

No

However we are applying to the INVERNESS Common Good FUND

If yes –

a) What is/was it for, and from which Service or Ward budget was it provided?

Year 1:
Year 2:
Year 3:

b) How much funding do/did you receive?

Year 1:
Year 2:
Year 3:

c) Estimated value of existing funding in kind, and from which Service or Ward budget was/is it provided?

Year 1:
Year 2:
Year 3:



APPLICATION FORM FOR ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR GRANT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDING AND FUNDING IN KIND FROM THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL – Over £10,000

Name of Organisation:

Muir of Ord Hall and Facilities Company

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Muir of Ord Hall Refurbishment Project

Which of the Council's funding streams are you applying to?

(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Capital Discretionary Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

- £5,000 or under Under £10,000 £10,000 or over

Total amount applied for: £50,000

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £ 0

Please detail what funding in kind has been applied for e.g. Council staff time, use of premises or equipment, waiving of fees or administration support

N/A

What type of organisation are you? (please tick all that apply)

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other - please specify.....			

Please remember guidance to completing the application form is available [here](#). Appropriate links to the guidance are situated throughout the form: [This page](#)

For official use only			
Application reference number			

PART 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

Guidance on completing part 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITIES OR PROJECT

1.1 What is the name of your activity or project?

Muir of Ord Hall Improvement Project

1.2 When will your activity or project take place? (specifically those for which you are seeking an award from The Highland Council)

Start date (month and year): April 2017

End date (month and year): September 2017 (subject to contractor availability)

Location: Muir of Ord Village Hall

1.3 What activity or project do you want us to support?

For example:

- *Aims of the project and how you are going to do it*
- *Help with running costs or for a specific project or activity?*
- *Who will benefit*

Please note that the Council will be unable to provide any resources not specified on this form or supporting information.

We are seeking funding for refurbishment and extension of Muir of Ord Hall. The refurbishment will include, improvements to insulation, heating, windows, toilets, storage, signage and external landscaping.

The works will include an extension to accommodate a new kitchen. This will be a high specification domestic kitchen rather than a commercial kitchen and we have already applied to another funder for the internal fit-out costs. A new kitchen will be better equipped to meet the Hall's capacity as the Tier 2 Emergency Centre for the village. It will also enable us to introduce new activities which will appeal to a wide range of the community and create new income streams for the Hall. These are not possible through the current kitchen facility.

The Hall also desperately needs storage. After the inadequacy of the heating, this is the next biggest cause for complaint from users. The Company is very grateful for the Council's support last year with funding for a storage shed for a mother and toddlers group (this freed up the room they used to keep toys in to be converted into an office base for the two Development Managers). However, this only addressed one activity and other users' equipment is stacked in link corridors which should be kept free from obstacles for safe access.

If we are successful in our application, the existing kitchen will be stripped out and its windows walled up to create a spacious storage facility for tables, chairs, cleaning materials and equipment, and a limited amount of users' equipment, e.g. the bowling mat.

A Planning application has already been submitted with drawings incorporating this proposal. This project will promote inclusion through the facilities it will provide to assist all people who could find themselves vulnerable in an emergency, in a safe and

organised environment. The practical function that the project (electrical power) will offer will enable Highland Council staff and other partners to deliver essential services to all who need them.

1.4 Does your activity or project involve building or landscaping work?

Yes No

If yes please answer both a) and b) below.

a) Does your organisation (Please tick):
Have ownership of the land or building

Yes No

OR

Hold at lease of at least 5 years that cannot be ended by the landlord?

Yes No

b) Is planning permission needed for your project? Tick one option below.

Planning permission not required

Planning permission required and has **been granted**

Planning permission required and has been applied for

1.5 Please tell us how your project or activity will help the Council to meet its Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Make sure that people from different groups* are treated fairly and have equal chances to use services and that there is more equality between groups*;
- Make sure that people from different groups* get on together.

*Groups are people who have "protected characteristics" in the Equality Act: age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, marriage and civil partnership, race and sex.

For example are people with protected characteristics likely to face barriers; how you intend to tackle these barriers; does your project promote inclusion?

This project will build on other significant improvements to the Hall which will promote greater inclusion through delivering more and better facilities and services through a safer and more organised environment.

The Company will work with other partners to make maximum use of the Hall in order to meet the needs of as many members of the community as possible.

1.6 Where relevant and appropriate please describe any contribution your project may make towards promotion of the Gaelic language?

If there is an interest then Gaelic Learning Classes could be promoted. Gaelic singing groups would also be encouraged.

- 1.7 Please tell us if you have spoken to anyone about your application for advice and support – e.g. Local Highland Council Elected Member, Community Council Member, Council Staff, local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) – If yes, please provide details:

Di Agnew, Ward Manager Councillor Angela MacLean

- 1.8 Please tell us about any funding in kind you are seeking from the Council:

Detail i.e. premises, facilities, staff time, waiving of fees	Estimated value
N/A	N/A

1.9 Please provide a breakdown of how much will your activities/project will cost and how much **Funding you are applying for from The Highland Council:**

Item/Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs £	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Staffing	N/A	0	0	0	0
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	Refurbishment of Muir of Ord Hall to make it inclusive and accessible to all: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insulation, new heating, new lighting, new wooden windows and door- double glazed, accoustics (heritage building); • Toilets will be reconfigured to provide disabled access, baby changing and dementia friendly design; • Converting a space into a commercial let office to build a new sustainable income stream for the hall; • New signage to identify the hall, new fencing, gates to make space more child safe and general landscaping. • Hall extension to include new kitchen – construct two new walls, new roof, install wooden windows – double glazed, heating, internal door, plumbing, and fit out to high spec domestic. • Increased storage • Provide a Tier2 Emergency Centre 	163,933	0	0	0
Total Project Cost £		163,933	0	0	0
Total Funding Request £		50,000	0	0	0

Building a new kitchen will provide a high specification domestic kitchen which will enable the building to meet the requirements for a Tier 2 Emergency Centre. Highland Cross have already awarded £10,000 for fit-out, appliances and decoration. The Hall will be able to market new activities which are not currently possible. These will deliver a return on investment through new income streams which will contribute to a more sustainable future.

Tesco Bags of Help have awarded £10,000 for signage, gates, fencing, planters, planting and other landscaping for the Village Hall and the four access points for the village. This will create identity, welcome and foster civic pride.

Other plans for the building include insulation, heating, lighting, windows and acoustics for the hall; reconfiguration of the toilets to provide disable access, baby changing and dementia friendly design; and conversion of an under utilised space into an office for commercial let.

As agreed with the Community Council and SSE's Fairburn Community Fund, the order of priority of the works will be the 1) the hall 2) the toilets.

Planning Permission has already been granted for proposals for the entire building and the Building Warrant application has been submitted. All drawings and further details on these proposals are available in support of this application.

1.10 **Other funding relating to this project** Please include other funders and own resources and income. Continue on separate sheet if required.

Organisation and status of application	Year 1 £	Year 2* £	Year 3* £	Total £
Fairbairn Community Fund (Energy Saving and Toilets improvements) Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	91,000	0	0	0
Highland Cross (2016) (towards the kitchen) Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	10,000	0	0	0
Ward Discretionary Fund (towards the kitchen) Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	1,500	0	0	0
Fairburn Community Fund (2015)	1,433			
Tesco Bags of Help (proportion for external improvements to Village Hall = approx. £2,500) Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	10,000			
Totals	113,933		0	0

*See guidance notes for specific funding stream to see if you are able to apply for more than one year of funding.

- 1.11 Please tell us how you know that there is a need for this activity or project and how your approach will meet this need. This might include:
- a. Community support for your project (e.g. surveys, etc.)
 - b. Statistics which show the need for your project (e.g. unemployment figures, crime statistics)
 - c. Evidence from similar projects which shows that they have worked (e.g. research from elsewhere or evaluations of previous local work)

This project has been widely discussed, promoted and gained strong support from Hall users, volunteers and the wider community to the extent that the Planning application has been submitted. Other partners including Calman Trust, who will be running Artysan's Café in the new Muir Hub, due to open in January 2017, are interested. They intend to deliver training in independent living skills but will be constrained by the café's purposes. They have expressed their interest in using the village hall's kitchen. They are also keen to provide catering for events.

The project will open up more activities for the community, create new and sustainable income streams, and provide improved surveillance from the building due to the design and position of the extension. People are equally enthusiastic about the prospect of having storage as the Hall looks shabby and disorganised with an array of objects lying around which have nowhere to go. It will encourage people to view the Hall differently and see its potential as an attractive venue for a variety of new uses.

The Planning application includes a proposal to convert an under-utilised room into a commercial let office and this project will make the Hall a more inviting place to work, creating or sustaining employment in the Muir of Ord, and providing another new and sustainable income stream for the Hall. This expected to have a positive knock-on effect for local businesses.

Just as importantly, this project will increase the Hall's capacity and effectiveness as the Tier 2 Emergency Centre for the Muir of Ord. More people will benefit during a time of need through having access to a better designed and equipped kitchen and a safer space to move around and relax in.

- 1.12 Is this a new or additional activity or project? – Yes No

If yes, what change will your activities or project make in your community?

This project will significantly contribute to providing more members of the community with a high amenity facility which will be better equipped to meet leisure, educational, health and social needs. This will follow on from the renovation of the hall itself and the toilets for which we already have funding. Although that project has an energy-saving focus, it will provide disabled access toilets, baby changing facilities and dementia-friendly design for the toilets. The new kitchen will also be attractive to the prospective tenants we expect to rent the room to be converted into a commercial let. There should be an immediate return on investment from this project which will help to develop economic activity which in turn, will protect the Hall's affordability and sustainability.

If No, how has your activities or project been funded in the last three years?

N/A

- 1.13 Please tell us how you will know that your activities or project is working and that you are benefiting your community. You only need to provide targets for the years in which your project will operate. See the detailed guidance for examples of targets.

How you will know you have made the change?		
Year 1 Measurable Outcome	Year 2 Measurable Outcome	Year 3 Measurable Outcome
Increased number of activities for the community	Increased number of activities for the community	Increased number of activities for the community
Greater financial sustainability through increase in number of hires	Greater financial sustainability through increase in number of hires	Greater financial sustainability through increase in number of hires
Improved access for vulnerable groups, e.g. independent living skills	Improved access for vulnerable groups, e.g. independent living skills	Improved access for vulnerable groups, e.g. independent living skills

- 1.14 If it is intended that this activity or project continue beyond the period of Council support, how will it be funded?

N/A

3.4 Does or has your organisation receive(d) any other funding from The Highland Council? Please provide information relating to Council funding for the last 3 years:

Yes

No

If yes –

a) What is/was it for, and from which Service or Ward budget was it provided?

Year 1: Storage shed for Ord Totz, flooring and shelving for same shed, ceiling repair to office due to water ingress – Ward Discretionary
Year 2: General running costs – Ward Discretionary
Year 3: General running costs – Ward Discretionary

b) How much funding do/did you receive?

Year 1: £3920
Year 2: £1000
Year 3: £1000

c) Estimated value of existing funding in kind, and from which Service or Ward budget was/is it provided?

Year 1: N/A
Year 2: N/A
Year 3: N/A