

15 February 2016

Documents can be made available in alternative formats on request

Dear Member

A meeting of the **City of Inverness Area Committee** will take place in the **Council Chamber, Town House, Inverness** on **Thursday, 23 February 2017** at **10.30 am**.

Webcast Notice: This meeting will be filmed and broadcast over the Internet on the Highland Council website and will be archived and available for viewing for 12 months thereafter.

You are invited to attend the meeting and a note of the business to be considered is attached.

Yours faithfully

Michelle Morris
**Depute Chief Executive/
Director of Corporate Development**

Business

- 1. Apologies for Absence
Leisgeulan**
- 2. Declarations of Interest
Foillseachaidhean Com-pàirt**

Members are asked to consider whether they have an interest to declare in relation to any item on the agenda for this meeting. Any Member making a declaration of interest should indicate whether it is a financial or non-financial interest and include some information on the nature of the interest. Advice may be sought from officers prior to the meeting taking place.

**New Years' Honours
Urraman na Bliadhn' Ùire**

**MAIN PAPERS – PART 1
PRÌOMH PHÀIPEARAN – PÀIRT 1**

**3. Police – Area Performance Summary (PP 1-13)
Poileas – Geàrr-chunntas air Coileanadh Sgìreil**

There is circulated Joint Report No CIA/01/17 dated 9 February 2017 by the Inverness Area Commander which provide a local summary update to Committee Members on progress with reference to the local priorities within the Highland 2014-2017 Policing Plan.

The committee is invited to scrutinise and discuss the progress report and updates in relation to the 5 Priorities; Road Safety, Drug/Alcohol Misuse, Antisocial Behaviour, Dishonesty and Public Protection.

**4. Inverness Community Safety Partnership (PP 14-20)
Com-pàirteachas Sàbhailteachd Coimhearsnachd Inbhir Nis**

There is circulated Joint Report No CIA/02/17 dated 6 February 2017 by the Inverness City Area Manager and Inverness Area Commander (Highland and Islands Division, Police Scotland) which summarises the activities of the Inverness Community Safety Partnership (ICSP) since it last reported on 2015 activity to Committee in June 2016.

The Committee is invited to:-

- i. approve the work of ICSP for 2016;
- ii. endorse the work of the Operation Respect Daytime Group; and
- iii. endorse progress being made on linking to work of Third Sector and Social Enterprises across the City in support finding positive pathways for people in need, specifically, setting out preliminary planning around an initiative for a 3rd Sector coordination and action Hub that seeks to best coordinate 3rd sector interventions with vulnerable people, some of whom feature in the work of statutory agencies including Highland Council services, the police, NHS Highland and criminal justice services.

**5. Inverness Community Safety Partnership – Operation Respect City Centre
2016/17 Winter Festival Period Evaluation Report (PP 21-55)
Com-pàirteachas Sàbhailteachd Coimhearsnachd Inbhir Nis – Aithisg
Mheasaidh 2015/16 airson ‘Operation Respect’ Meadhan a’ Bhaile**

There is circulated Joint Report No CIA/03/17 dated 9 February 2017 by the Inverness City Area Manager and Inverness Area Commander (Highland and Islands Division, Police Scotland) which report provides Members with an overview of resources, actions, and evaluation of the multi-agency Operation Respect – City Centre, for the Winter Festival 2016/17.

The Committee is invited to note the evaluation available to date on the effectiveness of Operation Respect- City Centre for Winter 2016/17.

**6. Inverness Castle Viewpoint and Environmental Improvement Works Update
Fios às Ùr mu Àite-seallaidh agus Obraichean Leasachaidh Àrainneachd
Caisteal Inbhir Nis (PP 56-60)**

There is circulated Report No CIA/04/17 dated 24 January 2017 by the Director of Development and Infrastructure which provides an update on the progress of the current works to the North Tower and grounds of Inverness Castle. It also highlights that this is the first phase of turning the Castle into a major visitor attraction.

The Committee is invited to progress of the current works to the North Tower and grounds of Inverness Castle and that future reports on progress with the wider Castle project will be brought to Committee.

**MAIN PAPERS – PART 2
PRÌOMH PHÀIPEARAN – PÀIRT 2**

**7. Inverness East Development Brief – Update (PP 61-78)
Brath-leasachaidh Inbhir Nis an Ear**

There is circulated Report No CIA/05/17 dated 6 February 2017 by the Director of Development and Infrastructure which updates the Committee on work to date regarding the preparation of an Inverness East Development Brief. Members are invited to consider the outcome of consultation undertaken so far and agree the suggested strategy to address issues raised through the preparation of the Draft Development Brief.

The Committee is invited to:-

- i. note the results of consultation to date as explained in sections 2 and 3 of the report;
- ii. agree the scope of developer contributions proposed in section 4 of the report;
- iii. discuss and agree the guiding principles for the Brief set out below and described in detail in Section 5 of the report:
 - Principle A: Identify a central location for community, commercial and leisure facilities as illustrated in Appendix 5;
 - Principle B: Identify a central district park that connects with the wider green network as illustrated in Appendix 5;
 - Principle C: Support the delivery of sports facilities in the east of the city as illustrated in Appendix 5;
 - Principle D: Ensure a high level of pedestrian, cycle and road connectivity in the area as illustrated in Appendix 4;
 - Principle E: Set out a strategy for design, travel and layout that prioritises walking, cycling and public transport usage and promotes diverse neighbourhoods as illustrated in Appendices 4 and 5; and
 - Principle F: Ensure a framework to deliver a viable high-quality city expansion;
- iv. note the intention for a draft Brief to be brought to Committee in June or September 2017 for its approval;
- v. support the additional 'running' lane on the southbound A9 as an early priority within the context of the East Link project; and
- vi. agree that the Council should progress the design and contract for the construction of an additional westbound lane across the B9006 Culloden A9 overbridge as an early priority.

8. Ness Islands Management Works (PP 79-80)
Aithisg Bhliadhnaile Eileanan Nis

There is circulated Report No CIA/06/17 dated 16 January 2017 by the Director of Community Services which details the allocation of work required on the Ness Islands in accordance with the current Ness Islands Management Plan and a report by Crudens Consulting Engineers dated April 2015.

The Committee is invited to note that the improvement plan is in progress and that a further report will be available once works are underway and there is more progress to report.

9. Minor Amendments to Traffic Regulation Orders (PP 81-89)
Mion-atharrachaidhean do Òrdughan Riaghailtean Trafaig

There is circulated Report No CIA/07/17 dated 24 January 2017 by the Director of Community Services which invites Members to consider minor amendments to the Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) Traffic Regulation Order for Inverness and the review of Disabled Bay time limits. It also provides an update on Permit scheme issues.

The Committee is invited to:-

- i. agree the changes listed in item 2.2 and the amendment of the existing Traffic Regulation Order subject to standard Traffic Regulation Order Procedures;
- ii. as per item 3 members agree the investigation and implementation of time limited Disabled Bays in Inverness City Centre subject to agreement with stakeholder's and representatives. The changes would also be subject to standard Traffic Regulation Order Procedures;
- iii. note item 4; and
- iv. agree the changes in item 5 by amendment of the existing Traffic Regulation Order subject to standard Traffic Regulation Order Procedures.

10. Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets Update (PP 90-92)
Fios às Ùr mu Rothaireachd, Coiseachd agus Sràidean nas Sàbhailte

There is circulated Report No CIA/08/17 dated 20 December 2017 by the Director of Development and Infrastructure which invites Members to approve the projects delivered through the Scottish Government funding for Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets for the City of Inverness Area Committee, as set out in Appendix 1.

The Committee is invited to:-

- i. approve the Cycling Walking and Safer Streets/Safer Routes to School (CWSS/SRTS) Project detailed in Appendix 1 to the report; and
- ii. note that the Road Safety Unit will continue to work with schools to develop further SRTS Projects for future years.

11. Millburn Academy Associated School Group Overview (PP 93-107)
Sealladh Coitcheann air Buidheann Sgoiltean Co-cheangailte Acadamaidh
Allt a' Mhuilinn

There is circulated Report No CIA/09/17 dated 13 February 2017 by the Director of Care and Learning which provides an update of key information in relation to the schools within the Millburn Academy Associated School Group (ASG), and provides useful updated links to further information in relation to these schools.

The Committee is invited to scrutinise and note the content of the report.

12. Housing Performance Report – 1 April to 31 December 2016 (PP 108-114)
Aithisg Dèanadais Taigheadais – 1 Giblean gu 31 Dùbhlachd 2016

There is circulated Report No CIA/10/17 dated 30 January 2017 by the Director of Community Services which provides information on how the Housing Section performed in relation to Scottish Social Housing Charter and other performance indicators up to 31 December 2016.

The Committee is invited to scrutinise the information provided on housing performance in the period 1 April 2016 to 31 December 2016.

13. Inverness Common Good Fund (PP 115-132)
Maoin Math Coitcheann Inbhir Nis

(a) Financial Monitoring
Sgrùdadh Ionmhasail

There is circulated (pp 115-118) Report No CIA/11/17 dated 10 February 2017 by the Inverness City Area Manager which presents the expenditure monitoring position for the Inverness Common Good Fund as at 31 January 2017 and the projected year end position.

The Committee is invited to consider the financial monitoring report.

(b) Budget Setting for 2017/18 and Capital Programme
Suidheachadh Buidseat airson 2017/18 agus Prògram Calpa

There is circulated (pp 119-126) Joint Report No CIA/12/17 dated 9 February 2017 by the Director of Finance and the Inverness City Manager which invites Members to set the revenue budget for the Inverness Common Good Fund (ICGF) for the financial year 2017/18. It clarifies: governance arrangements; anticipated income (primarily from tenancy rentals); the proposed expenditure, split into essentials (for the maintenance of buildings and the provision of basic services) and a number of additional items; action on the future investment of any projected surplus funds; and the structure of payments made to the Council for services rendered in support of the fund and how these services should be supported in the coming financial year and thereafter.

The Committee is invited to:-

- i. agree the Common Good Fund budget for 2017/18 detailed within the report and appendices;
- ii. agree to maintain a general reserve of £2m and reallocate the remaining uncommitted sum of £1.6m to a Property Investment Fund; and
- iii. note that officers will continue to monitor projected cash flow for the Common Good Fund, in particular through the Capital Projects Monitoring Report, with an emphasis on the utilisation of surplus revenue either within projects or as an opportunity for investment.

(c) Grants and Capital Projects
Pròiseactan Tabhartais agus Calpa

There is circulated (pp 127-132) Report No CIA/13/17 dated 7 February 2017 by the Inverness City Area Manager which sets out the current applications for grant funding to be determined and the current status of capital projects.

In this connection, there is circulated separately a copy of supporting documentation as Booklet A.

The Committee is invited to:-

- i. consider the applications for funding;
- ii. scrutinise the current status of capital projects; and#
- iii. agree to allocate £15,000 from the Inverness Common Good Fund Other Properties Budget to the Merkinch Community Centre Windows Replacement Project.

MAIN PAPERS – PART 3
PRÌOMH PHÀIPEARAN – PÀIRT 3

14. Minutes
Geàrr-chunntas

(PP 133-158)

The following Minutes are circulated for noting or approval as appropriate:-

- i. City of Inverness Area Committee held on 1 December 2016 for noting (pp 133-148);
- ii. Inverness Common Good Fund Grants Sub-Committee held on 30 January 2017 for approval (pp 149-153); and
- iii. Events and Festivals Working Group held on 13 February 2017 for approval (154-158).

City of Inverness Area Committee Membership

Mrs H Carmichael
Mr I Brown
Mr R Balfour
Mrs C Caddick
Miss J Campbell
Mr A Christie
Mr J Crawford
Mrs M Davidson
Dr J Davis
Mr N Donald
Mr A Duffy
Mr K Gowans
Mr A Graham

Mr J Gray
Mr D Kerr
Mr R Laird
Mrs B McAllister
Mr K MacLeod
Mr F Parr
Mr T Prag
Mrs T Robertson
Mr G Ross
Mrs G Sinclair
Ms J Slater
Mrs K Stephen
Mr H Wood

Highland Council
City of Inverness Committee
23 February 2017

Agenda Item	3
Report No	CIA/ 01/17

Police- Area Performance Summary
Report by the Inverness Area Commander

Summary

To provide a local summary update to Committee Members on progress with reference to the local priorities within the Highland 2014-2017 Policing Plan.

Introduction

In 2014 the Highland Local Policing Plan was considered by the Community Safety, Public Engagement and Equalities Committee (now Communities and Partnerships Committee) and the Education, Children and Adult Services Committee before being approved by full council; the plan sets out the policing priorities and objectives for the 3 Highland Area Commands of the Highland and Islands Division for 3 years from 2014-2017.

We are now in the 4th year as Police Scotland and the 3rd and final year of the current Highland Local Policing Plan, we continue to adapt and review local process and plans to ensure that we continue to meet the needs of communities.

The service has taken tangible steps over the last year to better capture the views and voices of communities, most notably through the “Your View counts” Campaign and consultation with Community councils. The results of these consultations will be fed back to communities and will also form part of the process of consultation which will shape the 2017 Highland Local Policing Plan

The City of Inverness Committee sits within the Inverness Area Command of the Highland and Islands Divisional Policing Structure. The City of Inverness Committee covers 7 Multi-Member Wards:

Council Ward No.13: Aird & Loch Ness
Council Ward No.14: Inverness West
Council Ward No.15: Inverness Central
Council Ward No.16: Inverness Ness-Side
Council Ward No.17: Inverness Millburn
Council Ward No.18: Culloden & Ardersier
Council Ward No.20: Inverness South

which combined have 5 priorities:

Road Safety
Drug/Alcohol Misuse
Antisocial Behaviour
Crimes of Dishonesty

Public Protection

Your View Counts

Since the launch of 'Your View Counts' in April 2016 just under 16,000 surveys have been completed across Scotland by 30th September 2016.

This valuable feedback on crimes and other issues that impact on communities, together with evidence from a number of other important sources will help us to formulate future national and local policing plans. We have tried to enhance the survey to best meet needs across Scotland, launching a Polish version in July, an "Easy Read" version and we are looking to develop a BSL (British Sign Language) version.

You can access the results for the Highland & Islands area by following this [link](#):

If you have not had time to take part yet, it's not too late and we would encourage you to take just 15 minutes of your time to tell us what is important to you about policing through www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts

Demands on Service

Police Scotland officers based in the Inverness area deal with a wide variety of calls many of which are not crime related. Calls relating to vulnerable people in a variety of contexts are steadily increasing and officers are regularly required to attend.

The figures below relate to the period from 1st April – 31st December 2016. The total number of calls where vulnerability was the primary concern is 1901. In the same period there were 5,009 crimes (Class 1-6) recorded and 2,421 Advice/Assistance calls:

City of Inverness Area	Number of Calls
Mental Health Calls	230
Medical Calls	668
Concern Calls	458
Missing Person Calls	545

Police Scotland have responded to this change in demand to policing and a program of training – Mental Health Crisis and Suicide Prevention – is currently being rolled out and delivered to all Police officers in the Inverness area and across the Division as a whole.

Livestock Worrying Campaign 2017

The worrying of sheep by domestic dogs not only has the obvious financial impact on farmers when livestock is killed or injured but the day to day effect on the animals themselves, their productivity and welfare means that this is a serious issue in the farming community.

Analysis of sheep worrying crimes shows that incidents start to peak in mid-February through to end of May, coinciding with the main lambing season.

A national multi-agency initiative will be carried out in order to -

Prevent – further instances of sheep/livestock worrying during this period.

Educate – dog owners regarding their responsibilities, the effects of dogs worrying livestock and promote a better understanding of impact on the farming community

Enforce legislation, robustly ensuring all reported cases of sheep worrying are thoroughly investigated and offenders reported.

A press release will be will be issued during February 2017 in relation to this initiative.

Policing 2026

Society, crime and demands on policing are changing and keeping pace with these changes is at the heart of Policing 2026.

The 10 year programme is the start of a new transformation journey following the transition to a single national service and is driven by Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority.

Its purpose is to look ahead and identify how policing needs to adapt and develop in order to tackle the emerging areas of threat, risk and harm while also meeting the needs of communities in a relevant, effective and sustainable way.

Policing 2026 is already raising some big questions about how increasing demand on police services can be met going forward. Answering these questions has required conversations with other emergency services and partner organisations but most importantly with the officers and staff delivering frontline services to our communities right now.

Alongside an analysis of demand, the Policing 2026 programme is also analysing changes in society, crime trends and how the operating environment is likely to change over the next ten years.

People will continue to conduct more of their lives online. The population will continue to live longer. Mental health, climate change and terrorism are also likely to be significant factors. All of these areas and others will place significant demand on policing.

Operation CONTEST – Update

During the past 6 months a high volume of work in relation to Contest matters has been carried out in the Inverness Area. The ACT Now (All Communities Together) presentations continue to be rolled out to all senior pupils in all of the Inverness Secondary Schools. This police led presentation look at what effect an Extreme Right Wing Group can have in a community if no one is willing to share any concerns through the now established Prevent processes that are now in place. Each delivery requires to have 2 visits to each class as the session is delivered over 2 periods within each school.

In order to raise awareness of Contest matters a WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness in Prevent) Train the Trainer session was carried out for all statutory agencies (Local Authorities, Police, Prison, NHS and FE/HE) in Highland on 25th November 2016. This training is delivered to all nominated WRAP facilitators who will then carry out WRAP training within their own organisation as laid down in terms of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. There are now over 80 WRAP facilitators throughout Highland and the Islands with a number of agencies having delivered WRAP session to a high percentage of staff.

In December 2016 a Prevent Professional Concerns closure meeting was held in relation to an individual residing in Highland which involved a number of agencies. This is one of only a small number of Prevent Professional Concerns cases in Scotland which shows that no community is immune from the threat we face from terrorism.

Both the Prevent and Protect/Prepare sub-group meeting took place during the month of December. The Protect and Prepare meeting, chaired by SFRS, was the first such sub-group meeting to be held in Scotland at a local level. Attendees at this meeting included those responsible for security and emergency procedures for a number of areas throughout the Highlands and Islands with a view to protecting the critical infrastructure. Best practice will be shared at these meetings moving forward. The Prevent sub-group meeting is now well established and is chaired by NHS Highland and again best practice is looked at.

During December 2016 a presentation on the work of Borders Policing Command was carried out to Highland Council Harbour masters. Also delivered at this meeting was the Highland and Islands Division Small Ports initiative which involves the training up of Special Constables on Contest matters with an emphasis of security around the small ports. This then involves local patrols of the Small Ports in an effort to encourage those using the ports to remain vigilant to the possible use of the ports for illegal entry into the country as well as other forms of suspicious activity. A similar input was delivered to the Inverness Local Resilience Partnership. Feedback on this initiative has been very favourable and further training to all Special Constables throughout Highland is now being looked at after the initial trail period was carried out in Easter and Wester Ross.

The following report provides an overview of performance in terms of the five priorities identified for the Inverness area as detailed above:

1. Priority 1- Road Safety

The impact of death and injury on our roads is significant, not only from the impact on victims and their families but to communities and the wider economy. It consistently features as a concern for the communities in Highland and Road Policing remains a priority for every officer.

We continue to work in partnership to improve road user behaviour through education, enforcement and engineering solutions. This informs our actions, using intelligence and analysis to identify priority routes and road users who may be vulnerable. Evidence has shown that a highly visible presence on our roads has a significant impact on driver behaviour. We continue to ensure our officers are in the 'right place at the right time' to employ both prevention and enforcement tactics and continue working with partners to consider the development of appropriate schemes for diversion from prosecution. We are continuing to support Local Authorities, Community and Road Safety Partnerships in delivering road safety activities.

These commitments are reflected in Police Scotland's three year Road Safety and Road Crime Strategy, published in 2015.

During this reporting period, Driving Ambition took place at Culloden Academy, Inverness High School, Inverness Royal Academy, Millburn Academy. Further presentations are scheduled to take place within Inverness secondary schools during 2017.

Inverness Summary
(1 April 2016- 31 December 2016)-

- There has been 1 fatal collision in the Inverness area during this reporting period
 - A82 at Lochend. Collision involved 2 vehicles. The driver of one vehicle sustained fatal injuries.

Across Scotland the causes of fatal and serious road traffic are reported as follows:

- **Driver/rider errors or reactions** were reported in 66% of **all** reported accidents with "failed to look properly" the most common type (involved in 31%).
- **Travelling too fast for the conditions** or **excessive speed** was reported in 11% of all reported accidents and 19% of fatal accidents.

- **Pedestrian only** factors were reported in 22% of **fatal** accidents whilst **loss of control** and **failed to look properly** were the most frequently reported driver/rider factors (involved in 39% and 25% of fatal accidents respectively).

The below tables provide an overview of figures for the Inverness Area; these figures relate to the reporting period -1st April 2016 to 31 December 2016:

INVERNESS	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
Drink/Drug Driving (Detections)	90	85	-5 (Figure includes failure to provide a specimen)

* Please note: Some of the Multi-Member Ward data results in small numbers. Where this occurs great care should be taken in the interpretation of emerging trends or percentage changes.

In this reporting year, in Inverness and wider Highland area, the tactical approach being taken by the Division involves targeting speed, use of mobile phones whilst driving and seatbelts.

INVERNESS	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
Speeding (Detections)	920	594	-326
Seatbelt Offences (Detections)	270	155	-115
Mobile Phone Offences (Detections)	237	159	-78

* Please note that due to system configurations the above figures are not available at multi-member ward level.

It is encouraging to see the numbers decreasing, we know that if we can reduce speed and ensure that people use their seatbelts and avoid the use of mobile phones whilst driving then they are less likely to be involved in a collision or suffer less serious injury if involved in a collision.

December 2016 – Festive Drink/Drug Drive Campaign

The Festive Drink/Drug Drive Initiative 2016 commenced at 0700 hours Friday 2nd December 2016 and ran for a period of five weeks until 0700 hours Friday 6th January 2017.

Despite the general perception that drink/drug driving is socially unacceptable, many who persist in doing so consider it to be a low-risk activity in terms of the likelihood of being involved in a collision or being caught. This year's initiative focussed on offenders who were just over the drink drive limit and 'morning after' offenders.

The 'Festive Drink/Drug Drive Initiative 2016' was conducted through high visibility patrol work in marked police vehicles and static road checks. Based upon research and analysis of previous campaign returns, the aim of this initiative was to conduct high profile, high visibility patrols on main arterial routes and drink/drug drive hotspots.

Festive Drink/Drug Drive Campaign	2015	2016	Variation
N Division (Highlands & Islands) - Total Number of Drivers Tested	848	917	+69
Positive Sample (Fail)	14	38	+24
Negative Result (Pass)	834	879	+45

In 2015 the percentage of drivers providing a positive breath sample was 1.65%. It is disappointing to note that during the Festive Drink/Drug Drive campaign 2016, this figure increased to 4.15%. Of the 38 persons reported for drink/drug drive offences, 8 of those were detected between 0600 hours - 1000 hours.

2017 – Abandoned/Uninsured Vehicles Campaign

Road Policing supported by Local policing are to participate in a local Multi-Agency two day initiative specifically targeted to resolve and address the high number of complaints to Police Scotland in relation to Antisocial behaviour specifically around vehicles.

Members of the public have been subjected to Antisocial behaviour from particular individuals who utilise residential parking spaces, and the public road for what can only be described as end of life vehicles. They leave mechanical debris littering the local footpaths and roads. Individuals have been identified and again while some positive action has already been taken this operation will progress things further.

The planning for this is under way and it is hoped to take action with partners early 2017.

2. Priority 2- Drug /Alcohol Misuse

By working effectively with our partners in the Highland Alcohol and Drug Partnership and supporting campaigns such as 'Meet the Macphersons' we are working hard to reduce alcohol and drug abuse/misuse in the Highland

area.

We know that this remains a priority for our communities and we recognise the detrimental impact that drugs and/or alcohol has on the quality of life of individuals, their families and the community in which they live.

In this reporting period there were no drugs related deaths in the Inverness area.

Police Scotland continue to work proactively and during the last reporting period the following number of Stop/Searches were carried out in the Inverness area.

INVERNESS	Statutory	Consensual	Seizures
	653	11	32
Positive	224	5	-
Alcohol	-	1	-
ASB	-	1	-
Drugs	207	2	-
Firearms	-	-	-
Stolen Property	15	-	-
Weapons	2	1	-

Our communities have a significant role to play in reporting suspicious activities, we rely heavily on the support of the public in supplying us with information to disrupt the supply of drugs and arrest those responsible for causing harm to our communities. Police Scotland continue to encourage any person with information to contact the police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Inverness Performance Summary (1 April 2016- 31 December 2016)-

INVERNESS AREA	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
Supply of Drugs or being concerned in the supply of drugs (Detections)	87	76	-11 (This figure includes detections for drugs supply, productions and cultivations)

* Please note that due to system configurations the above figures are not available at multi-member ward level.

Over a short time period there can be a number of reasons that cause a

significant variation of the figures. The command area continues to actively target those involved in the supply of controlled drugs with a number of enquiries ongoing. Support from the public by supplying us with information and reporting suspicious activities is key to the success of these operations.

- Regular licensed premises checks and collaborative working with licensees has been a key factor in reducing crime such as serious assaults and drink/drug driving. During the last reporting period, 939 licensed premises checks were carried out in the Inverness Area.
- During the reporting period, the Highlands and Islands Division conducted 22.5% of all licensed premises checks carried out in Scotland.
- Over the festive season, this correlated with a 5.7% reduction in violence, a 13.9% decrease in anti-social behaviour and a 20.1% decrease in drunkenness and disorderly conduct compared with same period last year, throughout the Division.

3. Priority 3- Antisocial Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour remains a concern within our communities. As a member of the Antisocial Behaviour Group within the safer Highland Community Planning Framework we have contributed to the review and update of the antisocial behaviour strategy. This will continue to be developed over the coming year and updates and progress against the Antisocial Behaviour Action Plan.

Operation Notebook aims to identify and deal with offenders at an early stage and has proved successful in terms of multi-agency work addressing and resolving issues before they escalate. This operation has a clear remit in terms of reducing antisocial behaviour and the number of people who are victims of antisocial behaviour and noise calls.

Inverness Performance Summary (1 April 2016- 31 December 2016)-

INVERNESS	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
Breach of the Peace/Threatening & Abusive Behaviour			
TOTAL:	645	579	-66
Common Assault			
TOTAL:	498	461	-37
Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief)			
TOTAL:	111	138	+27

* Please note: Some of the multi-member ward data results in small numbers. Where this occurs great care should be taken in the interpretation of emerging trends or percentage changes.

Inverness Response Team is now well embedded, the model has successfully been rolled out in other areas of Highland, most recently in the Badenoch and Nairn area. The Caithness area continue to run the initiative following their pilot period. The Inverness Team are continually looking at ways of expanding their remit/portfolio in terms of dealing with problem individuals and working more closely with other partner agencies including those in the Third Sector.

4. **Priority 4- Dishonesty**

Although the likelihood of being a victim of crimes such as housebreaking, thefts and bogus caller fraud is small, when they do occur they have a disproportionate effect on individuals, families and communities in respect of their feelings of safety.

Festive Campaign

Police Scotland Festive Campaign was launched during the week commencing 28th November 2016.

The themes of this year's campaign were:

Festive Shoppers (those out and about within town centres/shopping centres)

Online Safety (personal and financial security and awareness when online – shopping/browsing or otherwise)

Party Safety (those out socialising over festive period, specifically those engaging on work nights out)

Home Safety (Homeowners/occupiers raised awareness of home security over festive period)

Business Safety (this was predominantly targeted during the last week and raised awareness of business security)

The Preventions and Interventions (P&I) Team carried out a series of events throughout the Highlands. During December 2016 P&I officers attended at various town centres throughout the Highlands, accompanied by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Caithness and Sutherland Womens Aid, actively engaged with members of the public and promoted winter/festive safety messages. This initiative ran for three weeks throughout Highland Division and during this time nearly 2000 members of the public were spoken to and given advice relating to online safety, party safety, home and business safety.

**Inverness Performance Summary
(1 April 2016 – 31 December 2016)-**

INVERNESS	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
Number of Thefts by Housebreaking (Dwelling house, Non-dwelling, Other premises)			
TOTAL:	30	26	-4
Theft by Shoplifting			
TOTAL:	128	73	-55
Number of Thefts from motor vehicles (This figure includes opening lockfast places- motor vehicle, theft of and from a motor vehicle and attempted theft of a motor vehicle).			
TOTAL:	26	40	+14

Please note: Some of the Multi-Member Ward data results in small numbers. Where this occurs great care should be taken in the interpretation of emerging trends or percentage changes.

Priority 5- Public Protection

N Division Public Protection Unit is led by a Detective Chief Inspector with 6 Detective Inspector-led teams providing specialist support for Local Policing Teams across the Division in Child Protection, Domestic Abuse, Rape Investigation and the management of information from Police Wellbeing Concerns for both children and adult concern information.

During 2016 Highlands and Islands was identified for a pilot for Police Scotland Risk & Concern Project and now functions with embedded Police Scotland best practice processes for the triage, research and assessment of all concern information relating to Children, Adults, Domestic Abuse, Hate Crime and Youth Justice.

This supports the National prevention agenda through early assessment and proportionate, relevant information share to Partners to ensure appropriate interventions and support to those at risk of harm. Cumulative Concern processes have been developed to support the early identification of children

and adults in need of support and protection to avoid situations deteriorating into crisis and to minimise harm.

Neglect is a priority for the Highland Child Protection Committee (HCPC) with a planned themed annual conference in March 2017 raising awareness. This event compliments ongoing work by the HCPC to develop practice to support practitioners around risk assessment in cases where neglect, domestic abuse and child sexual exploitation (CSE) may be factors in a child's life.

N Division partnerships in Child Protection across the four Local Authorities have actively contributed to the Scottish Government Child Protection Improvement Programme in the latter months of 2016; Ministerial announcements in early 2017 are awaited from the final report collated and submitted by Catherine Dyer, Review Lead.

Inverness Performance Summary

(1 April 2016- 05 February 2017)-

INVERNESS	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
Domestic Abuse Crimes ¹	447	385	-62
Domestic Abuse Crimes- Rate ² Detection	75.8%	78.1%	+2.3%
Hate Crime ³	53	29	-24
Sexual Crimes	173	188	+17

Please note: Whilst Police Scotland upgrades to a single integrated system, figures below this level i.e. to multi-member ward level are not available due to system configurations.

- (i) **Recommendation:** The committee is invited to scrutinise and discuss the progress report and updates in relation to the 5 Priorities; Road Safety, Drug/Alcohol Misuse, Antisocial Behaviour, Dishonesty and Public Protection.

T/Chief Inspector Ian Graham
Inverness Area Commander
9 February 2017

¹Police Scotland ScOMIS Performance System Figures

²Police Scotland ScOMIS Performance System Figures

³Police Scotland ScOMIS Performance System Figures

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	4
Report No	CIA/ 02/17

Inverness Community Safety Partnership

Joint Report by Inverness City Area Manager and Area Commander, (Highland and Islands Division, Police Scotland), Inverness

Summary

This report summarises the activities of the Inverness Community Safety Partnership (ICSP) since it last reported on 2015 activity to Committee in June 2016.

The Committee is invited to;

1. approve the ICSP report for 2016
2. endorse the work of the Operation Respect Daytime Group
3. endorse progress being made on linking to work of Third Sector and Social Enterprises across the City in support finding positive pathways for people in need. Specifically, it sets out preliminary planning around an initiative for a **3rd Sector coordination and action Hub** that seeks to best coordinate 3rd sector interventions with vulnerable people, some of whom feature in the work of statutory agencies including Highland Council services; the police; NHS Highland and criminal justice services.

1. **Background**

1.1 The Inverness Community Safety Partnership (ICSP) was formed in January 2011 with the aim of overseeing the activity of Community Safety initiatives across the city.

1.2 The partners involved now include

Highland Council
 Police Scotland
 N.H.S Highland
 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
 Inverness Business Improvement District (BID)
 Inverness Drug and Alcohol Forum
 Apex Highland
 Inverness Street Pastors
 Highland Crimestoppers

The Partnership has also developed links with the following organisations

Scottish Prison Service, Signpost Highland, Eden Court, New Start Highland.

Cllr Jean Slater is the representative of the City Area Committee on the Partnership and acts as a key link between the community and the partnership in passing comment and feedback.

1.3 **The ICSP Mission Statement is**

'Working in partnership, to create an environment where our communities and visitors will remain safe and reassured.'

The Aims of the ICSP are aligned to the Single Outcome Agreements between the statutory agencies and The Scottish Government.

The partnership fits with the objectives of the Community Empowerment Act 2015, in respect of enabling public sector agencies and third sector organisations to work collaboratively in their support of common goals.

1.4 The ICSP acts as follows;

- it has tactical oversight over all Community Safety initiatives that may be undertaken by any other partner agencies within the boundaries of the geographical remit of the City of Inverness Area Committee.
- support Safer Highland in relation to all Community Safety / Business Crime initiatives
- the formulation of objectives to develop Community Safety / Business Crime initiatives on an annual basis
- where practicable to assist with the delivery of Community Safety initiatives
- promotion of good practice and making best use of funding opportunities
- delivery of an annual report to the City of Inverness Area Committee on the activities of the partnership and its themes for the forthcoming year.

2. **Progress in 2016**

2.1 Following partnership working with relevant agencies, through the ICSP, progress was made as follows;

- The provision of support to the Persistent Offender Project through development of links with this initiative
- Provision of support to the Community Mental Health Triage Project over the Christmas and New Year Period
- Provision of support to the Community Drugs / Alcohol referral pilot

within Police Scotland Inverness

- Improved links to the third sector agencies and groups supporting vulnerable people within the City, raising awareness amongst the group for the various referral pathways
- Provision of support to the newly established Houses of Multiple Occupancy (City Centre) Police Liaison Group, a group attended by Council Enforcement Officers from Environmental Health which reports through the Operation Respect Daytime
- Listened to the City Centre communities and improved communication path between them and the relevant agencies in respect of Anti-Social Behaviour.
- Continued support of the fortnightly Multi-Agency Tasking Group – Operation Respect Daytime Group. This tasking group makes use of the ICSP partners to deliver a programme of work with resources being directed to take action on a number of issues within the city centre such as
 - Anti-Social Behaviour with regard to City Centre persistent offenders
 - Development of environmental solutions to Anti-social behaviour issues
 - Support of and involvement in Op Respect Summertime 2016
- Operation Respect – Festive – winter 2016/17 – The Op Respect Festive Period Evaluation Report gives an appraisal of this year's operation and the benefits achieved
- Expansion of Operation Respect Festive and summertime to other areas within the Highland and Islands Division.
- Continued support of measures, including establishment of Cold Call Control Zones, to combat consumer detriment, and protect especially vulnerable individuals from criminal activity associated with Doorstep Crime /Cold Calling.
- Continued support and involvement in Naloxone intranasal training and harm reduction talks, delivered with N.H.S.

4. **Work in Progress in 2016/17**

- Developing the Inverness Foodstuffs Outreach Programme.

- Identifying diversion activities for young people and those involved in ASB
- Co-ordination of a Third Sector development meeting in support of the ICSP Themes.

As in in many larger Scottish cities, there is an increasing 'visibility' around Inverness City Centre, of vulnerable individuals some of whom do not have accommodation, a number of whom also resort to begging or others who simply frequent public gathering and seating spaces.

The 3rd Sector Hub initiative is based on the premise that People, including those who often find themselves furthest or disenfranchised from services, nonetheless want positive social and meaningful activity opportunities in their lives. There are a number of initiatives voluntary and statutory established and available which are currently not well set up to communicate with each other despite often dealing with the same people. The identified client group's sometimes chaotic lifestyles can in of itself, frustrate consistent engagement. Coordinating interventions is clearly a key consideration in intervening effectively.

Inverness Foodstuff, based at the Ness Bank Church and Newstart Highland have agreed to convene a 3rd Sector hub which will seek to mitigate and positively divert negative social impacts into positive opportunities for individuals concerned.

The relatively small core of individuals moving in and out of this lifestyle, will in all likelihood, be known to a range of agencies already. They can be homeless but also are tenants of Highland Council and other Social or private housing providers. Those in tenancies are also entitled to Housing Support. This initiative is about ensuring clear lines of communication, non-duplication or undermining of effort and therefore, best outcomes for vulnerable clients and the communities they live in.

For instance an effort is ongoing to coordinate a number of church based 'drop- in' events which offer lunch. This is in order to avoid duplication of effort and make availability stretch across as many days as possible.

Equally, there are several agencies in Inverness with ambitions to increase routes into employment with this client group; who might also see better results through being more effectively linked in with potential customers.

There are a range of possible explanations for vulnerable people [who sometimes can behave in challenging ways] frequenting busy areas some of the main ones are:

- 1) - Lack of positive appropriate diversional activity [Can we better coordinate available diversional employability and social activity?]
- A [Highland Council] employability officer who is placed within the

Councils Development and Infrastructure Service. is already based at 'Inverness Foodstuff' The volunteers there seek his guidance re signposting those attending who want to look at their employment prospects and motivating those who haven't considered this. Some of those attending have some considerable 'distance to travel' toward employment readiness. Nonetheless the project itself is a positive diversional opportunity and addresses basic equality issues; for example, by providing internet and addressing digital exclusion. Others attending have been able to use this facility to make job searches coached by our volunteers, seeking advertised positions and setting themselves up with small business grants. This Community Safety / 3rd sector initiative potentially allows clearer links into realistic employability opportunities for example with Newstart's Hawthorne Gardens Horticultural activities and its bikes project.

- 2) City centres are generally popular places to frequent to meet and congregate. Some of this activity is of course quite inoffensive and harmless. [Are there though, opportunities to better engage with those for whom time spent in the city centre might have negative implications?]

Foodstuff has had several successes in involving participants in the project. This gives service users the opportunity to become volunteers and reciprocate [give something back]. This is a key element of the 3rd sector hub initiative. Our ambition is to make best use of a range of training opportunities that already exist with Newstart and link into other statutory and 3rd sector initiatives that seek to improve this client groups lives through enhancing self-esteem. Agencies involved could include: HMP Porterfield Through care project; Persistent Offenders Project [Police Scotland, Criminal Justice Service; Drug Treatment and Testing]; Street Pastors; NHS: Harm reduction; Substance Misuse Services.

- 3) Financial reward [While a 'tough nut to crack'; offering 'drop in' where practical assistance, warmth and shelter are available, can be effective]. NB very few of those who portray themselves as 'rough sleepers' Eg: under blankets in shop doorways are actually 'roofless'-creating this impression can elicit more sympathetic responses [i.e. cash] from passers-by. These individuals are in fact likely to be in homeless applications and therefore accommodated. Initiatives here might be best illustrated through a case example:

The individual concerned was an EU national with limited English language skills. When Inverness Foodstuff initially encountered him he was rough sleeping near a medical practice in the Crown area. Initially his attendance at Foodstuff was only erratic and indeed problematic as he was entirely pre-occupied by accessing the internet and would not [perhaps more accurate to say, could not] respect the rules that were involved to ensure the equipment wasn't damaged. There was a 'low level' challenging behaviour incident that once reviewed by the Foodstuff Board, led to an interpreter facilitated meeting with him. This involved an interpreter and 'Foodstuff' conducting an 'outreach'

visit to re-establish contact. He was able to express his frustrations regarding what [it turned out] were his misperceptions as to how Foodstuff and statutory agencies were set up to; and could, assist him. Not only is he now accommodated but he religiously attends at the drop in centre and the time he spends in the city centre sees him smartly presented, politely selling the Big Issue as opposed to previous behaviour that had involved 'aggressive begging' and alcohol fuelled disruptive outbursts which distressed the general public..

Planned interventions

The vulnerable person 3rd sector coordinating hub's ambitions are therefore to :

- Identify those in need with statutory partners in liaison with relevant forums. (E.g. where clients might come to the attention of the Inverness Response Team).
- Assess and agree whether and what opportunities might meet individual needs or aspirations (E.g. offer introduction and referral to employability opportunities)
- Plan and coordinate their engagement. This in some cases may initially be restricted to attendance at the Ness Bank and other 'drop in centres' over the course of any given week.
- Review effectiveness or identify alternative activity Links are already established at 'Foodstuff' re Harm Reduction and Health improvement. Further work is needed now to link in with possibly via attendance from Community Mental Health and Addiction Services.
- Other Initiatives; continuing support of the N.H.S. Harm Reduction Service.
- Developing opportunities with U.H.I. to work in partnership with the student community in conjunction with the needs of our existing communities.
- Year-end review and planning meeting to identify priorities and objectives for 2017

5. **Resource, Legal, Equalities, Climate Change and Risk implications**

The activities detailed in this report are funded through existing partner contributions to the ICSP. There are no known other implications other than the positive ones highlighted in the appendices.

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to;

1. approve the work of ICSP for 2016
2. endorse the work of the Operation Respect Daytime Group
3. endorse progress being made on linking to work of Third Sector and Social Enterprises across the City in support finding positive pathways for people in need. Specifically, setting out preliminary planning around an initiative for a **3rd Sector coordination and action Hub** that seeks to best coordinate 3rd sector interventions with vulnerable people, some of whom feature in the work of statutory agencies including Highland Council services; the police; NHS Highland and criminal justice services.

Author: David Haas
Chief Inspector Ian Graham
Iver Forsyth

Designation: Inverness City Area Manager

Designation: Area Commander, Inverness

Date: 6 February 2017

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	5
Report No	CIA/ 03/17

**Inverness Community Safety Partnership - Operation Respect
City Centre 2016-17 Winter Festival Period Evaluation Report**

Joint Report by Inverness City Area Manager and Area Commander, (Highland and Islands Division, Police Scotland), Inverness

Summary

This report provides Members with an overview of resources, actions, and evaluation of the multi-agency Operation Respect – City Centre, for the Winter Festival 2016–17.

The Committee is invited to note the content, evaluation, and the effectiveness of Operation Respect – City Centre, for the Winter Festival 2016–17.

1 Background

- 1.1 The Reports contained within the attached Appendices being presented to the Inverness City Committee detail the objectives, structure, initiatives, outcomes and evaluations by the relevant agencies involved in Operation Respect – City Centre Winter Festival 2016/17.

Operation Respect is an initiative which has been developed by the members of the Inverness Community Safety Partnership. It delivers on one of the key themes of the Single Outcome Agreement. That is, helping to promote a safe and clean City. The principle partners are:

- Police Scotland
- Highland Council
- NHS Highland
- Inverness Business Improvement District (BID)
- British Red Cross / Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS)
- Crimestoppers
- Inverness Street Pastors
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

2 Evaluation

2.1 Police Scotland

Evaluation is attached at **Appendix 1**. Details shown clarify that Operation Respect actively increased community safety within the Inverness City Centre without material detriment to the security and safety of other parts of the City.

Importantly, Police feel that the introduction of City Centre Police Beat Officers at an office within the Inverness Town Hall has enabled improved liaison and

consultations between the Officers on the ground and the BID Task Team. During Operation Respect, it was also felt that the embedded communications between our City Centre Officers, the BID Task Team and Taxi Marshals, Street Pastors, and the British Red Cross (Safe Zone) provided an enhanced environment for the public throughout the Festival period. Close cross-service/agency working is promoted by the Inverness Community Safety Partnership so as to provide an effective 'whole service provision' for the City.

Police Scotland have now implemented and developed the aims and delivery mechanisms of Operation Respect on a strategic and tactical level throughout the Highland Area.

2.2 Security Task Team

This is a service which was also jointly funded by Inverness Common Good Fund and managed through BID. Evaluation is provided at **Appendix 2**. The service has again proved successful. In particular, it has enhanced the ability of businesses to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for the public. This type of hi-visibility, intervention and partnership working with the Businesses, Police and other agencies actively discourages anti-social behaviour and crimes such as shoplifting, pick-pocketing and on street drug dealing and has assisted in increased their detection within the City Centre.

This helps to enhance the economic vibrancy of the City, provides added reassurance to businesses, as well as providing a safer environment for members of the public to go about their daily activities.

2.3 Taxi Marshals

The Taxi Marshall Service was provided through BID. Evaluation is provided at **Appendix 3**. The service proved successful with those utilising taxi ranks feeling safer in so doing together with encouraging the use of an appropriate form of transport. Evaluation confirmed that a number of potential public order incidents were diffused as a result of the intervention by the taxi marshals together with a significant reduction in anti-social behaviour.

The Taxi Marshal Service during Operation Respect is jointly funded by BID and the Inverness Common Good Fund. This together with the BID funded monthly service provided every pay weekend throughout the year, the Taxi Marshal Service is now a well-established commitment which continues to significantly enhance public safety in the City Centre at key locations at peak times.

2.4 Safe Zones

This is a service, continued to be funded by NHS Highland, and is provided in conjunction with British Red Cross. The evaluation is attached at **Appendix 4**. The Red Cross provided an operational base within the City Centre and linked in with the Scottish Ambulance Service who also provided an enhanced service through the winter festival period. Significantly the Red Cross provided additional patrols which provided a training opportunity for a number of less experienced Red Cross volunteers. These patrols helped in reducing the number of admissions to A & E by providing early intervention to a number of

accidents and incidents.

This year again, an additional vehicle supplied by Police Scotland and which had its Police logo signs covered over with large 'Safe Zone' signs was staffed by Street Pastors. It was used by the public for a warm-up, a cup of hot-chocolate, to regroup with friends, or a chat.

As a result of the success of this vehicle over the past few years, and in partnership with Police Scotland, who will continue to supply the vehicle, the Street Pastors will continue to operate this 'Safe Zone' vehicle on Saturday nights during the monthly pay weekends throughout 2017.

2.4 Street Pastors

The evaluation is provided at **Appendix 5**. The Pastors continue to reduce the need for intervention by blue light services by diffusing situations and assisting those in need of support through early intervention. The Pastors relationship building with the public continues to provide an enhanced street-scene environment. They broadly gave assistance and attended incidents where they calmed aggression and gave support to vulnerable persons, they provided flip-flops to people who would otherwise have been walking in bare feet and as part of the 'Safe Zone' provided an increase in hot drink, food and support.

The daytime operation, continues to seek to address general levels of anti-social behaviour within the City Centre and connect with those who are more challenging to communicate with. This daytime service is seen as successful and interim reports have been provided. The challenge continues to expand its volunteer base and the service both in terms of patrol hours and area.

2.5 Crimestoppers

The above organisation continues to have a role to educate and inform the public on crime prevention advice and have helped in getting the message across to the public about what Operation Respect can do and that the centre of Inverness is a safe place to visit.

Principle support has been given through seasonal advertising and press features. In summary: Operation Respect was promoted through:

- Adverts on Moray Firth radio
- Advertising through Inverness Courier and Highland News
- Feature articles promoting Operation Respect
- Poster Campaigns by Police Scotland and Inverness Pub Watch

3 **Publicity**

As in previous years, the Police media relations office, in conjunction with our own press team from the Council, led publicity. This was co-ordinated so as to produce press opportunities throughout the period of Operation Respect.

All press releases and media requests were received well, coverage being given through most local and some regional media covering radio, television

and print.

4 Future Campaigns

Operation Respect is a template which is seen as a model for use not only in other areas of the Highlands but of Scotland. Inverness Community Safety Partnership will continue to drive forward development of Operation Respect within the City Centre and in other geographical locations within the City Wards and through other support mechanisms.

5. Climate Change, Legal, Rural and Equalities Implications

Whilst there are no Climate Change implications or impediments, at the heart of all the services involved is the need to provide most care and attention for those members of the community who either have a physical disability or perhaps, for example, whose first language is not necessarily English. Care is also taken to ensure that the project benefits communities across the City and Inverness Area.

6. Resource Implications

The table below details activities and funding sources. It is anticipated that all expenditure will come in on budget. Importantly, the evaluation detailed in this report supports the Committee's decision to provide funding through the Inverness Common Good Fund with clear and identifiable benefits being provided, principally, to the citizens of the Burgh on an inclusive basis.

Funding							
Activity	BID	CGF	Police	Street Pastors	Red Cross / NHS	Crime-Stopppers	Totals
Police Resources		Nil	£100,000			Nil	£100,000
Street Pastors		£3,000					£3,000
Taxi Marshals	£1,472	£1,472					£2,944
BID Security Task Team	£3,543	£3,543					£7,086
Safe Zone		Nil			£2,880		£2,880
Publicity		Nil					Nil
Totals	£5,015	£8,015	£100,000		£2,880	Nil	£115,910

7 Risks

Operation Respect acts to maximise the opportunity for co-ordinated, effective and efficient use of all available resources in a multi-agency response to enhance public safety, and minimise risk to the Public during a busy period in the year. The co-ordination of activities and response reduces the risk of

service duplication and improves communication.

8 Highland Context

Provision of a safe and enjoyable visitor experience enhances Inverness as a place to visit. This combined with the Events and Festivals Programme increases the profile of the City across the Highlands and indeed Scotland. It acts to help the profile of the City and the Highlands in relation to attracting more visitors who then spend time in Inverness, using it as a base to visit landward areas and the wider Highlands.

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to note the evaluation available to date on the effectiveness of Operation Respect- City Centre for Winter 2016/17

Designation: Inverness City Area Manager – Inverness,

Author: David Haas Inverness City Area Manager
John McDonald, Inverness BID, Community Safety Manager

Date: 09th February 2017



Results Analysis

OPERATION RESPECT Inverness City Centre Highland & Islands Division December 2016

Author	Valerie Conroy, Analyst
Authorised by	Inspector Kevin Macleod
Date of production & version no.	01/02/2017. Version 1
File path	S:\Force Analysts\Analysts' Folders\Valerie\Op Respect
Sensitivity of report	RESTRICTED

Background

The Operation Respect festive campaign has run in Inverness City Centre each festive season since 2008. The aim of the operation is to reduce street violence, disorder, and incidents linked to licensed premises, by working with key partners in order to make our streets safer and to reduce the risk to the public.

The festive period is a time when City Centre retail outlets and licensed premises are particularly busy, providing criminals the opportunity to commit offences. The risk from increased crime, antisocial behaviour, violence, and liquor licensing issues provides Police Scotland and partner agencies with the opportunity to perform this high visibility operation to ensure the communities within Inverness City Centre and the surrounding area are safe from the negative impact of crime and disorder.

The multi-agency action taken during Operation Respect actively targets alcohol-driven violence, as well as providing preventative measures to reduce offending, reduce the number of victims of violence, and ultimately help make the streets safer.

Whilst conducting this operation, local response officers, community beat officers, operational support unit officers, and flexible policing team officers work together and with partner agencies to tackle criminality and antisocial behaviour, with particular emphasis on shoplifting and the night time economy (NTE).

Methodology

This report will evaluate the Operation Respect festive campaign by analysing the type and level of incidents reported to police in the Inverness City Centre beat between 1st December 2016 and 2nd January 2017. This report includes all incidents of antisocial behaviour, violence, and dishonesty reported in the City Centre beat during this period in comparison with the same periods in the previous 5 years. This is in order to provide a like for like comparison across the years.

The following factors will be considered in this analysis:

- Number of Incidents and Crimes by Year
- Subject / Type of Incidents and Crimes
- Day and Time of Incidents
- Location of Incidents
- Licensed Premises Checks
- Fixed Penalties Issued
- How Made Known

The data used in this report has been taken from the Highland and Islands Division crime and incident recording database (Impact).

The following list highlights the incident types that have been included in this analysis:

- Alcohol (Public Place / Underage)
- Arrest on Warrant
- Assault (Assault, Serious Assault, Assault on Police)
- Breach of the Peace
- Children/Youths
- Civic Govt(S) Act Offence
- Crime Other
- Court Offence
- Domestic Incidents (Physical / Non-Physical)
- Disorder
- Drinking in Public
- Drugs
- Drunk Person
- Fixed Penalty
- Fraud
- Hate Crime
- Housebreaking
- Licensing Laws
- Local Byelaw Offence
- Noise (Pubs/Clubs, Disturbance/Noise etc)
- Offensive Weapon
- Opening Lockfast Place
- Reset
- Robbery
- Search of Person
- Sexual Offence (Rape / Other / Sexual Assault)
- Shoplifting
- Sneak in Theft
- Stolen Cycle
- Suspicious Person/Veh/Prowler
- Theft
- Vandalism

Caveats

While Operation Respect is primarily focussed on the Inverness City Centre beat, since 2012 the Operation has also covered the Crown area, Merkinch, and the area to the west of the river within the boundaries of Wells Street, Kenneth Street, and Tomnahurich/Young Street. Shoplifting patrols are also undertaken at the Retail Park at Eastfield Way. As the boundaries of these areas are not clear on crime recording systems, and to maintain consistency with previous Operation Respect results analysis, this report will only consider incidents reported in the Inverness City Centre beat.

5 year averages have been used for comparison of incidents/crimes in this report with the exception of Disorder incidents/crimes as this subject type has only been in use since 2013. As such, 3 year averages are used for comparison of Disorder incidents/crimes.

Domestic incidents have again been included in this results analysis, having initially been requested in the Operation Respect 2014 Operational Order. Domestic incidents were not previously included in the results analysis; therefore it will only be possible to compare figures with 2014 and 2015.

As with all analytical reports, this report is based on incidents which have been reported to or originated by police. It is highly likely that further incidents have gone unreported.

Key Findings

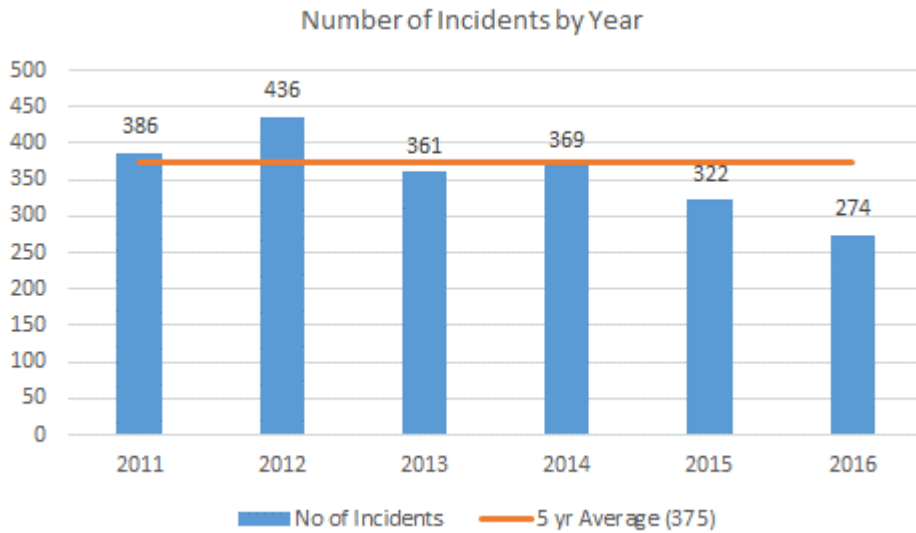
- During the period under review in 2016, a total of 274 of the above incident types were reported in Inverness City Centre. Of these, 178 were crimes, of which 136 (76.4%) were detected.
- There were fewer incidents recorded in 2016 in comparison with both the previous year (down 15%) and the 5-year average (down 27%).
- The number of crimes recorded in 2016 (178) is lower than both the previous year (211) and the 5 year average (225). The detection rate is also lower than the previous four years.
- The proportion of incidents resulting in a crime report being submitted in 2016 (65%) has also decreased in comparison with last year (65.5%) but is higher than the 5 year average (60.4%).
- In 2016 the top six incident subject types were Disorder (49 incidents), Shoplifting (35), Assault (25), Drunk Person (25), Drugs (24), Breach of the Peace (21).
- The top crime types in 2016 were Shoplifting (33), Assault (22), BOP (20), Drugs (20).
- Incidents by day of the week in 2016 predominantly followed the same trend as previous years; increasing over the course of the week and peaking over the weekend.
- Incidents on specified days in 2016 (e.g. Hogmanay) were at the same or a lower level than previous years.
- Incidents by time of day predominantly followed the same pattern as previous years, with incidents increasing over the afternoon and into the evening and early hours of the morning. However, compared to the 5 year average 2016 saw notably fewer incidents in the early evening (1800-1959hrs) and overnight between 2200-0359hrs.
- Combining data for 2015 and 2016, the peak days were Saturdays and Sundays, and the peak times were between 0100-0359hrs, 1400-1659hrs, and 2000-2259hrs. The combined peak days & times were Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1400-1459hrs; Saturdays, 0100-0359hrs and 2100-2159hrs; Sundays, 0000-0459hrs.
- The top 5 streets for incidents in 2016 were High Street, Church Street, Academy Street, Eastgate Centre, and Baron Taylors Street.
- The vast majority of incidents in 2016 and in the previous 5 years occurred in a public place. The two next most common location types were licensed premises and shops/offices. The majority of incidents at shops/offices in 2016 were in relation to Shoplifting (75%), while incidents at licensed premises were mainly in relation to Disorder (31%) and Assault (23%).
- 244 licensed premises checks were conducted in Inverness City Centre during Operation Respect in 2016. This is lower than last year (478) but higher than the 5 year average (217).
- 37 Fixed Penalties were issued for Antisocial Behaviour in Inverness. This is lower than both last year (62) and the 5 year average (73).
- The two most common ways incidents were made known to police in 2016 were via Ordinary Telephone (75) and Originated by Police (97).

Analysis

During the period under review in 2016, a total of 274 of the above incident types were reported in Inverness City Centre. Of these, 178 were crimes, of which 136 (76.4%) were detected.

Number of Incidents per Year

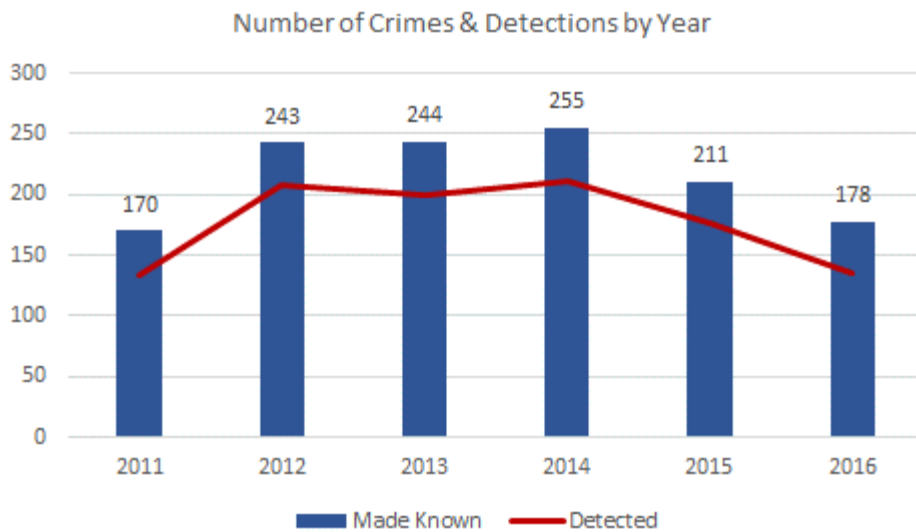
The following chart highlights the number of incidents which occurred during the review period in 2016, compared with the previous 5 years;



As can be seen from the above chart, there were fewer incidents recorded in 2016 in comparison with both the previous year (down 15%) and the 5-year average (down 27%).

Number of Crimes per Year & Detection Rate

The following chart and table detail the number of crimes which were reported during the review period in 2016 and the detection rate, compared with the previous 5 years;



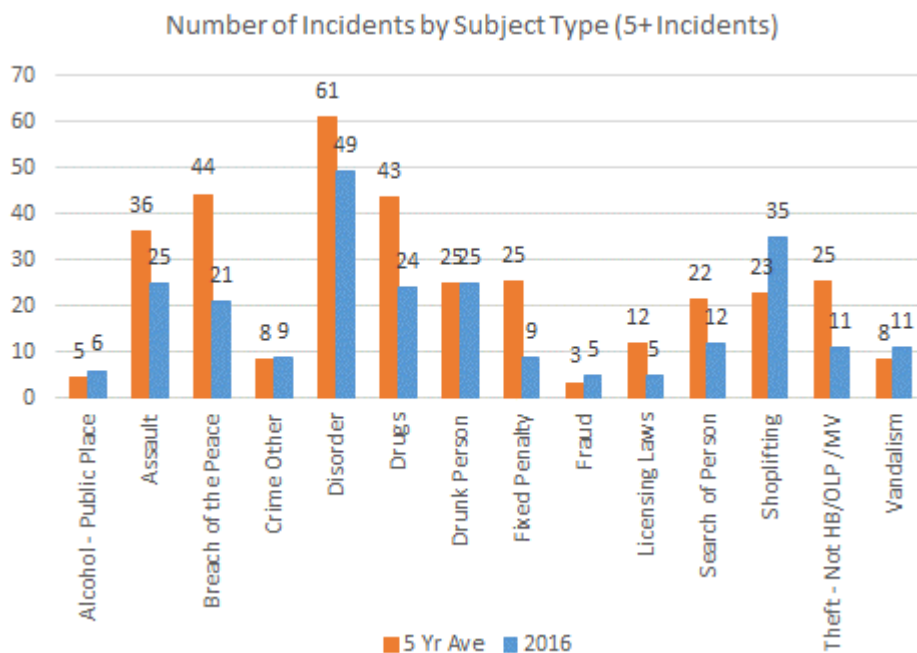
Crimes	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	5 Yr Ave	2016
Detection Rate	75.1%	85.6%	81.6%	82.7%	83.4%	81.7%	76.4%
Proportion of incidents resulting in a crime report	44.0%	55.7%	67.6%	69.1%	65.5%	60.4%	65.0%

The above chart highlights that the number of crimes recorded in 2016 (178) is lower than both the previous year (211) and the 5 year average (225). The detection rate is also lower than the previous four years, however it is possible that the detection rate for 2016 will increase in the coming months as a number of incidents are still under enquiry.

The proportion of incidents resulting in a crime report being submitted in 2016 (65%) has also decreased in comparison with last year (65.5%) but is higher than the 5 year average (60.4%).

Incident Type

Incidents were recorded in relation to 25 different subjects in 2016 which is lower than the previous year (34). The following chart looks at the most commonly recorded incident types reported during the period under review, in comparison with the previous 5 years;



The most commonly recorded incident types relate to antisocial behaviour, theft, and violence. In 2016 the top six incident subject types (20+ incidents) were;

- Disorder (49 incidents)
- Shoplifting (35)
- Assault (25)
- Drunk Person (25)
- Drugs (24)
- Breach of the Peace (21)

While the number of Drugs incidents in 2016 (24) was notably lower than the 5-year average (43), it was at a similar level to last year (25).

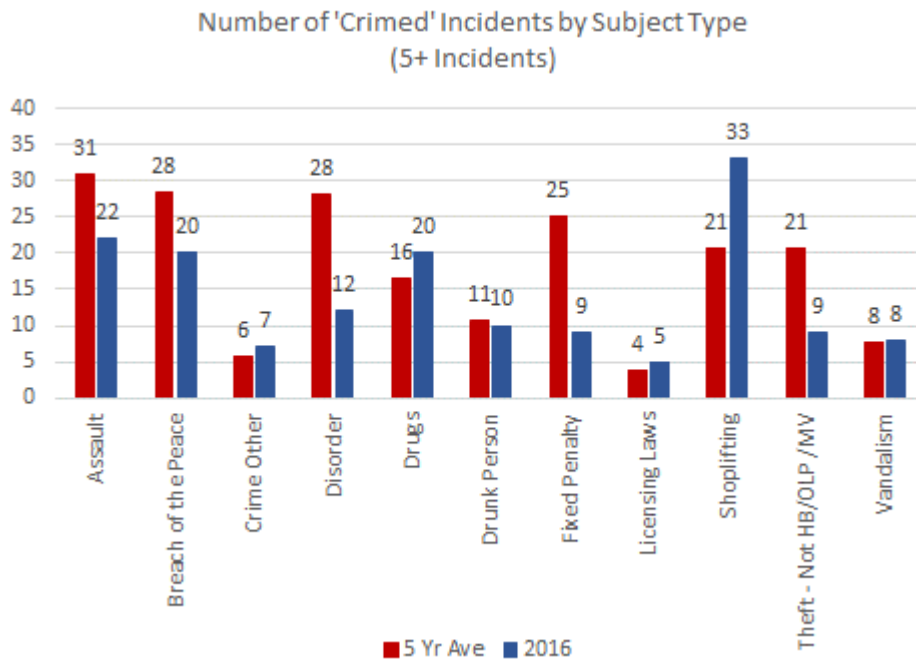
The most notable changes were as follows;

Incident Type	Change	2015	5 Year Average	2016
Shoplifting	Increase	13	23	35
Disorder	Decrease	56	61*	49
Assault	Decrease	40	36	25
Search of Person	Decrease	23	22	12
Fixed Penalty	Decrease	17	25	9
Licensing Laws	Decrease	12	12	5
Theft	Decrease	15	25	11

*3 year average

Crime Type

The following chart looks at the most commonly recorded crime types reported during the period under review, in comparison with the previous 5 years;



As highlighted in the above chart, the top crime types in 2016 were;

- Shoplifting (33)
- Assault (22)
- Breach of the Peace (20)
- Drugs (20)

The most notable changes were as follows;

Incident Type	Change	2015	5 Year Average	2016
Shoplifting	Increase	11	21	33
Disorder	Decrease	33	28*	12
Assault	Decrease	35	31	22
Fixed Penalty	Decrease	17	25	9
Theft	Decrease	15	21	9

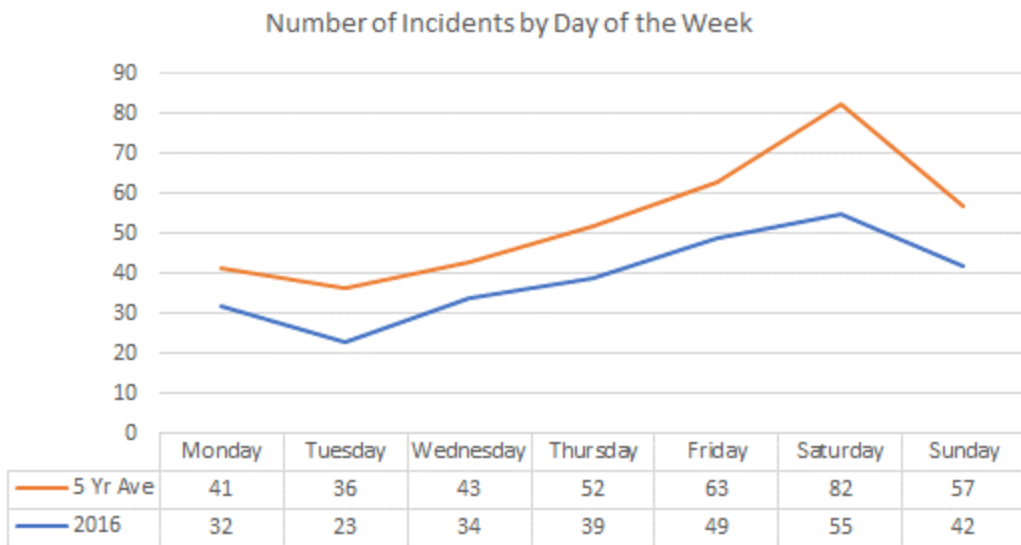
*3 year average

The number of Drugs crimes in 2016 (20) was higher than both the previous year (17) and the 5 year average (16). The proportion of Drugs incidents resulting in a crime report has also increased to 83.3% highlighting an increase in positive results, as illustrated in the following table;

Drugs	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	5 Yr Ave	2016
Incidents	80	52	34	26	25	43.4	24
Crimes	13	14	21	17	17	16.4	20
Proportion of incidents resulting in a crime report	16.3%	26.9%	61.8%	65.4%	68.0%	37.8%	83.3%

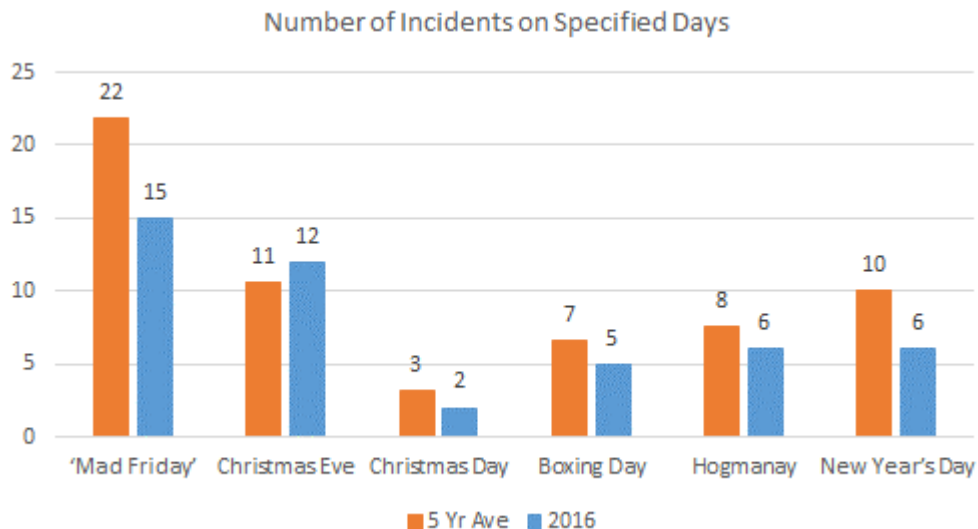
Day of Incidents

The following chart highlights the number of incidents which were reported on each day of the week;



As can be seen from the above chart, incidents by day of the week in 2016 followed the same trend as previous years; increasing over the course of the week and peaking over the weekend.

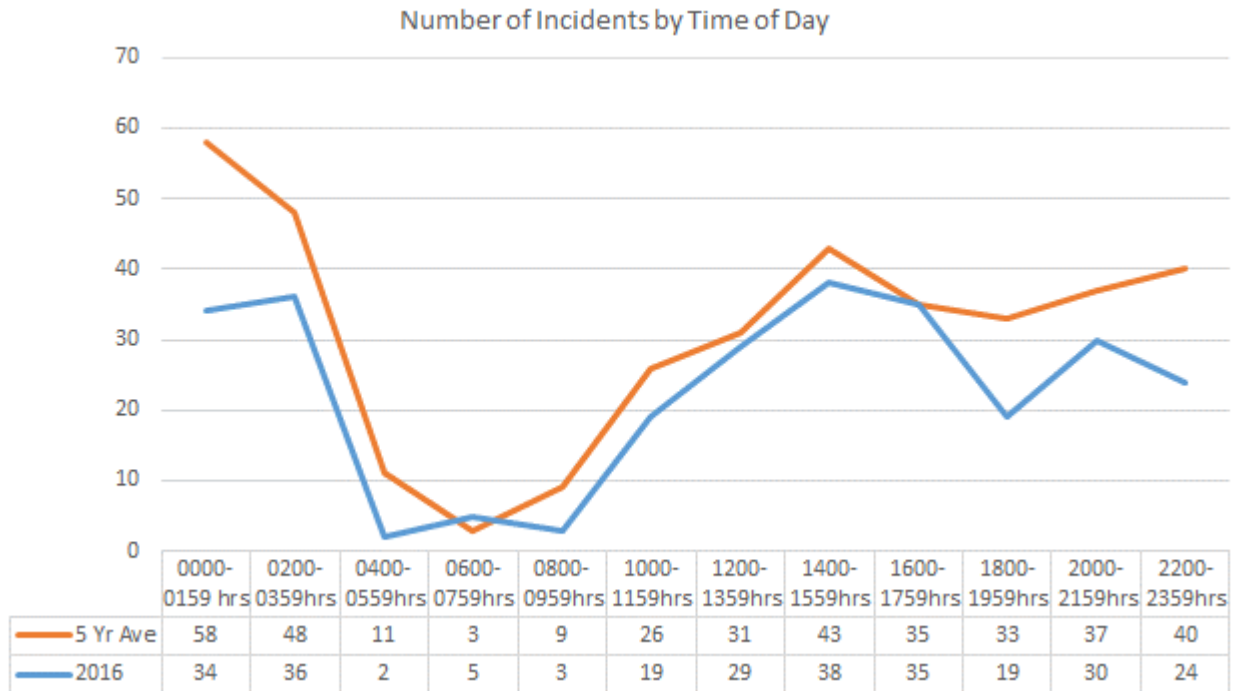
The following chart highlights the number of incidents that took place on significant days during the festive period;



As the above chart highlights, incidents on specified days in 2016 were at the same or a lower level than previous years.

Time of Incidents

The following chart highlights the times that incidents were reported;



As the above chart highlights, the number of incidents by time in 2016 predominantly followed the same pattern as previous years, with incidents increasing over the afternoon and into the evening and early hours of the morning. However, compared to the 5 year average 2016 saw notably fewer incidents in the early evening (1800-1959hrs) and overnight between 2200-0359hrs.

Relatively few incidents were recorded in the morning between 0400 hours and 0959 hours.

Peak Days and Times of Incidents

The following table combines day and time data for incidents in 2015 and 2016 in order to assess whether there were any peak days and times for these incident types;

	00hrs	01hrs	02hrs	03hrs	04hrs	05hrs	06hrs	07hrs	08hrs	09hrs	10hrs	11hrs	12hrs	13hrs	14hrs	15hrs	16hrs	17hrs	18hrs	19hrs	20hrs	21hrs	22hrs	23hrs	Total
Mon	2	4	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	4	4	5	4	3	5	1	4	2	2	6	5	1	58
Tue	2	0	0	4	3	0	0	1	0	3	4	2	6	5	2	2	3	4	3	5	4	3	4	2	62
Wed	0	3	5	0	0	2	0	0	1	3	3	8	3	5	11	8	2	4	2	4	3	2	2	5	76
Thu	2	2	3	6	0	0	1	3	0	1	2	4	7	2	11	6	6	6	2	5	6	1	8	2	86
Fri	5	4	8	6	2	0	0	1	0	0	4	1	4	2	5	4	9	4	1	3	8	4	8	6	89
Sat	6	15	16	10	2	0	2	1	1	1	4	1	1	4	3	6	5	6	1	7	4	11	2	7	116
Sun	19	19	20	14	11	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	1	1	3	3	0	3	2	3	3	109
Total	36	47	52	42	18	3	3	7	2	8	21	20	27	24	38	30	31	28	16	26	30	29	32	26	596

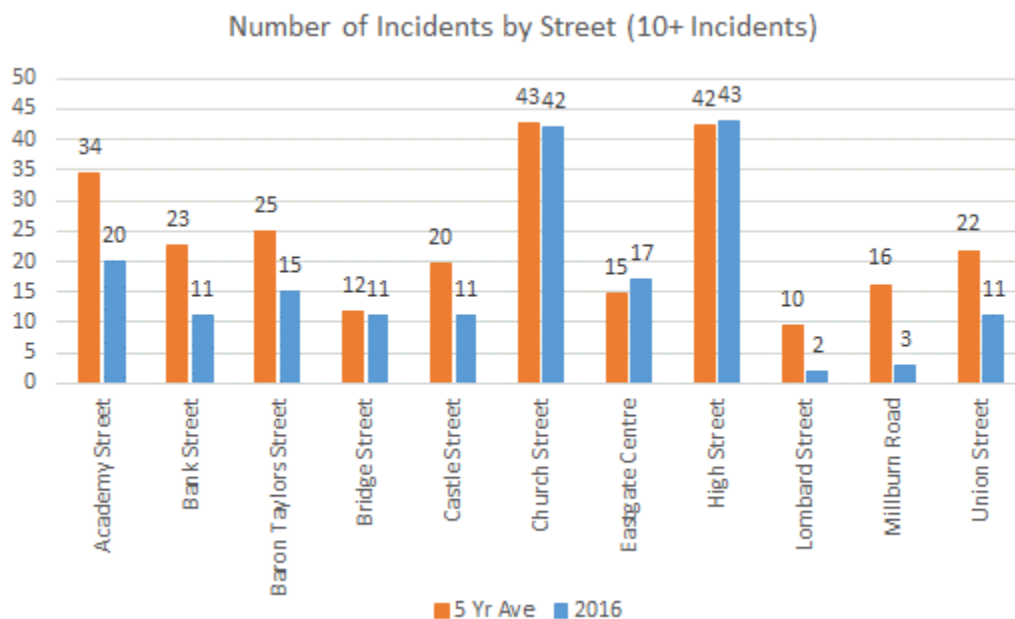
Key: Peak Days (Blue), Peak Times (Green), Peak Days & Times (Yellow)

As can be seen from the above table, the peak days and times for incidents during Operation Respect in 2015 and 2016 were:

- Peak Days - Saturdays and Sundays
- Peak Times - Between 0100-0359hrs, 1400-1659hrs, and 2000-2259hrs
- Peak Days/Times - Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1400-1459hrs
- Saturdays, 0100-0359hrs and 2100-2159hrs
- Sundays, 0000-0459hrs

Hotspot Streets

The following chart illustrates the streets in Inverness City Centre that recorded 10 or more incidents in 2016 or as a 5-year average;



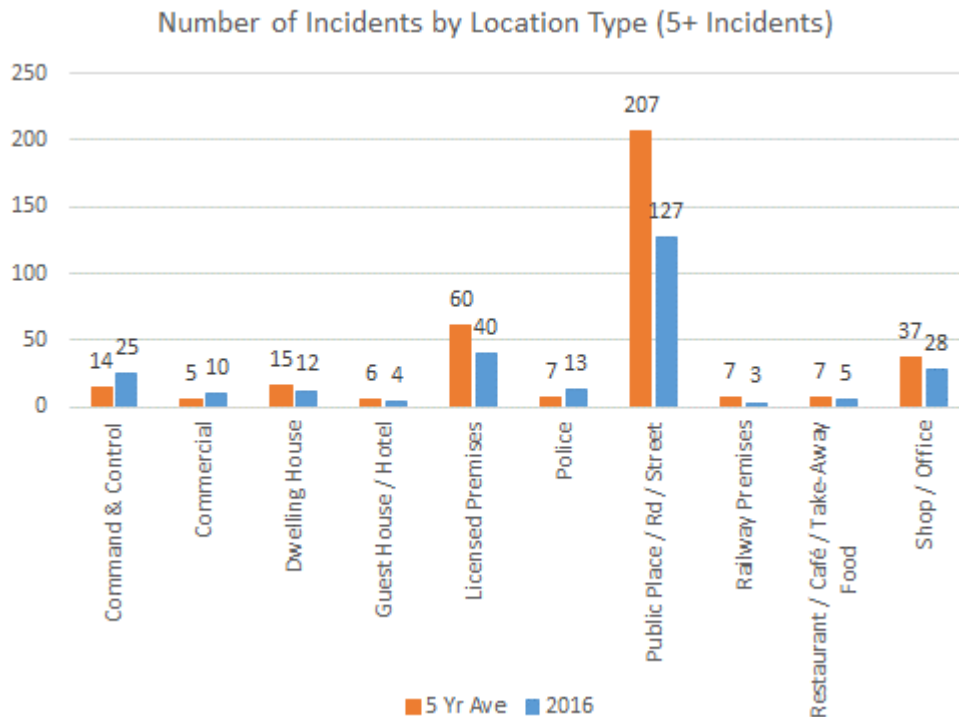
The above chart highlights that the top 5 streets in 2016 were;

- High Street
- Church Street
- Academy Street
- Eastgate Centre
- Baron Taylors Street

This is likely to be due to the high number of retail and licensed premises along these streets, along with the fact that they are the main routes between shops, restaurants/takeaways, and licensed premises.

Location Type

The following chart highlights the top 10 location types where incidents were reported during the period under review, in comparison with the previous 5 years;



As can be seen from the above chart, the vast majority of incidents in 2016 and in the previous 5 years occurred in a public place. This location type has seen a decrease in the number of incidents in comparison with the 5-year average. The next two most common location types were licensed premises and shops/offices.

Incidents at shops/offices were recorded at 19 different premises in 2016, compared to 15 in 2015. Six premises recorded more than one incident during the review period, namely;

- Debenhams, Eastgate Centre (4)
- Co-op, Church Street (3)
- Boots, Eastgate Centre (2)
- Marks and Spencer, Eastgate Centre (2)
- Poundland, Eastgate (2)
- Primark, Bridge Street (2)

Incidents related to 7 different subject types, but were mainly in relation to Shoplifting (75%), and Theft (7%).

Whilst 40 incidents were recorded with a Licensed Premises location type, the actual number of incidents relating to LPs was higher (57). This is due to the fact that a number of incidents at LPs were recorded under other location types such as Public Place and Command & Control.

Incidents at licensed premises were recorded at 17 different premises in 2016, compared to 24 in 2015. The licensed premises that recorded the most incidents in 2016 were Auctioneers, Caledonian Bar, and Johnny Foxes.

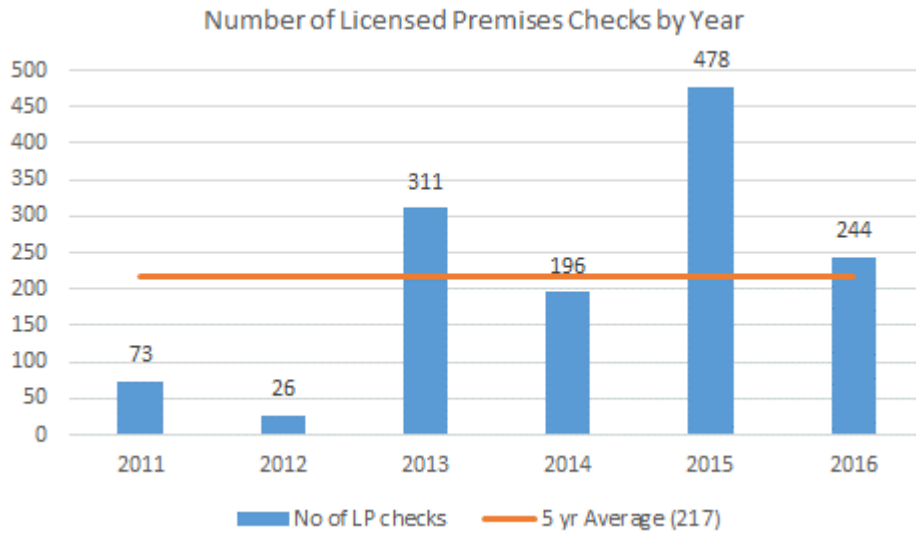
The following table illustrates the types of incidents recorded at individual licensed premises in 2016;

	Disorder	Assault	Drunk Person	Licensing Laws	Theft	Crime Other	Drugs	Vandalism	Alcohol	Alcohol - Public Place	Assault - Serious	Breach of the Peace	Fraud	Search of Person	Total
Auctioneers, Church Street	3	2	1	2		1		1							10
Caledonian Bar, High Street	3	2	1			1	1					1			9
Johnny Foxes, Bank Street	3	2		1	2	1									9
G's Nightclub, Castle Street	2	1	1	1											5
Ironworks, Academy Street		1						1	1	1					4
Kings Highway, Church Street	1	1			2										4
Hootananny, Church Street	1	2													3
Private Eyes, Academy Street	1		1												2
The Exchange, Academy Street	2														2
The Keg, Baron Taylors Street		1	1												2
Macallums, Union Street	1														1
Market Bar, Church Street														1	1
No 27, Castle Street		1													1
R and B, Queensgate							1								1
Rocpool, Ness Walk													1		1
The Gellions, Bridge Street											1				1
Vinyl, Castle Street	1														1
Total	18	13	5	4	4	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	57

The majority of incidents at licensed premises in 2016 were in relation to Disorder (31%) and Assault (23%).

Licensed Premises Checks

Licensed premises checks form part of Operation Respect. The following chart highlights the number of licensed premises checks conducted in Inverness City Centre during the period under review in comparison with the previous 5 years;



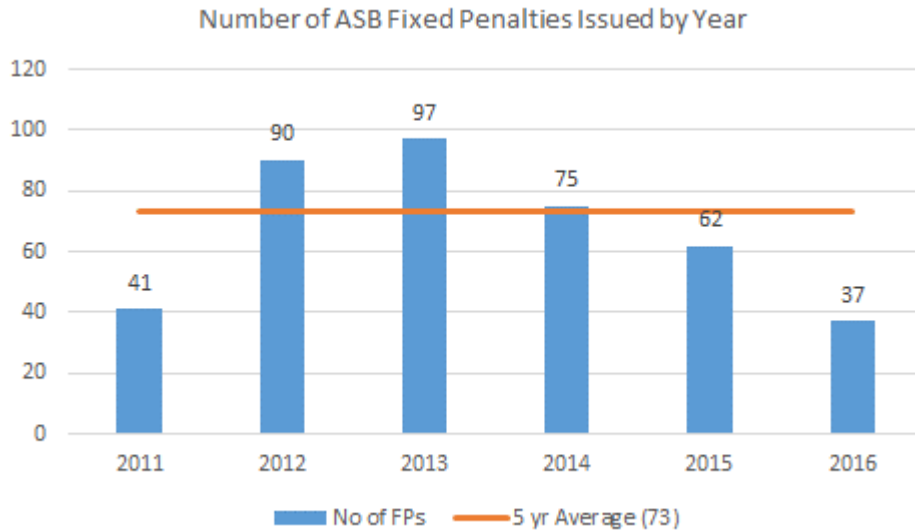
As can be seen from the above chart, the number of LP checks recorded in Inverness City Centre in 2016 was lower than the previous year but higher than the 5 year average. Significantly more LP checks were recorded in 2015 compared to all other years.

Increased licensed premises checks have been shown to lead to a reduction in offences and thus should be prioritised in Operation Respect in the future.

Fixed Penalties Issued

As one of the intentions of Operation Respect was to provide early intervention with issues of antisocial behaviour, a good indication of whether this was successful is the number of Fixed Penalties issued.

The following chart highlights the number of incidents where a fixed penalty was issued for antisocial behaviour in Inverness in December of each year. The figures relate to the whole of Inverness rather than just the City Centre as this information is not broken down by beat;



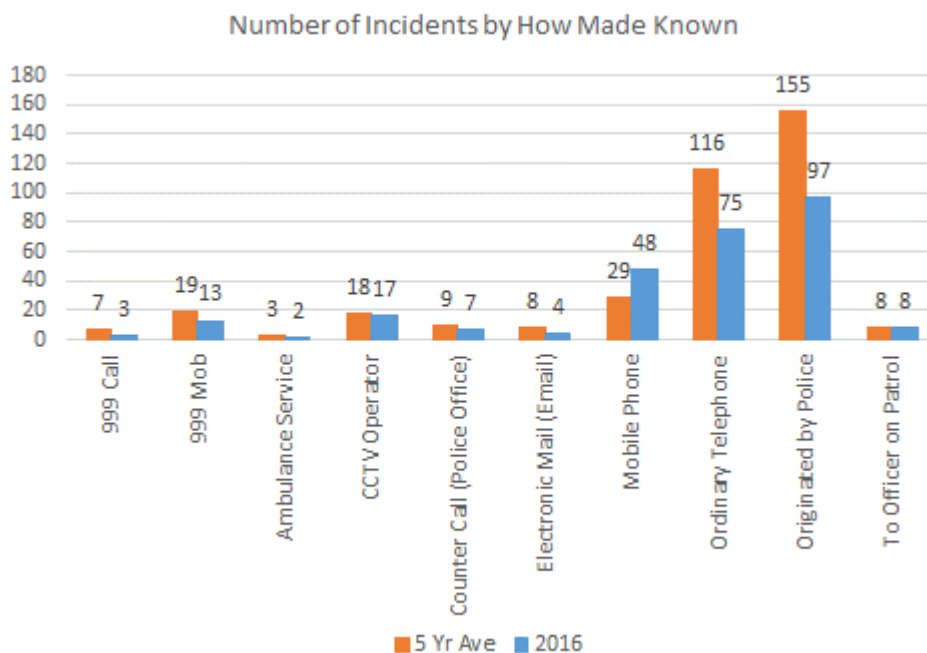
The above chart highlights that the number of Fixed Penalties issued for antisocial behaviour in Inverness in December 2016 was significantly lower than both last year and the 5 year average.

Fixed Penalties are useful in deterring people from committing further crime and getting them out of the City Centre at the first sign of trouble, and thus should be utilised where possible.

How Made Known

How the incident was made known to police is an indication of how much impact officers on patrol had on the number of incidents reported. Between 2011 and 2016, incidents were made known to police in 15 different ways.

The following chart highlights the 10 most common ways incidents were made known;



In all years, the two most common ways incidents were made known to police were via Ordinary Telephone and Originated by Police. The high proportion of incidents Originated by Police highlights police proactivity and the importance of officers on patrol in identifying incidents. However, the number of incidents Originated by Police in 2016 (97) was lower than both last year (159) and the 5 year average (155).

Another good indication of whether increased patrols had a positive effect on identifying incidents is the proportion of incidents made known to officers on patrol. 8 incidents were made known To Officer on Patrol in 2016. This is fewer than the previous year (12) but the same as the 5 year average (8).

Changes in technology and the way individuals communicate is highlighted by the increase in calls made via Mobile Phone and decrease in calls made via Ordinary Telephone. It is likely that this trend will continue in the future, with the added possibility of individuals reporting incidents via social media (e.g. via police Facebook and Twitter accounts etc.)

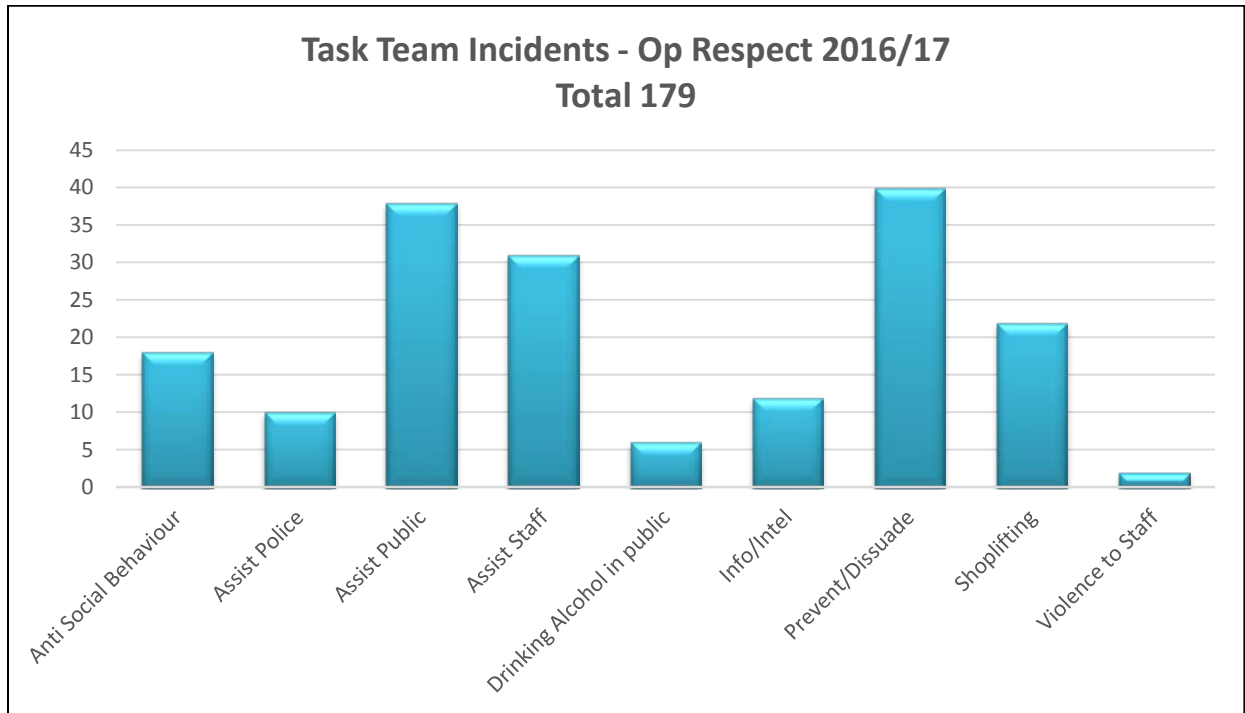
Recommendations

- Set specific aims at the start of the Operation (e.g. decreasing incidents by so many per cent) in order that its success can be measured.
- Allocate police resources at peak days/times/locations identified.
- Seek to obtain data from the NHS regarding the numbers of patients attending Raigmore Hospital with injuries linked to violence during December and early January. It is possible that there are assaults which have not been reported to police.
- Ensure that Fixed Penalties are utilised where possible.
- Ensure that Licensed Premises checks are undertaken and recorded.
- Ensure that both Police and partner agencies make full use of social media to highlight the operation and to share key messages regarding keeping safe during the festive period.
- Continue working with partner agencies to keep people safe in Inverness City Centre during the festive period.
- Ensure that where other initiatives were involved that they are mentioned on the Impact write off.
- Ensure that, where relevant, Operation Respect is mentioned in intelligence logs submitted on SID.
- Consider conducting a survey of business owners, residents, and individuals who frequented the City Centre during this period, in order to assess the public's view of the success of the Operation.

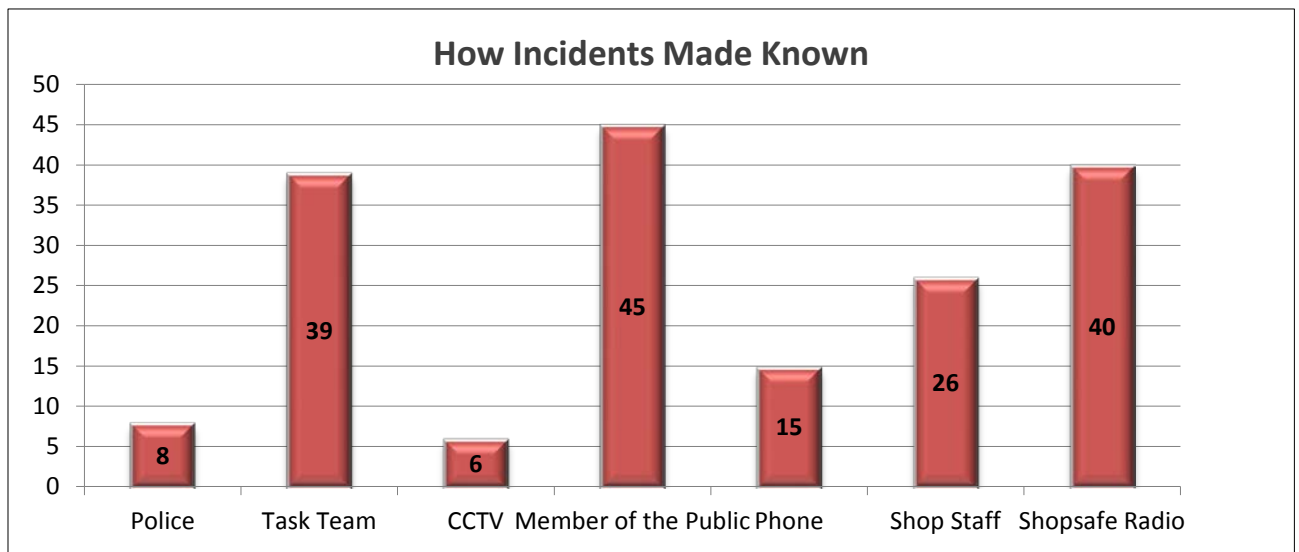
Inverness BID Security Task Team Evaluation

1. The Inverness BID Security Task Team mission was to deliver a Crime Prevention and Reassurance support team for the public using Inverness City Centre and the business therein.
2. Their Aims were:
 - to work closely with the city centre Business Partners, Safeinverness, Police Scotland, Highland Council and any other relevant agencies to ensure a co-ordinated response to tackling crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and improving public reassurance and
 - to deliver high visibility patrols to provide a reduction in crime and disorder and improve public reassurance.
3. In Operation Respect 2016/17, the BID Security Task Team comprised of one team of two SIA trained personnel. The City Centre Task Team were on duty from Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th from 1100hrs – 1800hrs and thereafter during the same times every weekday except Sunday from Thursday 24th through to Tuesday 3rd January 2017. They operated extended hours until 2200hrs on Mad Friday weekend 23/24th December and were also out on New Year's Day (Sunday) between 1100hrs – 1800hrs.
4. Their Duties were to carry out proactive patrols, as well as responding to calls for assistance via the Shop Safe Radio System and/or a dedicated mobile phone number. Give physical presence and moral support to retailers and licensees during hours of operation thereby providing increased protection for Staff and Customers.
5. The Task Team was provided with a dedicated mobile phone and Shop Safe radio system, the contact details of which were provided to the retailers prior to the start of the Operation Respect period.
6. The Shop Safe Radio system proved most successful as it allowed the Task Team to have direct communication with the Police Scotland City Centre Beat Officers, Highland Council City Centre CCTV Control Room, as well as the retailers and the licensed premises that have and regularly use the radio system.
7. Following each incident, the team completed an electronic Incident Report Form installed on a PDA. These reports were used as a management tool for monitoring of the task team incidents attended.
8. During their deployment, the Task Team attended/responded to 179 incidents, a 75% increase on 2015/16 which were recorded as per the below chart. However, there were many other occasions where the Task Team assisted/helped members of the general public and retail staff which due to their minor nature were not recorded on an incident report.
9. Liaison between the Task Team and Police Scotland was enhanced during this period as a result of Police Scotland City Centre Beat Officers now operating out of their Office within Inverness Town House, which has led to better communication, daily face to face contact between the organisations, information and intelligence sharing on matters of interest or concern, and a general improvement in incident response.

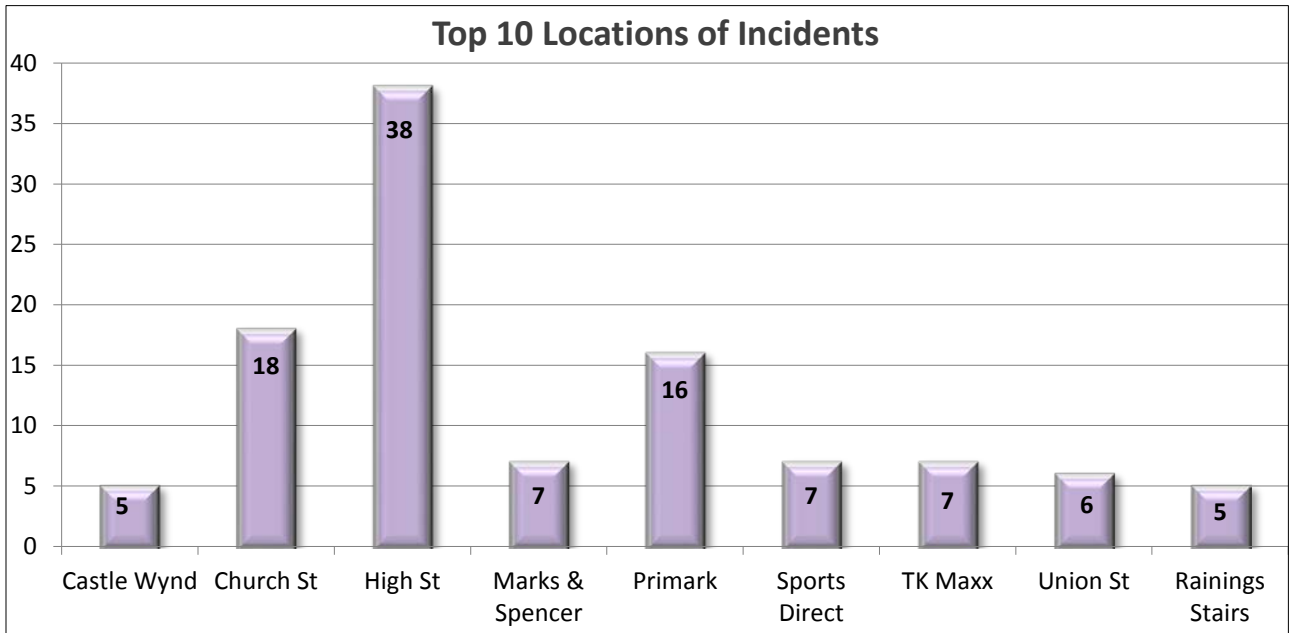
10. The incidents the Task Team attended were as follows:



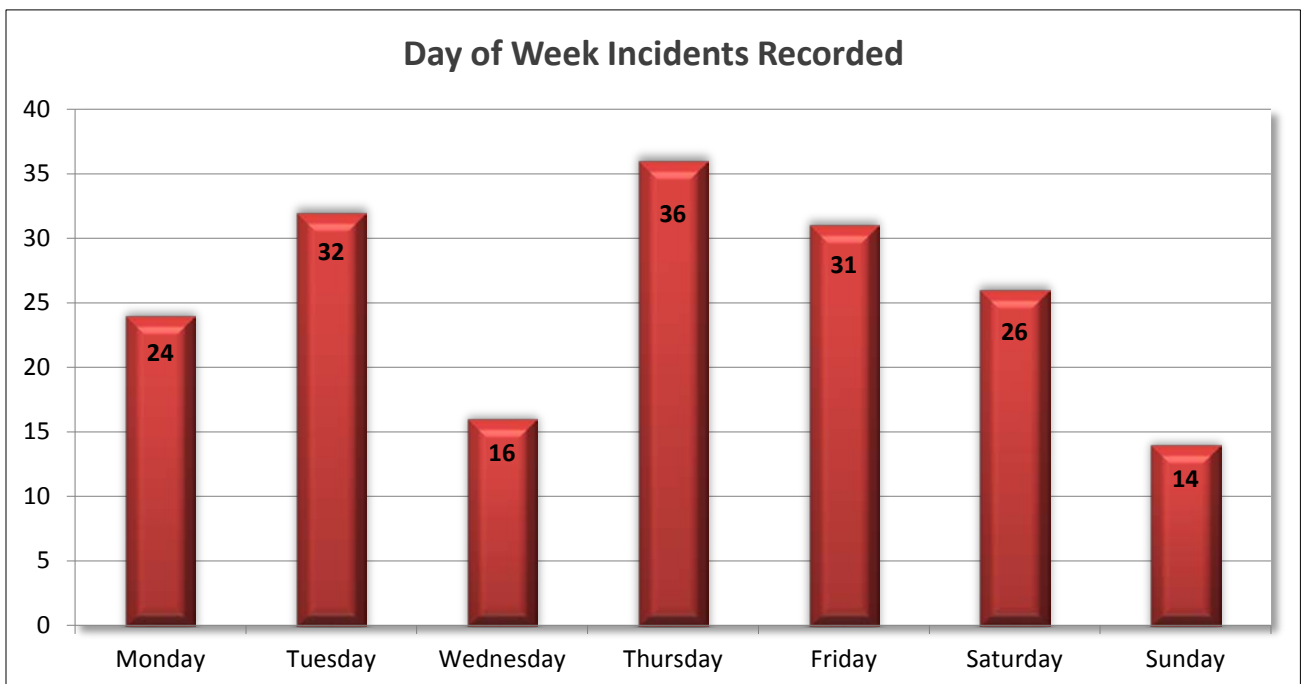
11. The incidents attended were made known as follows. These figures tend to highlight that Businesses, particularly in the retail sector are showing an increased confidence in Task Team ability to provide immediate support and assistance with 45% of contact being made by phone, shop staff, or shopsafe radios. There were 45 public contacts made to the patrolling Task Team, the majority seeking some form of assistance or direction, and the 39 instances of Task Team interventions in matters of crime, anti-social behaviour and disorder, which proves the value of an additional easily identifiable visible presence of assistance is present in the city centre. As the City Centre Beat officers carry the Shop Safe Radio, there was very good communication between them and the Task Team resulting in assistance being provided to Police as and when required.

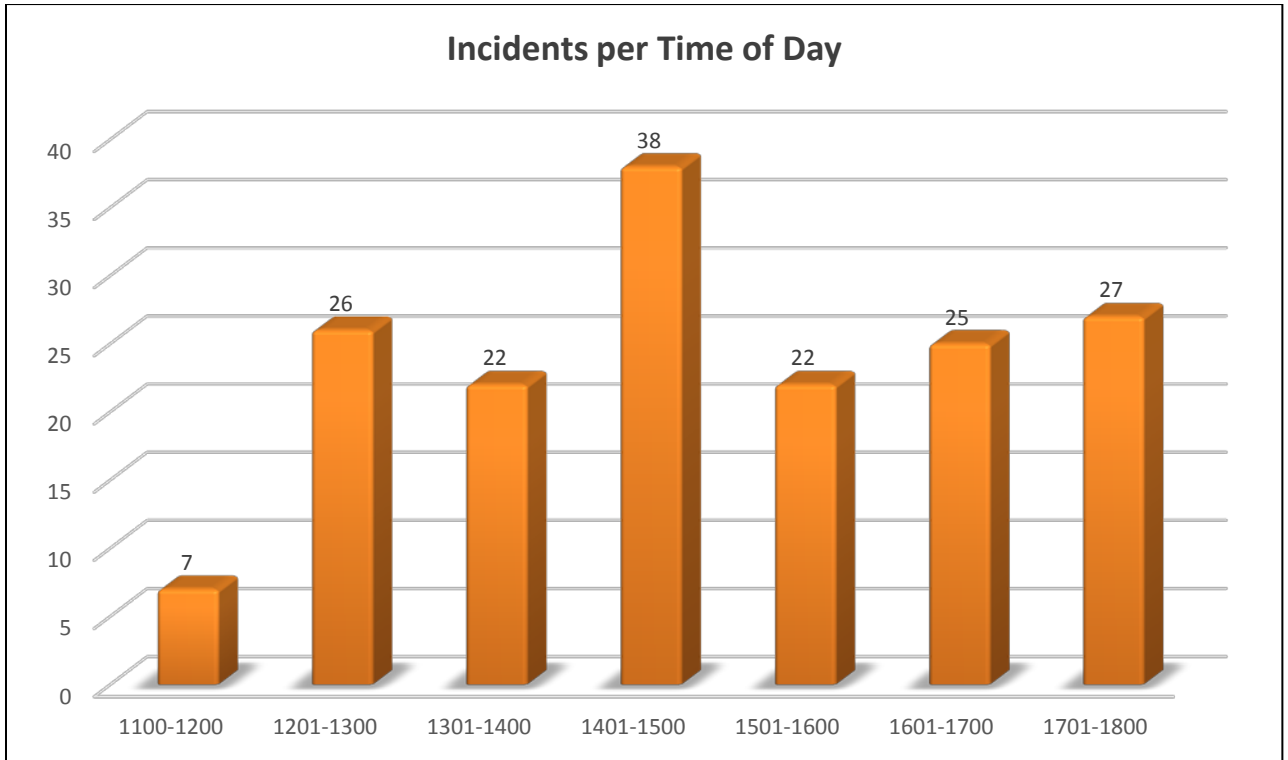


12. The locations of the incidents attended to were as follows. The locations which have the largest number of incidents within the City Centre are as would be suspected, High Street, and locations where the larger retail outlets are situated. The high level of incidents in Church Street is in part due to a zero-tolerance policy on Shoplifting by a major supermarket outlet resulting in increased calls for assistance both to the Task Team and the Police.

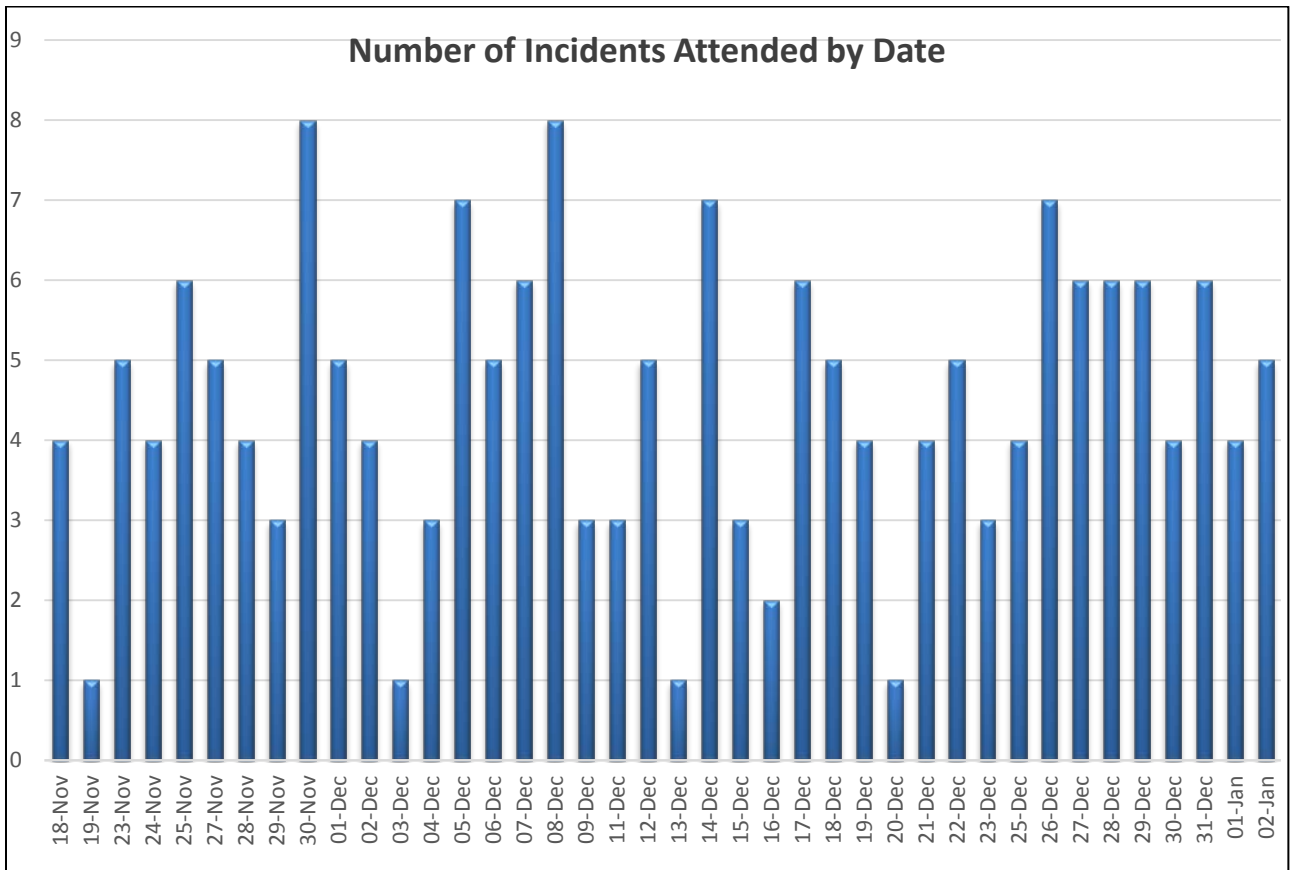


13. The two graphs below highlight the days of the week and times of the day of the incidents attended. There is no discernible pattern to the incidents recorded with weekdays being similar apart from a Wednesday for which no explanation or reason exists. Sunday's are generally quieter as many retail outlets are closed or on reduced opening hours resulting in less footfall.

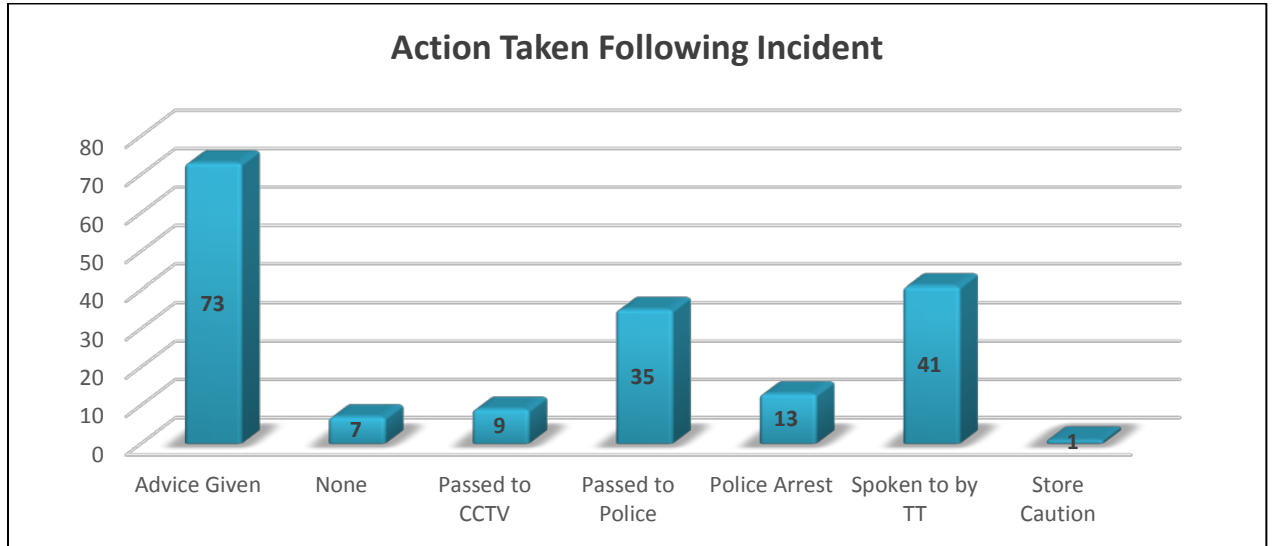




14. This graph illustrates the number of incidents attended by date throughout the Op Respect Period. It highlights and confirms the busiest days although no effective analysis can be provided.



15. Following attending an incident, this graph shows what action was taken. The 35 'Passed to Police' figure, a 100% increase from 2015/16, will include police arrests initiated by them after subsequent enquiry of the incidents being notified to them by the Task Team.



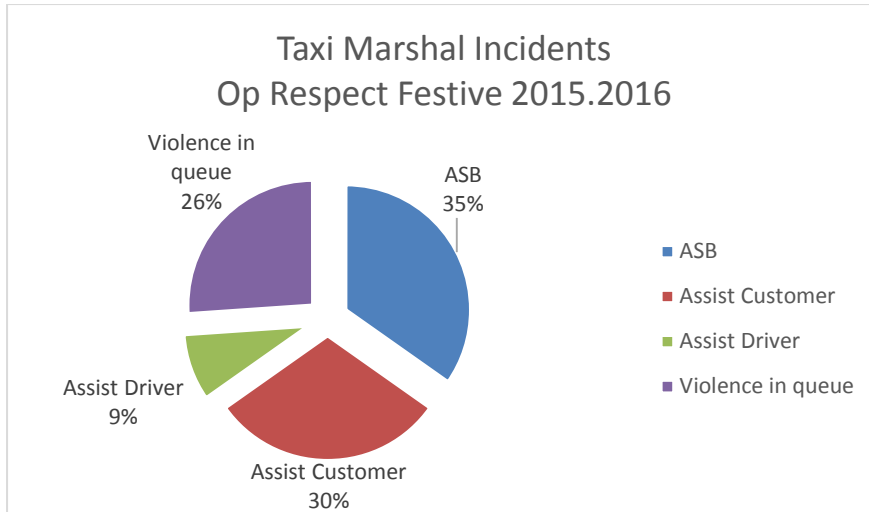
16. Examples of Incidents attended by Task Team

- 5 young males (11-13 yrs) detained following reports of shoplifting. Passed to Police
- 2 males being abusive to Staff in High Street fast food outlet. Task Team attended and provided assistance until police arrived.
- Elderly male, previously suspected of multiple shoplifting, detained for theft of fishing gear following observations. Passed to Police.
- Group of known repeat offenders found intoxicated and drinking alcohol on Raining Stairs. Police informed.
- Domestic dispute in public between couple. Task team intervened and separated parties involved and provided advice and moved them on in different directions.
- Female professional shoplifter located and detained after being reported putting multiple goods totalling over £250 in a wheeled suitcase and leaving the premises. Police informed and arrested her.
- Information received from a member of the public re drugs possession by identified individual. Observations maintained until police arrived and assistance provided as a result of positive search found dealer quantity of tablets.
- Task team assisted shop staff deal with Female shoplifter found in possession of stanley knife when searched. Police attended and arrested her.
- Task Team called ambulance to young male found almost unconscious in city centre, highly intoxicated and in need of medical attention. Male taken to Hospital.
- Anti-social behaviour by group of youths towards staff at a sandwich shop. Youths spoken to by task Team and moved on.
- Assist staff to detain female who had fraudulently presented a bank card in the name of a male person attempting to purchase goods.

- Watched known shoplifters, a married couple in store. Task Team made presence known and they left store.
 - Called to assist Eastgate Security Guard identify known male banned from the premises and escorted him from the premises.
 - Assist Licensed Premises Staff eject an intoxicated female and her family after she had assaulted the Manager by throwing a drink over him.
17. The above are just a few examples of the many similar type incidents that the Task team dealt with or assisted in preventing an escalation of anti-social behaviour, drunkenness, detection and prevention of shoplifting, and assistance to the Police, Business Premises, Retailers and general public when called upon.
18. There is no doubt that once again, the BID Task Team made a major contribution to the success of Operation Respect in providing that public reassurance and support to businesses in the prevention and detection of crime and anti-social behaviour, but also in the personal safety of staff when they are confronted with abuse and potential violent situations by determined and often intoxicated individuals in what is a busy time of the year and in an increasingly popular City Centre.

Inverness BID Taxi Marshal Evaluation

1. The Taxi Marshal aims were to create a controlled and safe environment where the public can feel safe whilst waiting for a taxi, thereby contributing to a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour and an improvement in people's perception of Inverness at night.
2. Their role was to
 - a. Offer a safe waiting area until a taxi arrives
 - b. Monitoring taxi queues
 - c. Clearly establish a pick-up point and form queue on that point
 - d. Report incidents of disorder via the Shop Safe radio scheme to Police
 - e. Advise drivers of any potential problems regarding customers
 - f. Provide a visible reassurance to the public and taxi drivers
 - g. Assess the scheme and make suggestions to enhance the operation
3. Throughout 2016, Inverness BID funded the deployment of Taxi Marshals during the monthly pay day weekends. Operation Respect was funded jointly by BID and the Inverness Common Good Fund.
4. During Operation Respect 2016/17 the Marshals operated for a total of 14 nights between 2400hrs – 0400hrs on Friday and Saturday nights, including one Sunday on New Year's Day during the period 19th November 2016 to 3rd January 2017.
5. All Marshals were fully SIA trained. Two Marshals were deployed at the Academy Street rank and two at the Castle Wynd rank.
6. The Taxi Marshals were provided with dedicated mobile phone numbers and Shop safe radio systems, the contact details of which were provided to the partners and the Taxi Association prior to the start of the Operation Respect period.
7. The Shop Safe Radio system proved most successful as it allowed the Marshals direct communication with the Police Scotland City Centre Beat Officers, Licensed premises and the City Centre CCTV control Room.
8. Following each night's rostered duty, the Marshals reported on any significant incidents which was used as a management tool for daily monitoring of the task team duties and as part of the overall evaluation.
9. There were many occasions where the Taxi Marshals assisted/helped members of the public and taxi drivers which due to their minor nature were not recorded, e.g. generally calming people down. However, they attended/responded to 17 recorded incidents in total as per the chart below.



10. Some of the incidents attended by the Taxi Marshals are as follows

- Young intoxicated female, alone and visibly upset, supported at rank and given priority to get a taxi home.
- Attended to drunk and incapable female, being sick and urinating near to rank. First Aid provided by British Red Cross at Safe Zone.
- Group of males being abusive to towards each other, Marshals intervened to separate parties involved and moved them on in differing directions.
- Two males arguing with each other, Marshals intervened and diffused situation
- Male being abusive towards Taxi driver, assistance given and male left area
- Male person drunk and incapable, sleeping next to rank. Police informed.

11. The majority of incidents reported by and attended to by the Taxi Marshals were specific actual incidents which occurred in the queue, however in general their presence and proactive approach positively impacted upon the general anti-social behaviour before it escalated into violence.

12. From the above results, the Taxi Marshal project is without doubt a successful initiative. It is apparent that the Taxi marshals positively contribute to ensuring that the city centre remains a safe place by increasing the public's reassurance and perception of the City Centre.

**The British Red Cross
Evaluation – Operation Respect Festive 2016/17**

APPENDIX 4

The British Red Cross, fully funded by NHS Highland, participated in Operation Respect, a multi-agency community safety initiative which took place in December within the City of Inverness. The role of the BRC was to support the emergency services and other participating agencies such as the Street Pastors, who were co-located at the Safe Zone, in the pedestrianised area on Church Street adjacent to Bank Lane. Staff provided support, assistance and First Aid to members of the public who were found ill, injured or in need of support and comfort.

The British Red Cross deployed volunteer personnel within the City of Inverness on the following dates:-

Friday, 16/12/2016,	2200 – 0400 hours – 8 personnel
Saturday, 17/12/2016,	2200 – 0400 hours – 7 personnel
Friday, 23/12/2016,	2200 – 0400 hours – 10 personnel
Saturday, 31/12/2016,	2200 – 0400 hours – 7 personnel

This has given a total of 192 volunteer personnel hours of duty, and increase of 12 hours on the previous year. The BRC Ambulance and Emergency Response vehicles were also deployed on each evening.

Break Down of Incidents

The following incidents were dealt with by the BRC personnel:

16/12/2016 – Casualties – 0

17/12/2016 – Casualties - 2

1. Assisted Breathing of Male affected by drugs and alcohol - Transported to Raigmore Hospital A&E by SAS.
2. Dislocated knee (Male) – Transported to Raigmore Hospital A&E by BRC

23/12/2016 – Casualties - 6

1. Mental Health Issue - Male threatening suicide - Discharged and taken home by Police Scotland
2. Diabetic and Drunk female discharged and sent home.
3. Drug Overdose - Male taken to Raigmore Hospital A&E by BRC
4. Drunk Male - Discharged
5. Drunk Male - Discharged
6. Drunk Female - Discharged

31/12/2016 – Casualty – 1

1. Unresponsive Female – BRC provided first aid and transport to Raigmore Hospital A&E

This year's Safe Zone operated on evenings which were potentially the three busiest weekends of the Festive period, including the Friday before Christmas and New Year's Eve, and whilst the City Centre was extremely busy and personnel engaged with many revellers, I am pleased to say that the number of casualties that required assistance over the four nights fell from 15 to 9, which is encouraging in terms of the public approach to personal safety.

Safe Zone, as part of the overall Operation Respect Festive response remains a worthwhile and integral part of the multi-agency response to keeping people safe with a number of referrals being directed to BRC through the other agencies involved on the street.

RECOMMENDATION: BRC will continue to participate in Operation Respect Safe Zone activities, subject to funding support, and would be to supportive the continued use of the 2016 Safe Zone location for future events which ensured a safe environment to operate away from motorised traffic, both for the multi-agency volunteers as well as the general public utilising our services.

Inverness Street Pastors – Report on Winter Festival Operation Respect, December 2016

Objectives

Inverness Street Pastors objectives for Operation Respect were agreed with the partners prior to the operation as follows:

1. To provide a team of volunteers, appropriately trained so as to enable direct intervention to be undertaken with regard to supporting citizens as and when required.
2. In undertaking the above to liaise with all appropriate agencies in order to ensure the correct support is offered to the individuals concerned, and
3. to contribute to public safety, well-being and enjoyment, and the perception thereof, by providing a practical and visible presence on the streets.
4. Inverness Street Pastors will provide patrols in the City Centre night-time economy between 10 p.m. and 3 a.m. at weekends, and one 2 hour patrol per week in the daytime, working in tandem with police patrols.
5. Inverness Street Pastor activities will focus on avoiding escalation of minor incidents thereby relieving other agencies and services to work on their own priorities.
6. Within this framework, the Street Pastors will provide a practical and visible presence on the streets including: a listening ear; a high standard of care, help and guidance; nurturing of community relationships; addressing of low key issues before they escalate; and referrals to, and continued consultation in the development of, services and diversionary activities.
7. The Street Pastors aimed to deliver at least 100 volunteer hours during the Operation period of 28th November to 1st January.
8. The Safe Zone (which is usually deployed on Payday Saturdays) will be used on strategic nights, comprising a rebranded police mobile office located near to the British Red Cross. The busiest nights for deployment of the Safe Zone were identified as the 16th, 17th, 23rd and 31st December.
9. A team of Street Pastors will be available at the Red Hot Highland Fling Hogmanay Party.

Activities

Here is a summary of Inverness Street Pastors' City Centre Night-time activities, during the period 28th December 2016 to 1st January 2016, compared to the previous year:

	2015	2016
number of patrols	9	8
average number of volunteers per patrol	4.2	4.3
total volunteer-hours	127	169
total contacts with the public	463	580
spontaneous thanks received from the public	175	72
situations of calming aggression	2	2
situations of supporting the vulnerable	25	21
pairs of flip-flops given out	44	51
drinks, lollipops and food given out	53	168
emergency blankets given out	15	3
clearing broken glass and discarded bottles	75	173

Observations

1. We focussed on fewer but larger patrols this year which can be seen in the volunteer-hours. This was mainly due to there being **two potential "mad Friday" weekends** as Christmas Day fell on a Sunday and the school term ended on Friday 23rd.
2. The increase in total contacts is most likely attributable to the two "mad Friday" weekends. There was a "**spreading out**" effect in that both weekends were busier than normal weekends but neither were as busy as previous "mad Friday" weekends. It was also felt by the teams that the **mild but extremely wet weather** had helped to keep revellers off the streets and inside premises on these weekends (perhaps explaining a drop in "spontaneous thanks" and numbers of emergency blankets needed).
3. The apparent increase in "drinks, lollipops and food" is partly due to inconsistencies in recording but also reflects a slight increase in the number of **vulnerable people** begging on the streets this year. Our daytime and night-time teams were able to **coordinate** over this and hence effectively **refer** some vulnerable people to other services.

4. There is a notable **increase in broken glass and bottles** removed from the streets. Not only does this help to protect revellers' feet (in tandem with giving away flip-flops) but also protects the tyres of mini-cabs for which we received many words of thanks.
5. The **British Red Cross** volunteers were invaluable on a number of occasions, dealing with situations outwith the Street Pastors core competency and also relieving the Scottish Ambulance Service.
6. We are especially grateful to the **NHS funding** of the British Red Cross participation in the Safe Zone. One online source estimates that Street Pastors and Safe Zone Partners such as The British Red Cross might have saved the NHS as much as £13million during the festive period. (See [https://www.premier.org.uk/News/UK/Street-pastors-will-save-NHS-13million-during-festive-period.](https://www.premier.org.uk/News/UK/Street-pastors-will-save-NHS-13million-during-festive-period))
7. We were unable to send a dedicated team to the **Red Hot Highland Fling** this year. However, our City Centre Hogmanay Patrol sent three volunteers to the Northern Meeting Park just before the bells who then walked the route back into the City Centre with party-goers as the 'Fling closed, helping to ensure that people were safe and away from the river. Anecdotally, our teams felt that the 'Fling helps to keep the City Centre calm and safe by **diverting many party goers who then disperse peaceably**. Hogmanay in the City Centre was very peaceful and largely without incident from our perspective.
8. Partnership working was effective at a practical level with on-street referrals being made between Red Cross, Door Staff (coordinated by CCTV), Taxi Marshalls, Police and Street Pastors on most nights.
9. The **Safe Zone** was busy and proved invaluable on a number of occasions, perhaps most notably providing a safe place for some of the younger revellers to wait for pickup from parents. However, it was felt that the location on Church Street was not as effective as our usual **location** in the loading bay opposite the Town House. The British Red Cross volunteers seemed to agree and moved their location to the High Street on Hogmanay. We would therefore propose to site our van in its usual spot opposite the Town House next year and to site the British Red Cross nearby on the High Street (or to site both vehicles on the High Street).

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	6
Report No	CIA/ 04/17

Inverness Castle Viewpoint and Environmental Improvement Works Update

Report by the Director of Development and Infrastructure

SUMMARY

This report updates Members on the progress of the current works to the North Tower and grounds of Inverness Castle. It also highlights that this is the first phase of turning the Castle into a major visitor attraction.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The present Inverness Castle sits on a site which has an interesting and eventful history. The history of the previous castles lives on in the stories of King Duncan and Macbeth to the many seizures and rebuilds during the Scottish Wars of Independence and thereafter. The present red sandstone castle was built in the 1830's by the Scottish architect William Burn, to serve as the County Hall of Inverness-shire, and house the High Court and Council offices. To this day it is still used for both Sheriff and District Courts. The North Tower, which is owned by the Highland Council, was originally built to serve as a prison.
- 1.2 Members will be aware that the £315m Inverness and Highland City-Region Deal (CRD) was signed by the Leader of the Highland Council, Cllr Margaret Davidson, Keith Brown MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Economy Jobs and Fair Work, and Lord Dunlop, Under-Secretary of State for Scotland, on 30 January. The CRD includes £15m for the redevelopment of Inverness Castle into a major visitor attraction. The Castle Viewpoint is therefore the first phase of an exciting opportunity to create a significant visitor attraction for the region. The business case which will unlock the CRD funding is currently being developed.

2. Proposed Works

- 2.1 The Highland Council aims to find a new viable, and economically sustainable, alternative use for Inverness Castle following the site being vacated by the Scottish Court and Tribunals Service. It will provide access for locals and visitors, and maximise the impact on the economic, social and cultural life of Inverness and the Highlands. A working group has been established, co-chaired by Fergus Ewing MSP, Minister for Rural Economy

and Connectivity, and Cllr Helen Carmichael, Provost and the Leader of the City of Inverness and Area, the Highland Council.

- 2.2 The project to turn the North Tower of the Castle into a viewing platform for locals and visitors to access a 360° view of the city and surrounding area is nearing completion. The project also includes significant enhancements to the Castle grounds such as access improvements, new seating and installation of new railings. These elements are funded by an initial tranche of funding from the Inverness and Highland City-Region Deal. An allocation of £2m was available to enhance the Castle grounds and this has been used to supplement the original approval of £360k.

3. Progress to Date

- 3.1 The project commenced on site 28 March 2016 and was due to complete on the 5 December 2016. Due to additional works being instructed the contract period was extended to 3 March. Works have been progressing well and the internal works are 95% complete.
- 3.2 Progress meetings are taking place every two weeks until completion. The aim is to open the Viewpoint in early April in time for Easter, and the rest of the tourist season.

4. Budget

- 4.1 The CRD fund has enabled significant upscaling of the project at no additional cost to the Council. The original budget for the project was £360k. This budget only included for minor internal alterations and an internal spiral staircase to the viewing platform. After detailed design scope change, a number of additional items were added to the project. The works and funding breakdown is as follows:

- full internal refurbishment of all floors;
- major external stonework repairs;
- complicated scaffolding design;
- window and rainwater goods repairs and repainting;
- internal fit-out for HLH;
- external environmental works; and
- external flooding lighting replacement.

- 4.2 With the above additional items the revised budget figure is £1.415m, the funding breakdown is as follows:

Project Costs

Construction Works (Building)	£ 712,221
External Environmental Works	£ 320,973
External Floodlighting	£ 134,000
High Life Highland Fit-out	£ 50,000
Professional Fees	£ 198,000

<u>Source of Funding</u>	
HIE	£ 60,000
Common Good	£ 100,000
Highland Council (D&I)	£ 200,000
City-Region Deal	£1,055,000

5. Management and Marketing

- 5.1 The Castle Viewpoint will be run by High Life Highland, through the current management agreement with The Highland Council. This has the added benefit of integrating it into the wider project for the redevelopment of Inverness Castle. The Castle Viewpoint, the marketing name for the project, will be managed through the adjacent Inverness Museum & Art Gallery. Staff will be trained to work in both facilities, ensuring cover is available at all times.
- 5.2 The Castle viewpoint is an exciting first step to turning Castle Hill into a major visitor attraction that will bring benefits both to Inverness and the rest of the Highlands. The Inverness Castle project will have a significant economic impact on the city centre of Inverness, and will also seek, as a key outcome, to encourage people to visit the rest of the Highlands. As part of the City-Region deal, the formal governance of the project is through the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Committee. Regular updates will also be brought to the Inverness City Committee on a six monthly basis.
- 5.3 It is expected that the Castle Viewpoint will be very popular and the intention is to open seven days a week April to October, with extended opening hours in July and August. Winter opening hours will be considered in due course. Following the first season the opening hours will be reviewed with a decision on hours based on achieving maximum profitability. Any profits from the facility will be shared between The Council and High Life Highland, and the facility will not be subsidised by the Council in the unlikely situation of making a loss.
- 5.4 However, the size and nature of the North Tower, in which the Viewpoint is situated, is such that fire regulations have led to limitations on the number of visitors allowed admission at any one time. This is limited to 59 people in the overall facility and 10 on the viewing platform itself. This is likely to create pressures at peak periods, which HLH will be ready to manage. The route up to the viewing point is laid out to provide activities and information for visitors, particularly families. Visitors with mobility issues are catered for on the ground floor, in the round room of the North Tower. Here it will be possible to view drone footage of the views with commentary on points of interest.
- 5.5 There has already been a significant amount of advance interest in the Castle Viewpoint. It was promoted at VisitScotland Expo (Scotland's main travel trade, business to business show) in April 2016, and this will be repeated in 2017.

5.6 Once the opening date is finalised the following marketing activities will be implemented:

- 'Reminder' promotional flyer emailed to each travel company that expressed specific interest in the Viewpoint at VisitScotland Expo 2016;
- mailing to all coach/travel companies who visit Inverness and who were not contacted at VisitScotland Expo;
- press launch in conjunction with HC and Scottish Government;
- launch of Castle Viewpoint website;
- Facebook campaign started;
- Twitter campaign started;
- posters/pop up banners throughout the City, including the Tourist Information Centre;
- posters distributed to all Inverness Accommodation businesses;
- prominent promotional material in Inverness Museum and Art Gallery; and
- two exclusive, reserved 'Come & See sessions at the Viewpoint for BID and TBID members.

5.7 It is proposed to provide a short period of free entry to promote the facility after the main Easter period.

6. Governance

6.1 The work to the North Tower and Castle grounds is a Council contract on a Council owned building, Inverness Common Good has provided funding support. Monthly reports are issued to the Inverness City Manager who meets with the Project Manager on a regular basis.

7. Implications

7.1 Legal

The Highland Council will continue to meet all its legal obligations under the terms of any contracts agreed.

7.2 Climate Change/Carbon Clever

All contracts will be managed in a manner which meets the Highland Council's obligations in relation to climate change.

7.2 Resource

A separate report will be issued by the Director of Finance to outline the financial implications for the Common Good Fund, forming part of the Investment Strategy and Capital Planning for the Fund.

7.3 Rural and Gaelic

The addition of this facility will enhance the City as a place to visit and have a positive impact on the visitor experience for all the City Wards which include Landward areas. The Council's policy on Gaelic signage will be adhered to.

7.4 Equality

The works have enhanced the accessibility of the Castle grounds.

7.5 Risk

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

RECOMMENDATION

Committee is invited to note:

- progress of the current works to the North Tower and grounds of Inverness Castle; and
- that future reports on progress with the wider Castle project will be brought to committee.

Designation: Director of Development and Infrastructure

Date: 24 January 2017

Author: Jason Kelman, Principal Project Manager, Highland Council
Graham Watson, Head of Resources, Highlife Highland

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	7
Report No	CIA/05/17

Inverness East Development Brief – Update

Report by Director of Development and Infrastructure

Summary

This report updates the Committee on work to date regarding the preparation of an Inverness East Development Brief. Members are invited to consider the outcome of consultation undertaken so far and agree the suggested strategy to address issues raised through the preparation of the Draft Development Brief.

1. Purpose of the Brief

- 1.1 Members will recall that the Highland Council and Scottish Government, through the National Planning Framework, have an established strategy of directing Inverness' medium to longer term growth to the A96 corridor including development land at Inverness East. The adopted **Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan** commits the Council to preparing a detailed land use planning policy document, a development brief, for Inverness East. Officers have defined a boundary for the land affected at **Appendix 1**. The vast majority of this land is earmarked for development and parts of it already benefit from planning permissions for example at Stratton, the Inverness Campus and the Inverness Retail and Business Park.
- 1.2 Accordingly, the purpose of the Inverness East Development Brief (referred to in this report as 'the Brief') is to go beyond the principle of development and set out the detail of:
- the amount of land to be allocated for each type of development;
 - the land to be safeguarded and enhanced as greenspace;
 - the phasing of development over time;
 - how development will integrate with existing and future travel networks – in particular 'East Link';
 - how much and when developer contributions will be sought towards transport and other infrastructure; and
 - an indicative masterplan showing how land uses should be arranged across the land.

2. Consultation to Date

2.1 A range of initial consultation has been undertaken to ensure that the needs and aspirations of the local community and other stakeholders have been considered. This involved the following key elements:

- meeting with landowners within the Brief area;
- attending Smithton and Culloden and Cradlehall and Westhill Community Council meetings;
- meeting with Culloden Youth Forum;
- meeting with other Council Services and public sector agencies;
- running an online consultation; and
- hosting a stakeholder workshop at Inverness Campus.

2.2 The stakeholder workshop was held at Inverness College UHI on 16 November 2016. This was facilitated by consultants Ironside Farrar and focused on gathering initial ideas about what development should go within the Brief land area. This one-day workshop involved a range of stakeholders including the local community, community councils, landowners, developers, planning agents, public and third sector agencies and local Members. Around 70 people attended throughout the day with additional informal discussions with students and other visitors at exhibition boards displayed in the main atrium of the college.

2.3 The workshop was structured around the **Place Standard**, a simple tool developed by Scottish Government that enables communities to consider 'how good is our place' based on 14 thematic questions. The workshop was divided into a morning, afternoon and evening sessions. Each session covered topics from the Place Standard and the facilitator developed participants' ideas and built upon areas and issues of consensus throughout the day. The summarised output from the day was an 'Emerging Ideas' concept drawing included at **Appendix 2**.

2.4 An **online survey** based on the Place Standard was launched six weeks before the workshop to enable people to share their views and ideas for the area. The outcomes from the online survey were used to complement and inform discussions during the workshop sessions. The survey remained open for two weeks after the workshop to capture momentum generated by it. Using this parallel method of consultation helped to ensure people had equal opportunity to engage. 354 comments were submitted by 41 people, a summary of comments is included at **Appendix 3**.

2.5 Meetings with other Council services and public sector partners were held prior to the initial workshop. These meetings covered infrastructure and service delivery and additional needs likely to arise with this scale of new development.

3. Issues Raised During Consultation

- 3.1 The following list summarises the key issues that were identified through the various methods of consultation outlined above:
- a. Improved active travel (walking and cycling) within the Brief area to connect existing and future communities to key destinations like schools, employment locations and the city centre.
 - b. Provision of a new centrally located community hub to serve multiple functions and enable different parts of the community to meet and interact.
 - c. Additional capacity for both primary and secondary school education to address existing demands and meet future demand brought about by new developments.
 - d. Provision of new sports facilities on the east side of Inverness.
 - e. Avoidance of known flood risk areas and the need to avoid any increase in flood risk elsewhere.
 - f. Provision of a district park and community growing space allotments, and ensuring adequate open space throughout the site.
 - g. Ensuring that the major roads (East Link, A96, Barn Church Road) do not sever active travel movement across the Brief area.
 - h. Safeguarding and enhancing existing woodland and tree belts to define the landscape, guide the design of future development and support biodiversity and habitats.
 - i. Diversity of housing tenures, densities and high quality design.
 - j. Set back from real and perceived 'bad neighbour' uses like major roads and the railway, by setting out parameters for the design and layout of future development.
 - k. Ensure the Brief provides a framework for development that is both economically viable for the developer but also provides an adequate level of infrastructure and facilities for the local community. Phasing should ensure adequate infrastructure is available to serve new development.

4. Development Brief Content

- 4.1 A key purpose of the Brief is to set out what financial contributions the Council will ask developers to make to offset the impacts of their proposals. For Members' consideration and approval, it is proposed that the following key aspects be included within a Developer Contributions protocol in the brief:
- road network improvements including the East Link Road;
 - community facilities including education provision, sports facilities, parks, and serviced allotments;
 - a protected cycle lane across the area and infrastructure for bus routes including shelters and real-time travel infrastructure; and
 - public art.

5. Development Brief Principles

- 5.1 For Members' consideration and approval this section outlines suggested principles to guide preparation of the Brief to address the issues raised through consultation to date. These are also illustrated at **Appendix 5**.
- 5.2 Principle A: Identify a central location for community, commercial and leisure facilities as illustrated in **Appendix 5**
- 5.2.1 To maximise accessibility for local residents and commercial footfall the Brief should promote a 'Hub' for key services and facilities. It should be convenient to homes and workplaces and integrate with active and public travel connections. Two commercial centres exist and are permitted at West Seafield and Stratton respectively. During the initial workshop and in discussions with Council Transport Planners a 'primary street' and a bus route were identified to connect these two centres and provide active and public transport opportunities to and from the city. The Hub would therefore be most sensibly located along this primary street as illustrated at **Appendix 5**. The Hub should comprise several destination uses to maximise footfall, to create a successful place and to support the viability of public transport and commercial uses. These other uses could include medical facilities, formal public open space and a community meeting venue.
- 5.2.2 Members will be aware that there will be pressure in terms of primary and secondary education provision across East Inverness. This issue was confirmed in discussion with Care and Learning colleagues and a site within the Brief area was suggested as a potential solution in the longer term.
- 5.2.3 Solutions to primary school provision are currently being progressed in the short term by an extension to Smithton Primary, and in the medium term by acquiring a site for a new school north east of Barn Church Road. Wider Council approval will need to be sought to secure an adequate capital programme commitment to this additional education provision.
- 5.2.4 Similarly, primary health care facilities (GP practices) also have capacity issues and early discussions with NHS Highland have confirmed that services in the east of the city are particularly pressured. Therefore co-location of uses that include primary healthcare would help to address capacity issues in the medium to longer term and help to support the concept of a central community hub.

- 5.3 Principle B: Identify a central district park that connects with the wider green network
- 5.3.1 The Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan commits the Council to safeguard land for a district park within the Brief area. The principle of a centrally located district park is in line with stakeholder feedback which suggested that the most sensible location is central, walkable and where it can also mitigate flood risk. The park should include the land area known to be at risk of flooding and include additional adjoining land to allow for any increase in that risk from climate change and/or further development. Similarly we agree with feedback we have received that suggests the park should accommodate community growing space / allotments and district scale play facilities.
- 5.3.2 Workshop input also revealed a consensus that the existing network of woodlands, tree belts and riparian areas is an asset. One specific and positive output from the workshop is that Transport Scotland has confirmed that it is looking at options to redesign the East Link road to avoid loss of trees along Caulfield Road North. Therefore the existing green network should be safeguarded, enhanced and extended to enclose, shelter and define the character of the new neighbourhoods and promote biodiversity within the Brief area.
- 5.4 Principle C: Support the delivery of sports facilities in the east of the city
- 5.4.1 There are several options and existing commitments in terms of sports pitch provision. The Inverness Sports Pitches Review suggested it would be reasonable over the next 10-20 years to double the sports pitch capacity in the City. Given the current lack of provision in the east of the city, there are several short and medium to long term opportunities to contribute towards this aspiration. The Inverness Campus planning permission already includes an available and serviced site for sports pitches adjoining the East Link route and this offers potential for short term provision to support existing and new communities including Inverness College UHI students and their agenda to support student health and wellbeing. Proposals are also progressing to deliver a synthetic pitch at Culloden Academy, which would enhance the range of all year round, useable facilities for the eastern Culloden suburbs. As well as these short term opportunities, a medium term solution could be to deliver sports facilities in an optimum location at or close to the Hub. This would offer potential for shared community and school uses and would be in a central location for existing and new communities. All of the above options would be supported by developer contributions and different phases of development could contribute to different projects, with early phases contributing to Culloden Academy and Inverness Campus. The exact detail of this requires further research and should be included in the draft Brief.

- 5.5 Principle D: Ensure a high level of pedestrian, cycle and road connectivity in the area
- 5.5.1 The East Link road, the A96 dualling, the Barn Church Road redesign and new crossings over the railway line all have potential to improve connectivity across the Brief area and between existing communities and the City centre. The Council's work with Community Links Plus bids identifies the need for improved east-west connectivity as part of the Inverness City Active Travel Network. Therefore, in line with ideas put forward during consultation, the Brief should capitalise on these opportunities by identifying a new direct east-west movement corridor that prioritises pedestrians and public transport, provides a dedicated route for cyclists and links the retail and business park, the new Hub and the proposed Stratton centre. The issue of severance caused by the major road proposals was raised by stakeholders during consultation. This issue should be overcome by ensuring the Brief requires a range of measures, including: adequate traffic light controlled crossing points and/or underpasses; high quality pedestrian and cycle routes and, ensuring that development layout and design encourages drivers to slow down and be alert at crossing points. Further engagement with Transport Scotland is required to ensure the East Link road, whose main function is movement of motor traffic, is designed as a street that fits well into its urban context as set out in Scottish Government Policy: 'Designing Streets'.
- 5.6 Principle E: Set out a strategy for design, travel and layout that prioritises walking, cycling and public transport usage and promotes diverse neighbourhoods
- 5.6.1 Feedback from consultation suggests that current options for cycling and walking are constrained, public transport is below an acceptable standard and traffic congestion is becoming an increasing problem. To address these issues a shift away from car-based travel is necessary. The Brief should promote walking as the most common way of travelling within the new residential neighbourhoods. In order to reap the health and climate change benefits of this change from conventional suburban travel modes, the Brief should promote active travel routes that are direct, safe and pleasant. By contrast, the equivalent driving route to local neighbourhood facilities should be indirect and more inconvenient. Longer journeys within the wider urban district should have an effective public transport and cycling alternative. The Inverness Campus and Stratton masterplans already embody these principles expressed via an informal grid pattern of multiple, active travel connections. Buses and cars are only afforded clear priority on the busier, longer distance journey routes.

- 5.6.2 Similarly, stakeholders recorded a desire for greater choice in housing tenure, density and design. For example, land for private, smaller, retirement housing should be identified. Phases should involve a mix of uses to ensure new communities are supported by new facilities delivered simultaneously. The existing developer-led masterplan for Stratton Farm should be addressed by incorporating its proposals into a seamless overall masterplan for the Brief area.
- 5.7 Principle F: Ensure a framework to deliver a viable high-quality city expansion
- 5.7.1 Consultation to date has revealed potentially conflicting aims of enhanced and timely community infrastructure provision and a commercially viable development. The Brief will have to balance these objectives. It should specify the what, who, when, where and amount of developer contributions. Compromises will be inevitable but the optimum way forward is to specify requirements up front so that the largest portion of 'cost' is borne by the landowners (in terms of lower land values) rather than the house purchaser, the public sector or the local community in terms of fewer or poorer facilities.

6. East Link (A9-A96 Link)

- 6.1 The A9/A96 Inshes to Smithton road project (better known as 'East Link') is necessary to help open up sites for development in East Inverness, whilst also aiding in the removal of local traffic from the trunk road network. A large proportion of the City's future employment, housing and infrastructure growth will be in this area and the East Link is necessary to facilitate this expansion. Transport Scotland is funding the construction of the East Link, and it is an important project within the Inverness and Highland City-Region deal.
- 6.2 The Council is working closely with Transport Scotland on the development of this scheme, and discussions are continuing on the various options that have been identified to date. Transport Scotland has committed to ensuring full consultation with the Council through this Committee before any decision is made. It is important to ensure that all of the implications of the options on the local road network are fully understood before such decisions are made.
- 6.3 In the short term however, officers believe that an additional running lane on the A9 on the southbound approach to the Inshes Slip Road will add road network capacity and help alleviate the safety issue (both existing and for the future option selected) of traffic queuing southbound on the A9 at the B9006 offslip junction. As this additional running lane is common to all options being considered, Committee is asked to request that Transport Scotland progress its detailed design and early implementation as a priority.

6.4 From existing and projected traffic volumes over Inshes overbridge, there is clear further benefit to be gained by providing an additional lane westbound over Inshes overbridge, and engineering studies have confirmed that this can be accommodated using the existing bridge. This is a commitment within the Council's capital programme, and Committee approval is sought to progress this work, given the short term benefits that such a scheme will deliver.

7. Next Steps

7.1 The Development Plans Team will continue to prepare the Brief and a draft will be presented to Committee on 19 June or 14 September 2017 for approval to undertake a public consultation. The results of this consultation will be used to finalise the Brief for adoption, subject to committee approval.

8. Implications

8.1 Equalities

There are no equality implications arising from this report.

8.2 Environmental

The Brief will be screened for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulation Appraisal (HRA).

8.3 Resource

Adequate resources to prepare the Brief are provided for within the Development and Infrastructure Service budget.

8.4 Climate Change/Carbon Clever

The Brief will maximise opportunities to deliver climate change mitigation and Carbon Clever measures.

8.5 Legal, Rural and Gaelic implications

There are no legal, rural or Gaelic implications arising from this report.

Recommendations

The Committee is invited to:

- (i) note the results of consultation to date as explained in sections 2 and 3 of the report;
- (ii) agree the scope of developer contributions proposed in section 4 of the report;
- (iii) discuss and agree the guiding principles for the Brief set out below and described in detail in Section 5 of the report:

Principle A: Identify a central location for community, commercial and leisure facilities as illustrated in **Appendix 5**;

Principle B: Identify a central district park that connects with the wider green network as illustrated in **Appendix 5**;

Principle C: Support the delivery of sports facilities in the east of the city as illustrated in **Appendix 5**;

Principle D: Ensure a high level of pedestrian, cycle and road connectivity in the area as illustrated in **Appendix 4**;

Principle E: Set out a strategy for design, travel and layout that prioritises walking, cycling and public transport usage and promotes diverse neighbourhoods as illustrated in **Appendices 4 and 5**; and

Principle F: Ensure a framework to deliver a viable high-quality city expansion;

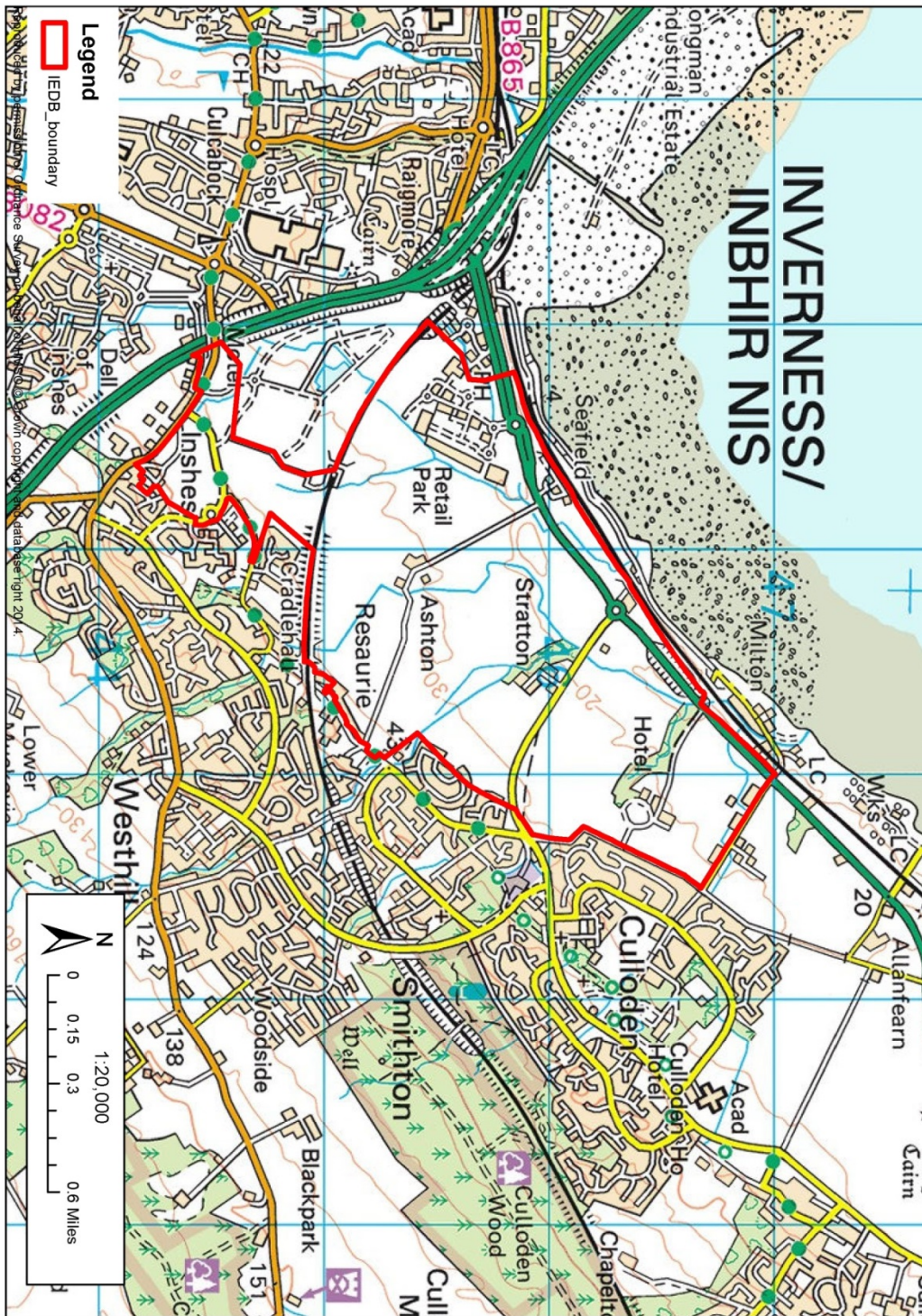
- (iv) note the intention for a draft Brief to be brought to Committee in June or September 2017 for its approval;
- (v) support the additional 'running' lane on the southbound A9 as an early priority within the context of the East Link project; and
- (vi) agree that the Council should progress the design and contract for the construction of an additional westbound lane across the B9006 Culloden A9 overbridge as an early priority.

Designation: Director of Development and Infrastructure
 Date: 6 February 2017
 Authors: Craig Baxter, Tim Stott, Rhiannon Barbour, Scott Dalgarno
 Background Papers: Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan: July 2015

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Inverness East Development Brief Boundary
 Appendix 2: Stakeholder Workshop: Emerging Ideas Drawing
 Appendix 3: Summary of Online Survey Results
 Appendix 4: Illustration of potential future connectivity
 Appendix 5: Illustration of potential future land uses

Appendix 1: Inverness East Development Brief Boundary



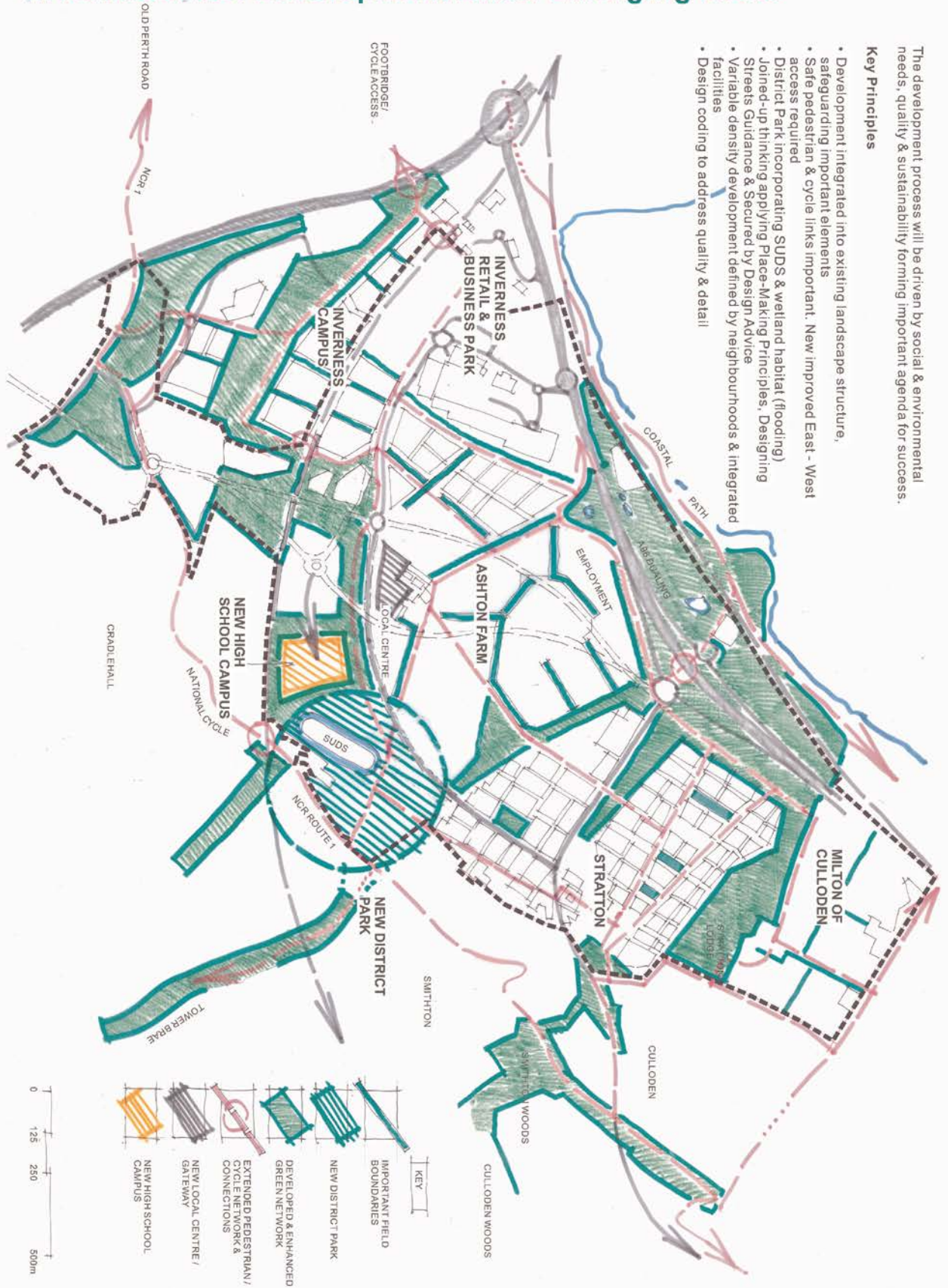
Appendix 2: Stakeholder Workshop: Emerging Ideas Drawing

Inverness East Development Brief: Emerging Ideas

The development process will be driven by social & environmental needs, quality & sustainability forming important agenda for success.

Key Principles

- Development integrated into existing landscape structure, safeguarding important elements
- Safe pedestrian & cycle links important. New improved East - West access required
- District Park incorporating SUDS & wetland habitat (flooding)
- Joined-up thinking applying Place-Making Principles, Designing Streets Guidance & Secured by Design Advice
- Variable density development defined by neighbourhoods & integrated facilities
- Design coding to address quality & detail



Appendix 3: Summary of online survey results

Moving around

General comments

- Roads are too narrow in some places to effectively share with cyclists. Upkeep of paths an issue
- More wayfinding and better lighting needed for popular routes
- Need for a separated off-road cycle network
- Roads generally quiet and safe
- Priority segregated junctions and underpasses needed
- Cycle routes seem to be an afterthought in development
- HC should narrow roads to provide wider pavements & cycle paths
- Shared pedestrian/cycle paths reduce cycle speeds and decrease safety making cycling less effective.

Specific place based comments

- At Barn Church Rd, cyclists have to give way at every junction
- No direct route from Cradlehall to Retail Park
- Concerns about the safety of the Resaurie rail bridge gap
- Culloden Road lacks pavement
- Too much traffic to feel safe cycling at Inshes roundabout
- Tap into old A96 and provide safe underpass under A9 at Raigmore Interchange
- Beechwood Campus a positive example
- Pedestrian crossing to Simpsons Garden Centre needed
- Should link Southern Distributer with UHI campus
- Old Perth Rd and railway underpass an issue for cyclists
- Lighting needed for Culloden Avenue
- Better crossing to Arturlie needed

Public transport

General comments

- Bus timetables not suitable
- Not enough bus service at non-peak times
- Service not reliable
- Road congestion constrains bus times
- Need for suburban rail to city centre
- Expensive
- More direct service to town needed
- Better bus shelters with digital displays needed
- Need to ensure bus timetables match with trains/planes

Specific place based comments

- Bus routes in Culloden great
- Hard to get from Westhill, Cradlehall to Retail Park
- No route from one end of southern distributor to Beechwood/Inshes Retail Park
- Circular route needed from Clachnaharry via Scorguir and Bught to Hilton, Raigmore Culloden and back via town centre and Merkinch every 20 mins

Traffic and parking

General comments

- Abandon East Link & 20 mph max on residential roads
- Too many houses with narrow road access
- Cars parked on bends and pavements
- Need lower speed limits, traffic calming and landscaping to re-prioritize cycling and walking
- Need for more park and ride opportunities
- Paid parking in town centre driving up usage of retail parks
- Overprovision of parking vital to ensure no anti-social parking
- Traffic queues at peak times dangerous

Specific place based comments

- Difficult to park by Raigmore Hospital
- Inshes roundabout congestion
- Barn Church Road roundabout congestion
- Difficulty turning right at A96 Barn Church Road at Balloch during rush hour
- Limited parking at Cradlehall Primary
- Inshes/UHI junction arrangement queues excessive
- Dangerous bottle neck at primary near Inshes
- Traffic to Inshes retail park should be fed to General Wade Road
- A9/A96 link road shouldn't come out at Tesco roundabout
- A prohibition of traffic turning right into UHI from Caulfield Road N would increase cyclist safety

Streets and space

General comments

- Grass cuttings should be done more frequently
- Need for a District Park
- Natural landscaping should be used
- Need for a larger well kept play park
- Buildings should be lower than 1 storey to preserve views
- Houses should be distinctly different in appearance
- Retain as much green space as possible
- Need for greenspace and employment to break up housing
- Area seen to be 'commuter area' rather than a distinctive place
- Needs more signs in Gaelic

Specific place based comments

- Footpaths between Moraypark Lane and Moraypark Terrace need surveillance, vandalism issues
- UHI good example
- Inshes Park positive
- Does not want prison in area
- EastLink should go through boundary between existing development and new sites, rather than bisecting new development area

Natural space

General comments

- Removal of existing trees/greenspace not acceptable
- Building on farm land = reduction of natural space
- Important to safeguard woods and fields as much as possible
- Need to plan a large scale parks because of loss of open space
- Could better utilise greenspace with better paths/signage/bins

Specific place based comments

- Culloden Woods positive example
- More paths in the south side of Culloden Wood
- Campus positive example

Play and recreation

General comments

- Few activities for pre-school children beyond parks
- Need for high quality larger scale playpark
- Major sports/leisure facility needed
- Need for community hub for young and old
- Not enough facilities for adults
- Good facilities for youth (Culloden Youth Forum)
- Poor facilities for youth
- Dog walking areas needed

Specific place based comments

- Playpark behind Moraypark Lane gets too boggy
- Sports Pitches in Maxwell Park poor quality
- Balloch with no playparks

Facilities and amenities

General comments

- Schools not on commuting routes or over capacity
- Too many houses, not enough amenities
- Most community facilities religion-based
- More restaurants/pubs needed
- More community shops needed
- Current facilities will not meet future demand
- Create a multi-use campus with schools, sports provision, active travel links

Specific place based comments

- Parking issues at Culloden Academy and Culloden Shopping Area
- Inshes Park could use outdoor gym and better lighting
- Coffeeshop needed on campus
- Facilities at Culloden only available outwith school hours
- Culloden Library an asset
- Westhill in need of library

Work and local economy

General comments

- Economy could be strengthened by district park/sports centre
- Job opportunities seasonal/part time/zero hour contracts
- Need to create jobs in local area to justify housing
- Need for more flexible office space and small local businesses

Housing and community

General comments

- Private rent high and lack of social housing
- New council housing should be higher quality (including street environment)
- Houses should not be identical, better placemaking
- Antisocial behaviour an issue
- Multi-occupancy flats where generations can mix
- Alternative technologies for heat and electricity should be considered

Specific place based comments

- Drakies a good mix of people

Social interaction

General comments

- Churches are good outlets, limited to religious
- Difficult due to lack of facilities
- Important to mix affordable and market housing
- District park and sports facilities/playpark would improve options for social interaction
- More local cafes/a pub would improve social interaction
- People that cannot drive are socially isolated
- Need to target fitness and social activity for retirees
- Community groups should work together

Specific place based comments

- Culloden Academy & Library good places to meet for youth
- Safety concerns with school near railway

Identity and belonging

General comments

- General positive comment
- Can be transient
- No sense of community
- A community hub/more facilities would increase sense of belonging
- Issues around dog fouling, fly tipping

Specific place based comments

- Smithton Green Hall, Smithton Free Church and Barn Church increase sense of belonging

Feeling safe

General comments

- Generally safe
- More visible police force needed
- Community police station needed
- Bus journeys can be intimidating
- Neighbour watch scheme may help feeling of safety
- Better lighting throughout area needed

Specific place based comments

- Teenagers drinking in Drakies and Inshes District Park reduces sense of safety

Care and maintenance

General comments

- General positive comment
- Issues around factoring agreements not being renewed
- Ownership and management of all open spaces should be managed by the council rather than private companies
- Allow community based workers to care for common spaces instead of centralised council works
- Issues around vandalism with benches, dog fouling and litter.
- Pitches flooded
- Cycling routes not well maintained
- Overgrown trees and paths

Specific place based comments

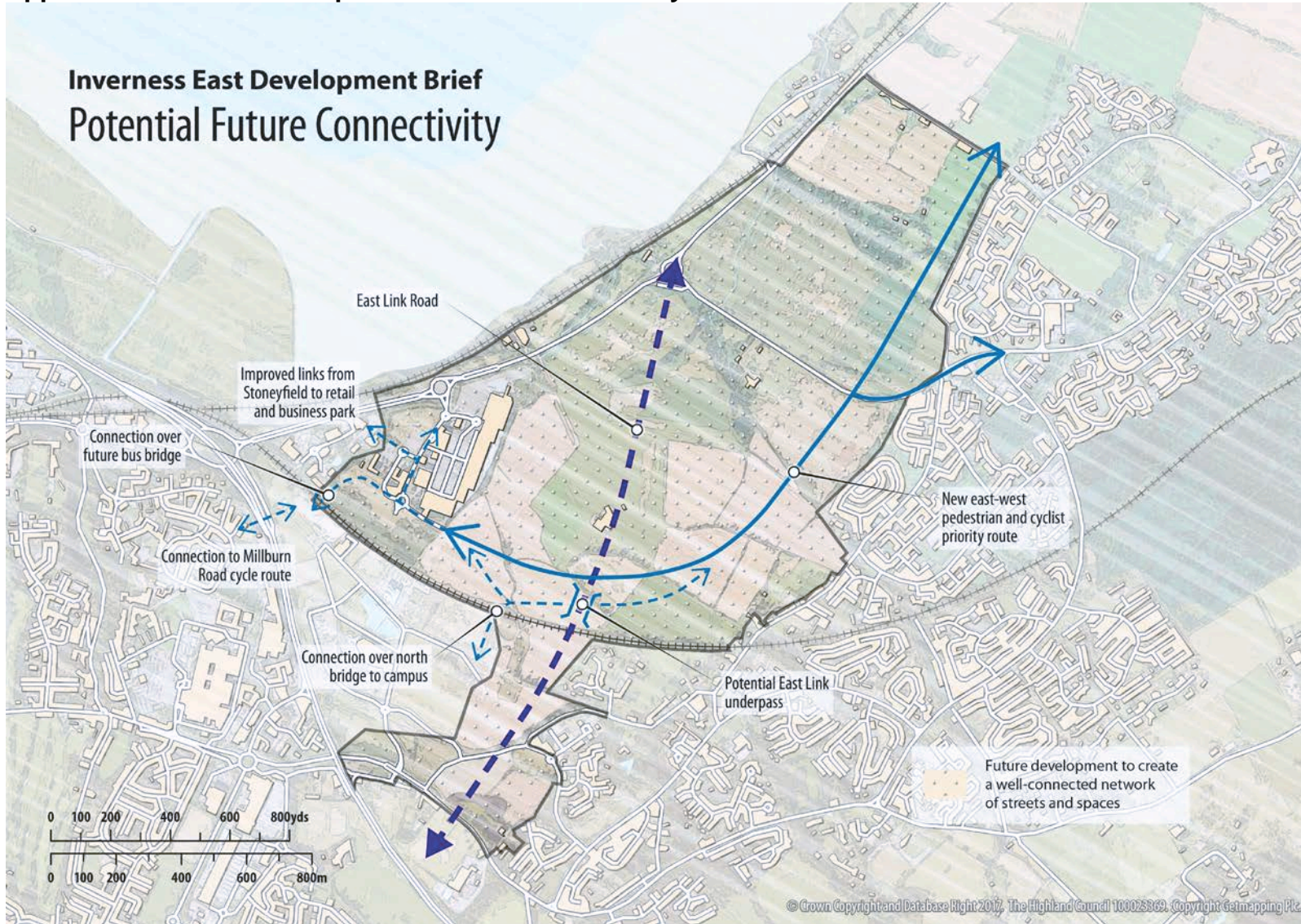
- Broken glass and litter at Smithton rail overbridge, dangerous for cyclists

Influence and sense of control

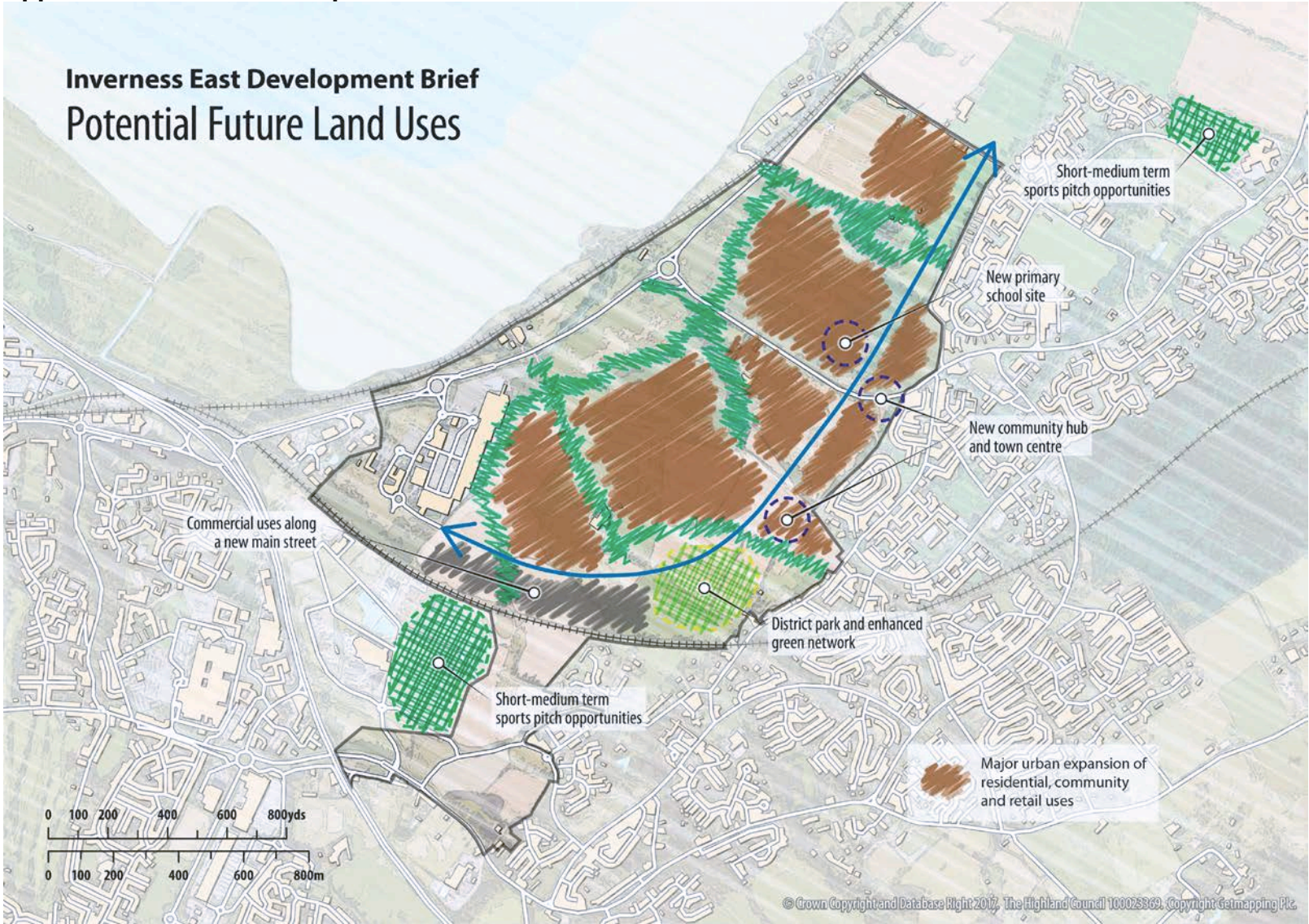
General comments

- General positive comment
- Community councils are positive
- Young people have voice, little contact with community council
- The Council doesn't listen to views
- Council should provide webcast for local debate
- Consultations frustrating because it's hard to tell what kind of impact comments make

Appendix 4: Illustration of potential future connectivity



Appendix 5: Illustration of potential future land uses



The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	8
Report No	CIA/ 06/17

Ness Islands Management Works

Report by Director of Community Services

Summary

This report details the allocation of work required on the Ness Islands in accordance with the current Ness Islands Management Plan and a report by Crudens Consulting Engineers dated April 2015.

Members are invited to note the contents of the report.

1. Background

- 1.1 The current Ness Islands Management Plan was approved by the City of Inverness Area Committee on 2 June 2015. The aim of the plan is to ensure that the islands area is maintained and managed in an appropriate way. As a result of the implementation of the plan, additional Common Good funding has been allocated to the Ness Islands Project to bring the islands up to an acceptable and manageable level.
- 1.2 The works have been divided into four specific groups; Paths, Bridges, Bank Erosion and Trees.

2. Proposal for the allocation of work

- 2.1 All paths, banks and tree works have now been allocated. The quote for the bridge work is due by end of January.
- 2.2 A bat survey was commissioned and the results will determine when work on the trees can proceed.
- 2.3 There will also be a meeting with Chris Conroy of the Ness District Salmon Fishery Board to discuss whether bank erosion work will impact on salmon spawning grounds. It is possible this may delay work proceeding until June 2017.
- 2.4 The Forestry Officer has been and will continue to be fully informed and consulted regarding tree work and any path work concerning tree roots.

3. Timescales

- 3.1 Overgrown shrub work maintenance will continue throughout the winter.

- 3.2 Tree work will commence once the results of the bat survey are available.
- 3.3 Paths and bridge work will commence as soon as conditions are suitable.
- 3.4 Bank erosion work will commence once conditions are suitable and in agreement with the fisheries board.
- 3.5 Once all these works are completed, the Ness Islands Management Plan will be operational and annual maintenance schedule implemented with general inspections every 3 years and comprehensive inspections every 9 years.
- 3.6 The nature of the islands and the likelihood of seasonal flooding will impact on progress. Work progress will be monitored and to be completed within the coming year.

4. Implications

4.1 Resources

The budget of £250,000 has been allocated to the Paths, Banks, Bridges and Tree work.

The annual maintenance budget is £35,000 of which £29,560 has been spent on refurbishment of artwork, benches, minor repairs, litter picking, bat and tree surveys and shrub maintenance. Further shrub work is anticipated.

4.2 Legal, equalities, climate change/carbon clever, rural, Gaelic, risk

There are no legal, climate change/carbon clever, rural, Gaelic or risk implications arising from this report.

Recommendations

Members are invited to:

- i) Note that the improvement plan is in progress;
- ii) Note that a further report will be available once works are underway and there is more progress to report.

Designation: Director of Community Services

Date: 16 January 2017

Author: Debbie Sutton, Amenities Manager South

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	9
Report No	CIA/07/17

Minor amendments to Traffic Regulation Orders**Report by Community Services****Summary**

To consider minor amendments to the Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) Traffic Regulation Order for Inverness. To consider the review of Disabled Bay time limits. To update members on Permit scheme issues.

1. Background

- 1.1 After a period of bedding in of the Decriminalised Parking Enforcement scheme, officers have been able to observe the effect of restrictions in relation to several specific restrictions in the City Centre. As the implementation phase is still live resources and budgets are in place to allow any changes to be made. There are also time critical processes relating to the Castle Wynd redevelopment that require Committee approval.

2. Observations on Permit Streets

- 2.1 The length and severity of restrictions in some locations have been highlighted as unnecessary from actual observations by officers carrying out patrols in the City Centre and it is felt that an early intervention will benefit all users.
- 2.2 After discussions with users the following streets have been identified and alterations suggested to maximise use:-
1. Portland Place: reduce the amount of permit parking transferring some 25m to 2hours max stay 8am to 6pm. Add a Disabled Bay 3hour max Stay;
 2. Duncraig St - Reduce the current 7 day Permit restriction to Mon-Sat 8am-6pm;
 3. Balnain St: Reduce the current 7 day Permit restriction to Mon-Sat 8am-6pm;
 4. Queen St: Reduce the current 7 day Permit restriction to Mon-Sat 8am-6pm;
 5. Muirton St: Reduce the current 7 day Permit restriction to Mon-Sat 8am-6pm;
 6. Broadstone Park: Reduce the current 7 day Permit restriction to Mon-Sat 8am-6pm;
 7. Ness Bank: Reduce the current 7 day Permit restriction to Mon-Sat 8am-6pm.

3. Blue Badge Holder Bays

3.1 City Centre Disabled vehicle access

It has been observed by officers and requests have been made to review the nature of Disabled parking provision in the City Centre to improve accessibility and availability. Although we are limited in the number of spaces available for Blue Badge parking the service has endeavoured wherever possible to ensure a reasonable distribution of available road-space is allocated for Disabled Parking. We have recently increased the number of Disabled Bays to 18 within the core streets, (Academy St, Church St, Union St, Queensgate) however these bays are currently unlimited in the time in which a Blue Badge holder may occupy these spaces which greatly limits access to these spaces.

The current arrangements are of benefit to Blue Badge Holders who work in the City centre but very limiting for Blue Badge shoppers or casual users. This would include visitors who are important to the vibrancy of the City (**See diagram 1**).

- 3.2 To improve overall access and therefore benefit the majority of Disabled users and encourage access to the city centre we would propose at least 50% of Disabled bays in the city centre are time limited to 3hours maximum stay as is commonplace in other City Centres. This proposal will require direct engagement with access and disability groups and users for agreement and advertising the proposals to give the public an opportunity to comment before implementation.

4. Permit Parking Scheme

- 4.1 Recent representations made in the media have highlighted some issues around the Inverness Permit scheme, however these concerns are not limited to Inverness and a Council wide consensus is required under the terms of the new enforcement regime.

- 4.2 For the benefit of members permit parking spaces are not allocated to individual permit holders. A Residents Parking Scheme does not guarantee the availability of a parking space or a space outside the permit holder's residence. The permits only entitle residents to park their vehicles if space is available. Permits have always been a tool used by local authorities at the request of residents to "exclude" vehicles. The number of permits issued is determined by the number of eligible users. There is a finite number of permits issued therefore numbers are not unlimited and are not a money making exercise. Highland Council permits are among some of the cheapest in the U.K. and charges are based on the cost to administer the Permit.

- 4.3 The Service is currently reviewing public opinion in Inverness via a questionnaire which will be issued to all streets with Permit Provision (**see Appendix A**). As a result of DPE the Back Office element of the Permit Scheme is being completely overhauled to allow full monitoring of permit provision and allow real-time enforcement of permit abuse.

- 4.4 It is proposed that members are presented with an update in a standalone committee item on the existing scheme and any proposals to update the scheme and its operation at a later date.

5. Castle Wynd Re-development – Taxi Rank & Tour Bus displacement

- 5.1 As a result of the requirement to remove taxis from Castle Wynd when pedestrianising this area (Castle Redevelopment), proposals for relocating taxis from their existing rank and displacement of tour buses from Bridge St have been discussed with operators.

5.2 Taxis

It is proposed to create two lengths of dual use bays on both sides of Bridge St to allow Loading from 6am to 10am, Taxi Only from 10am to 7pm. Taxis will then use Eastgate from 7pm to 6am as a new rank entering from Crown Road and exiting from Hamilton Street (**See diagrams 2 and 3**).

5.3 Tour Buses

As a result of moving Taxi provision to Bridge St we have agreed with the tour operators to relocate tour buses to Bank St and create permanent stops outside Doctor Blacks Hall and The Mercure Hotel. This will be achieved by removing two lengths of Loading facility (**See diagram 4**).

6. Implications

- 6.1 There are no additional resource implications as the DPE scheme budget is still live and works are ongoing.
- 6.2 Item 3 is proposed to improve accessibility and will require agreement of stakeholders to ensure that the proposal is adequate for their needs.

Recommendation

1. Members agree the changes listed in item 2.2 and the amendment of the existing Traffic Regulation Order subject to standard Traffic Regulation Order Procedures.
2. As per item 3 members agree the investigation and implementation of time limited Disabled Bays in Inverness City Centre subject to agreement with stakeholder's and representatives. The changes would also be subject to standard Traffic Regulation Order Procedures.
3. That members Note item 4.
4. Members agree the changes in item 5 by amendment of the existing Traffic Regulation Order subject to standard Traffic Regulation Order Procedures.

Designation: Director of Community Services

Date: 24 January 2017

Author: Shane Manning, Principal Traffic Officer

Background Papers: Diagram 1 - Disabled Bays
Diagram 2 - Bridge St Taxis
Diagram 3 - Eastgate Taxi Rank
Diagram 4 - Tour Bus Stands
Appendix A - Residents Permit Parking Survey 2017

Diagram 1- Disabled Bays

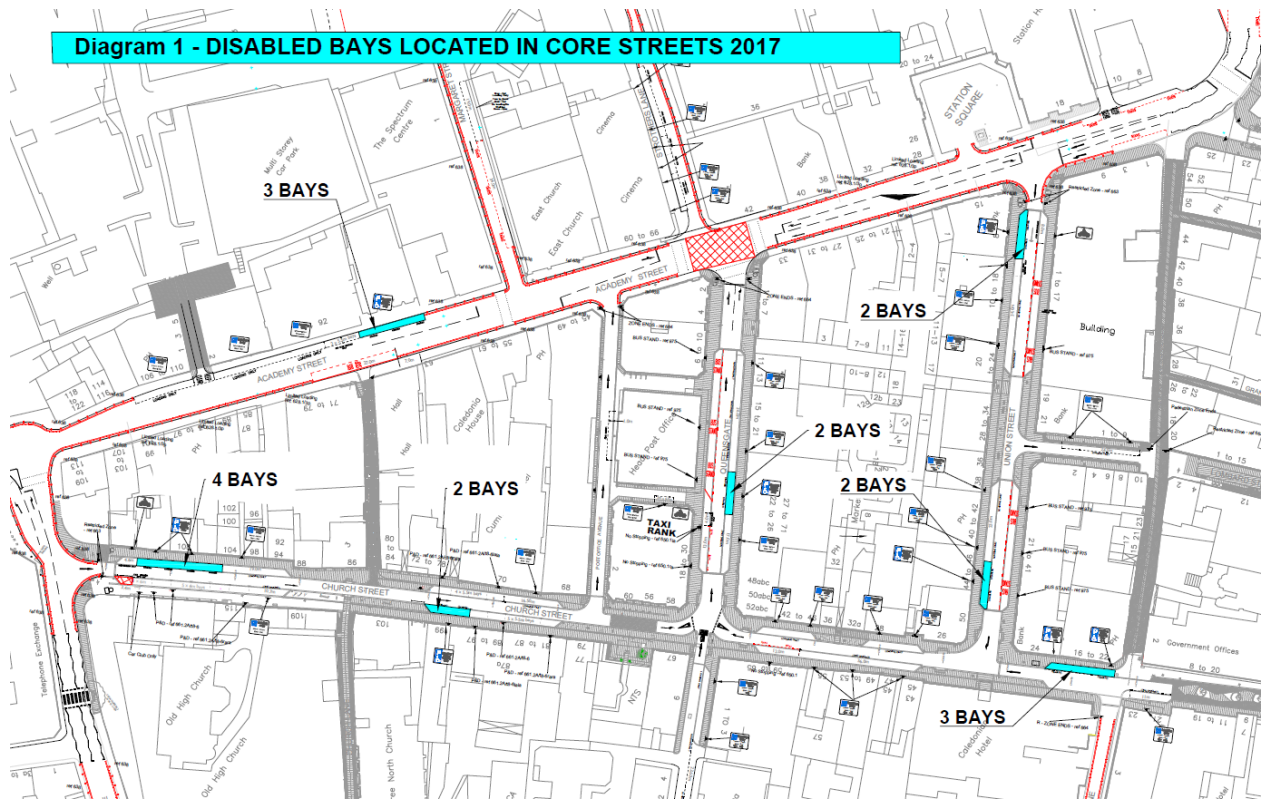


Diagram 2 – Bridge St Taxis

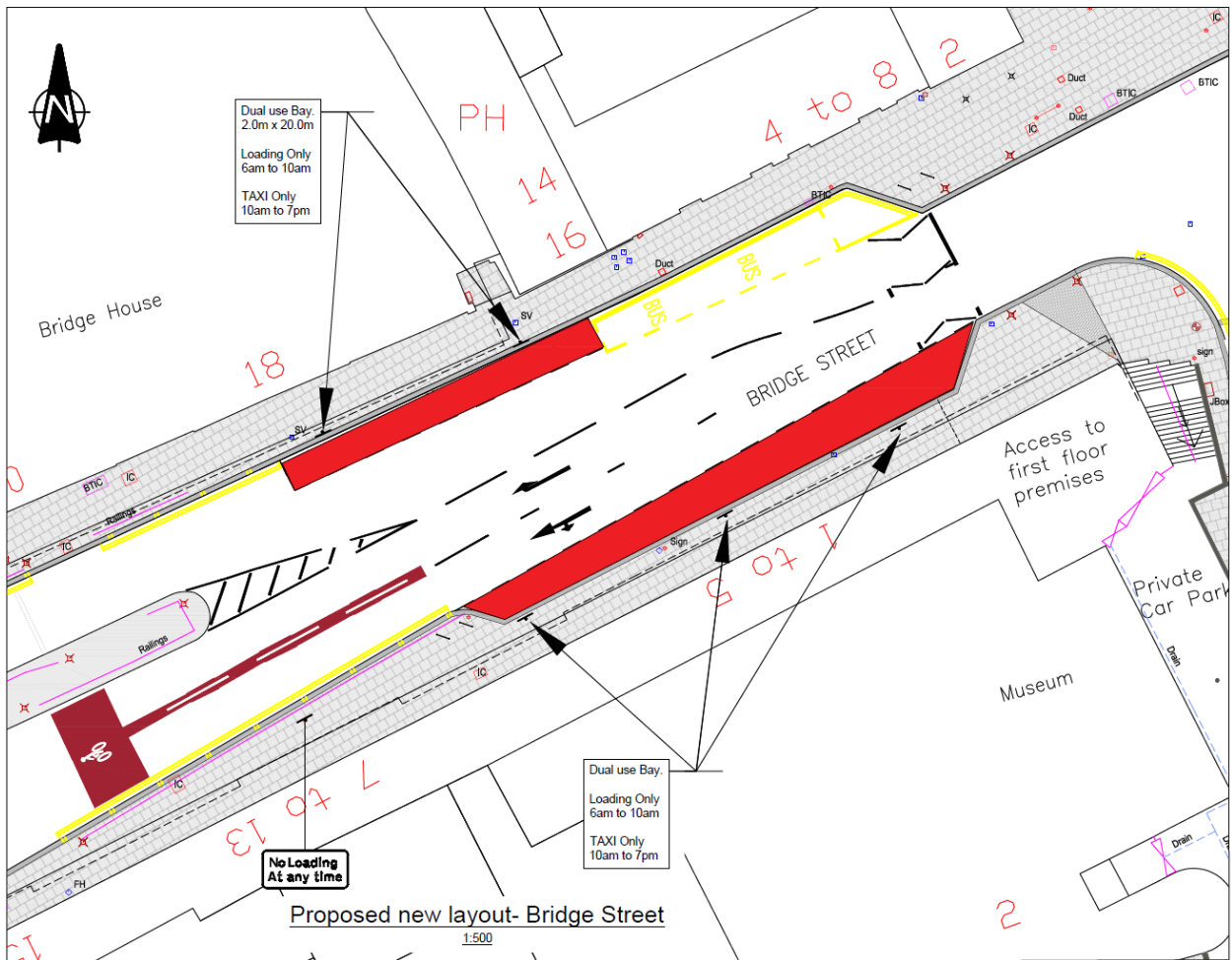


Diagram 3 Eastgate Taxi Rank

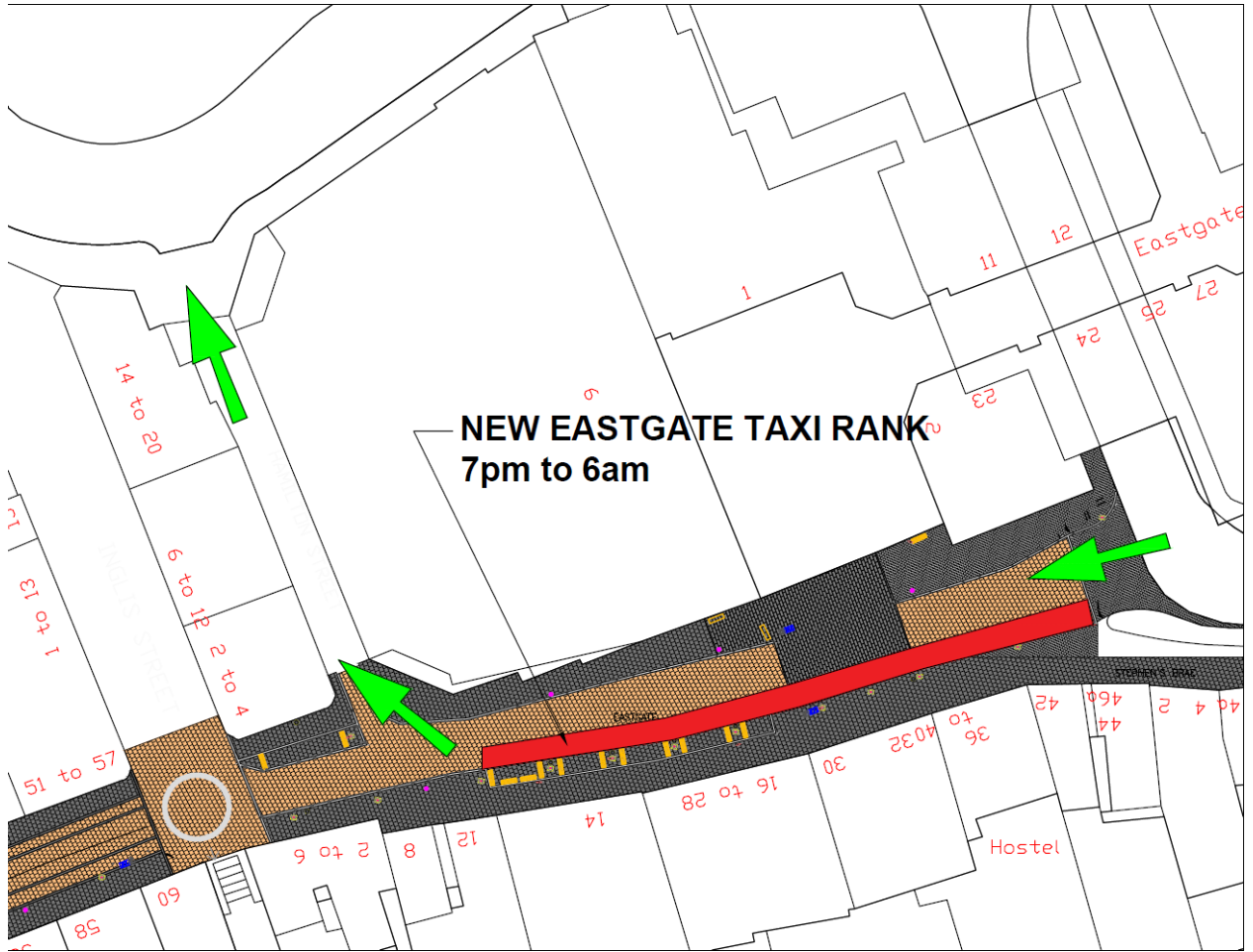
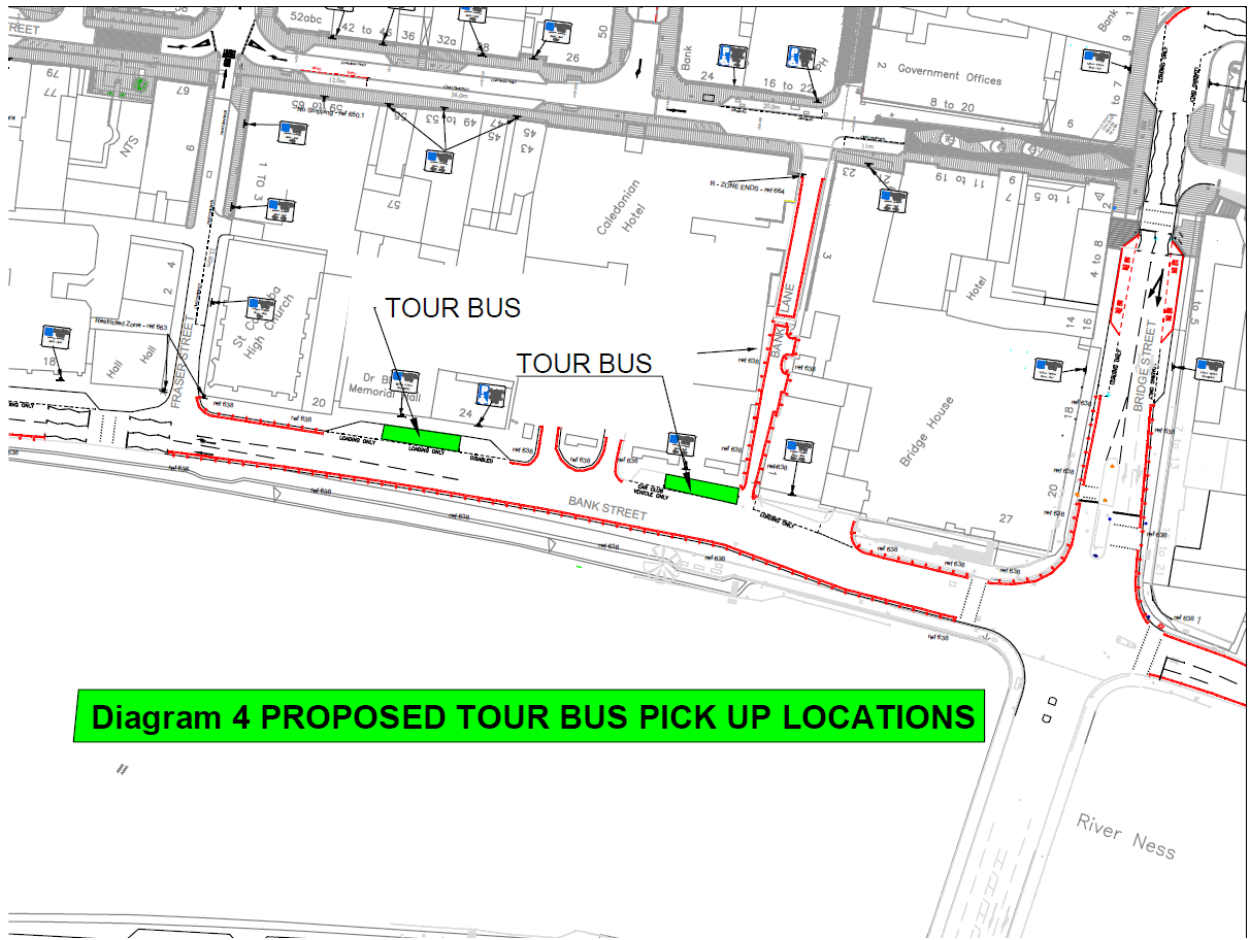


Diagram 4 Tour Bus Stands



Appendix A

Residents Permit Parking Survey 2017

A number of issues have arisen since the Highland Council took over the enforcement of parking restrictions in areas where Residents Parking Permits are operating. To assist in resolving some of the issues the following survey should be completed by residents.

Street.....(Required)

Name (optional)

Contact Number..... (optional)

Contact Email..... (optional)

Q1. Does the household have a Residents or Visitor parking permit?

Yes No How many_____

Q2 Would the residents prefer the permit system to operate:

(please tick one choice)

Monday to Saturday or 7 days per week

Q3 Would the residents prefer the permit system to operate from

(please tick one choice)

8am to 6pm 8am to 8pm 24hours

Q4 Would you prefer fixed Permit pricing or scaled based on road tax.

(the greener your vehicle the cheaper the permit)

Fixed Scaled

Q5 Should there be a restriction on the number of permits per household.

Yes No How many_____

Q6 Should the parking permits be issued by zone or by street?

(a permit is valid on multiple streets or just one street)

Zone Street

Any Other Comments:

(Continue on separate sheet)

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	10
Report No	CIA/ 08/17

Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets Update

Report by Director of Development and Infrastructure

Summary

This report invites Members to approve the projects delivered through the Scottish Government funding for Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets for the City of Inverness Area Committee, as set out in **Appendix 1**.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Cycling Walking and Safer Streets (CWSS) Programme is funded directly by the Scottish Government. The programme aims to encourage sustainable and active travel to school by improving safety and removing barriers to walking and cycling. It also aims to encourage more people to think about their travel decisions.
- 1.2 Highland Council Road Safety Unit works with Schools to produce a School Travel Plan (STP) which focusses on the journey to/from school and demonstrates the school's all-round commitment to develop Safer Routes to School (SRTS) and achieve a modal shift towards active travel.
- 1.3 Further information on SRTS can be found at www.highland.gov.uk/srts.
- 1.4 This report supports the Programme for the Highland Council to provide more safe cycle tracks and "walk to school" pathways where appropriate, and will encourage healthier and greener methods of travel. By enabling a modal shift to active travel, this will support the Council's Carbon CLEVER initiative by reducing carbon emissions.

2. Funding

- 2.1 The CWSS programme has a budget of £255,000 for 2016/17 that is provided by the Scottish Government. The terms and conditions of the grant include a request to consider a minimum spend of 36% (and preferably 50%) on cycling related projects.
- 2.2 Through the development of the STP, schools can normally bid for up to £30,000 of CWSS funding that is approved by Members at Area Committee's. A Small Grant Funding element also exists in the scheme which allows projects up to the value of £3,000 to be approved by the Road Safety Unit allowing immediate implementation of these small projects.

3. CWSS Update

3.1 **Appendix 1** details the funding applications to be approved by the City of Inverness Area Committee on 23rd February 2017.

4. Resource Implications

4.1 The projects listed in **Appendix 1** will be funded from the CWSS budget 2016/17 or will be carried forward to 2017/18.

4.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

4.3 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

4.4 Climate Change/Carbon Clever Implications.

The modal shift from cars to cycling and walking will have a positive contribution to reducing carbon emissions. This supports the Council's Carbon CLEVER initiative, which has the target of a carbon neutral Inverness in a low carbon Highlands by 2025.

4.5 There is no adverse impact on risk, Gaelic or rural considerations arising from this report.

Recommendations

Members are invited to

- approve the CWSS/SRTS projects detailed in **Appendix 1**; and
- note that the Road Safety Unit will continue to work with schools to develop further SRTS Projects for future years.

Designation: Director of Development and Infrastructure

Date: 20 December 2016

Report Author: Lisa MacKellaich (Road Safety Officer)

Appendix 1

School	Purpose	SRTS Estimated Contribution	Additional Information	Cycling Element
Farr Primary School	Construct a footpath through the village to link the school to the village hall.	£30,000	<p>To improve walking links for the local community to the school. Also open up a safe access to the village hall where the school would like to carry out sports activities.</p> <p>This additional funding for the project will support the completion of the scheme. Additional costs have been incurred associated to unforeseen groundworks and land acquisition. The scheme is being taken forward by the Councils Project Design Unit and supported by CWSS funding.</p>	
Duncan Forbes Primary School	Create a priority give way, build outs, raised crossings and lining works on Culloden Park.	£20,000	To improve the safety of the drop off zone arrangements on Culloden Park, reduce vehicle speeds and school gate parking thus encouraging increased active travel to school.	
Kirkhill Primary School	X 1 Garrick Cycle Shelter with toast rack.	£9,050	To encourage active travel to Kirkhill Primary School.	✓

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	11
Report No	CIA/09/17

Millburn Associated School Group Overview

Report by Area Care & Learning Manager (South)

Summary

This report provides an update of key information in relation to the schools within the Millburn Associated School Group (ASG), and provides useful updated links to further information in relation to these schools.

1.0 ASG PROFILE

The primary schools in this area serve over 1500 pupils, with the secondary school serving 1080 young people.

ASG roll projections can be found at:

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/file/16482/millburn>

The Millburn ASG receives support from the Area Care and Learning Office and the Quality Improvement Team.

1.1 Attainment and Achievement

1.1.1 Millburn Academy- 2014/2015

Attainment – Performance Summary

*The following report highlights the performance of the identified schools for **session 2014-15** using the measures now in use by the Scottish Government through its analysis tool **Insight**.

The performance measures are:

Improving Attainment in Literacy and Numeracy	This gives attainment percentages for a school for Literacy and Numeracy at Levels 4 and 5 over a 5 year period.
Improving Attainment for All	This gives a measure of a school's overall attainment based on total tariff scores per pupil. It splits a school's cohort into 3 based on their overall attainment.
Tackling Disadvantage by	This gives a measure of a school's attainment

Improving the attainment of lower attainers relative to Higher attainers	based on total tariff scores per pupil against deprivation based on SIMD.
Increasing post-school Participation	This gives a measure of the percentage of pupils leaving school achieving a positive and sustained destination.
Breadth and Depth All candidates	This gives an indication of attainment by looking at the number of qualifications gained.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender • LAC • Ethnicity • EAL • ASN • SIMD <p>A school itself will analyse these particular issues to see if any of them are significant.</p>	

Virtual Comparator Why is the virtual comparator the key benchmark?

Insight allows schools to compare their performance to the performance of a virtual comparator, which is made up of pupils from schools in other local authorities who have similar characteristics to the pupils in this school. This is helpful because it allows a comparison based on pupils who are alike on key variables (gender, deprivation, additional support needs and stage of leaving / latest stage) that are linked to educational outcomes rather than comparison with real schools which may have quite a different pupil profile. The virtual comparator therefore controls, to a large extent, the background characteristics of pupils in this school and offers a fairer comparison.

1. Improving Attainment in Literacy and Numeracy

We are ambitious for our pupils and want as many of our school leavers as possible to be highly literate and numerate, increasing their life chances greatly. For the first time, a measure is being developed which focuses on literacy and numeracy.

Curriculum for Excellence stresses the responsibility of *all* teachers for developing literacy and numeracy skills. This reflects the importance placed on these crucial skills which unlock learning in all other areas of the curriculum and are therefore vital for success in learning, life and work in the modern world and workplace.

<i>Literacy Level 4</i>	• <i>Millburn is slightly below the virtual comparator</i>
<i>Literacy Level 5</i>	• <i>Millburn is above the virtual comparator</i>
<i>Numeracy Level 4</i>	• <i>Millburn is slightly below the virtual comparator</i>
<i>Numeracy Level 5</i>	• <i>Millburn is slightly below the virtual comparator</i>

Level 4 refers to pupils achieving a National Level 4 award for Literacy or Numeracy and will include any leavers who achieved a Standard Grade General award or Intermediate 1 award under the old exam system

Level 5 refers to pupils achieving a National Level 5 award for Literacy or Numeracy and will include any leavers who achieved a Standard Grade Credit award or Intermediate 2 award under the old exam system.

2 Improving Attainment for All

Why is this measure important?

The overall aim for this measure, together with measure four, is to have pupils attain as highly as possible 'across the board'. They concern how well a school really knows itself for all its children. This is vital if we are to make good our commitment to both raising attainment and tackling inequality.

What is the tariff score?

Each qualification (unit and course) is accredited to the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). The qualification is awarded tariff points based on its SCQF level and credit points. Points are also based on the grade of award achieved. The average tariff score for a school or other cohort is an average of the total points for each learner.

<i>Lowest 20%</i>	• <i>Millburn is below the virtual comparator</i>
<i>Middle 60%</i>	• <i>Millburn is above the their virtual comparator</i>
<i>Highest 20%</i>	• <i>Millburn is above the their virtual comparator</i>

3 Increasing Post-school Participation

Why is this measure important?

Considering the destinations of our leavers is a vital part of ensuring that Curriculum for Excellence is a success in our schools.

<i>Post School participation</i>	• <i>91.5%</i>
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4 Tackling Disadvantage by Improving the Attainment of Pupils in the Lower SIMD Deciles Relative to the Attainment of Pupils in the Higher SIMD Deciles

SIMD = Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. This is the Scottish Government's official tool to identify areas of multiple deprivation in Scotland. This is based on a scale of 1-10, with 1 being an area of highest deprivation and 10 in area of least deprivation

The overall aim for this measure is to have our pupils attain as highly as possible 'across the board'. This is vital if we are to make good our commitment to both raising attainment and tackling inequality.

<i>Millburn Academy</i>	<i>In the main Millburn is above the virtual comparator with the exception of SIMD Decile 3</i>
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5 Breadth and Depth: Leavers

This considers the performance of the pupils in the school at the point of exit. This consists of a mixed cohort of pupils - all of those in a school session who left, whether in S4, S5 or S6.

The measures allow a school to consider the number of awards per SCQF Level, shown in percentages.

Awards	Level 1 %		Level 2 %		Level 3 %		Level 4 %		Level 5 %		Level 6 %		Level 7 %		Number in Cohort	
	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual
1 or more	94.79	98.82	94.79	98.82	94.79	98.82	94.79	97.30	86.26	88.63	66.82	63.84	20.85	21.14	211	2110
2 or more	92.89	97.63	92.89	97.63	92.89	97.58	91.94	95.64	84.36	81.75	51.66	54.12	13.74	9.19	211	2110
3 or more	92.89	96.40	92.89	96.40	92.89	96.30	90.05	94.08	77.73	75.55	47.39	45.92	4.27	2.84	211	2110
4 or more	91.00	95.07	91.00	95.07	91.00	94.98	89.10	92.42	68.25	68.06	38.86	39.76	0	0.19	211	2110
5 or more	88.63	93.08	88.63	93.08	88.63	92.99	85.78	89.29	59.72	60.24	31.25	32.51	0	0.05	211	2110

1.1.2 Destinations 16+

Leaver destination information is taken from the School Leaver Destination Return (SLDR) which is a statistical return undertaken by Skills Development Scotland (SDS) on behalf of the Scottish Government. The most recent return is based on a follow up of young people who left school between 1 August 2014 and 31 July 2015. This exercise was carried out during the month of September 2015.

	% Positive Destinations
	2014/15
Millburn Academy	91.5%
Highland	93.7%
Scotland	92.9%

Leaver Destinations for Millburn

Destinations of Pupils (%)

	Millburn Academy	HIGHLAND	SCOTLAND
DESTINATION	14/15	14/15	14/15
Higher Education	40.3	35.3	38.8
Further Education	20.9	25.6	27.6
Training	1.9	1.4	3.8
Employment	27.5	28.9	21.4
Voluntary	0.5	0.8	0.4
Activity Agreements	0.5	1.9	0.9

Note: National averages have been calculated from the figures for all available local authority and grant-aided schools, whereas the local authority averages are based on local authority schools only.

1.1.3 Wider Achievement & Notable Successes 2016-17

Secondary – Millburn – [Link to Millburn Academy webpage](#)

Wider Achievement & Notable Successes

- Mrs J Kerr – participation in age group triathlon championships (UK/World)
- Kai Bremner – National Mountainbike Squad member and medal successes at variety of national competitions
- S3 pupil Ellen Steadwood, selected to fight in Kickboxing in both Scottish and British Championships in February 2017
- S1 pupil Elissa Hunter- Dorans won first prize in The Homework Diary Company Ltd's Student Competition.
- Millburn pupil participated in the Connecting Carers team which exceeded the height of Ben Nevis in a physical challenge
- National 3 in Cycle Maintenance achieved by S3 pupils through partnership with Velocity.
- Morgan Crawford – National and World Kickboxing Champion
- James Walton – S6 – Successful selection and participation at NASA Space School in USA
- World Challenge Trips – China (Yunan 2017) India 2015
- Vine Trust Trip to Tanzania
- Bay of Naples Geography Field Trip
- Normandy Trip
- Battlefields Trip
- Holocaust Memorial Trust – school based ambassadors travelled to Auschwitz and shared experiences of PoWs in school
- Ski Trip – Outdoor learning in Alps S1-3
- Participation in local Championships (Highland/North of Scotland)
Cross country, Athletics, Football, Hockey, Rugby, Basketball, Badminton, Orienteering, Netball, North of Scotland Public Speaking finalists, NoS Debating finalists, Swimming multiple medals
- National competition participation (Scottish or UK championships/competitions)
Indoor and Outdoor Athletics, Football, Rugby, Basketball, Chess National Championship Kai Pannwitz, Swimming
- Local and Regional Success in Young Masterchef Rotary Competition – Lucia Savage S1
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Short Listing for Film G Gaelic Film awards for 2nd year running
- Science Trip – London Museums
- Science Trip – Eurodisney Physics in Real Life Exploration
- Literacy Mentor Training – S6
- Candy Cane Enterprise
- Hub Fairtrade Tuck Shop Mini Enterprise
- ABRSM Music Exam Successes – Fraser Cowan Grade 5 Cello, Leonie MacLeod Grade 5 Cello, Freya Waudby-West Grade 4 with merit
- National (UK) Finalist for TeenTech Awards
- Darrel Russell, 3rd European Schoolboy Boxing Championships
- James Walton and Carla Henderson – Creative Ambassador Programme Reps – Eden Court
- UK Maths Challenge participation – S1-6
- HIE – Cyber security partners
- F1 in schools – national finalist
- 7 members of staff trained as Scottish Mental Health: First Aiders

Community involvement / Partnerships

- **Religious observance/Personal development support**
Development of structured assembly and class visit programme with involvement of
 - Catholic Church
 - Free Church of Scotland
 - Church of Scotland
 - Inverness Mosque
 - Salvation Army
 - Street Pastors
- Romania Support Trip in association with Blytheswood International
- Badaguish Outdoor Challenge
- Young Enterprise
- Extensive Fundraising – Red Nose Day/Comic Relief, World Challenge, Children In Need, Poppy Scotland
- MAFiA – significant fundraising to support wider life of the school and social events for parents/friends (>£6k annually)
- Sky Sports Initiative
- Prefects Senior Citizens Coffee Morning
- MacMillan Coffee Morning
- Isobel Fraser Care Home Art Project
- Defibrillator Training and fundraising for Millburn machine – Lucky-2-B-here
- S1 Marie Curie Charity Support - amounting to more than £1600.00
- Gideon School Visit
- Christmas Movie Night for ASG primary pupils
- S2 Optoelectronics Event
- S2 English/History/HLH Archive Centre Project
- Blytheswood Shoebox Appeal - More than 200 shoeboxes donated by the school to the Appeal.
- Author Visit – Barry Hutchison – supporting creative writing and personal learning pathways work
- Youth for Christ Touring Team – The Sense – input to personal development, gap year and core music programmes
- Teenage Cancer Trust – awareness raising workshops
- S6 Driving Ambition – Young Drivers Programme with Fire Scotland
- Happy Feet Shoe Collection initiative
- Millburn Transition Film Project
- Aviemore Half Marathon volunteers
- S1 Seafood in schools initiative
- RAF/British Aerospace S2 STEM event
- Millburn pupils volunteering in range of community activities – Raigmore Youth Club, Boys Brigade, Cadets, Brownies, Scouts, Church clubs, Rainbows, Badminton Club, Highland Rugby Club, InverRoss and Highland Hockey Club
- BBC micro:bits initiative – computer programming – Education Scotland recognition for buddying approach
- Kingsmills Hotel – Opportunity to experience all aspects of the hospitality industry
- Aigas Field Centre – Field Work techniques development
- UHI – Sport and Recreation Pathways
- Velocity Bike Academy/café – Bike maintenance
- Inverness Botanic Gardens – links with science courses
- Inverness Youth Hostel – transition partner
- Inverness Youth Hostel – art project
- Eden Court – Languages through film media – Spanish and French
- Whites Electronics – Factory visit – learning into reality
- Morrisons Construction – Skills for Work
- Highland Wildlife Park – AH Biology investigation support
- Sir Lenny Henry's recognition of Millburn as a school which has gone above and beyond in terms of fundraising.
- Assemblies, led by S6 pupils who are First Aid trained, to raise awareness of CPR techniques
- Lectern crafted by S6 Practical Woodworking pupils to mark Raigmore's 50th anniversary.
- Footballers from ICTFC spend time with S3 Home Economics pupils discussing healthy eating and nutrition.

- Baxters of Fochabers – links with Marketing and Executive Chef – School Garden to Plate Chutney project

Additional Supported Study Clubs (most subjects offer pre prelim and pre SQA examinations)

- S3/4 Fashion & Textile
- National 5 Physics
- Higher Physics
- S4-6 Art and Design
- S4-6 English
- S4-6 Biology
- S4-6 Maths
- S4-6 French
- S4-6 History
- S4-6 Geography
- S4-6 Chemistry
- Extensive Easter Study Support Programme
- National & Higher PE

Lunchtime/After School Clubs all on voluntary basis (* denotes senior pupil leadership element)

- Scripture Union
- S1-3 Badminton*
- S1 Football*
- S1-3 Parkour
- S1-6 Lego and Comic club*
- LGBT Drop in/Club*
- Chess Club*
- S2-6 Engineering and Astronomy Club
- S1 Science Club*
- S1-3 Drop in support/Youth Club – Chaplaincy Team
- S1 Dodgeball*
- S1-6 Judo and Tae Kwondo*
- S1-4 Table Tennis
- S2 Football
- S4-6 Debating Club
- S1-3 Unihoc*
- S1-6 Spanish Club
- S1-4 Girls Football
- S1-6 Dig It – Archaeology Club
- History Club
- S1-6 Guitar Club
- S1 Basketball*
- S1-3 Girls and Boys Hockey*
- S1-2 Rugby*
- S1-6 Gymnastics* plus only paid coach
- S2 Football*
- S1-3 Athletics*
- S2-6 Basketball*
- Senior Football
- S1-6 Art Club*
- S1-6 Drama Club*
- S1-6 Orchestra (Music Tutors)
- S4-6 Hockey*
- Netball
- Pupil Gaelic Singing
- Staff Gaelic Learners
- Millburn Jazz Band
- Dance Club
- Book Group

- Wind Band(Music Tutors)
- String Orchestra(Music Tutors)
- S1-3 Fitness Club
- Staff Fitness club
- Year book Group
- American Flag Football*
- Animation club*
- Soup Growers Gardening Club
- S1 Craft Club
- Trampolining

Primary by School:

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/directory/44/schools/search>

School	Link to School Webpage
Crown Primary	Crown Primary
Daviot Primary	Daviot Primary
Drakies Primary	Drakies Primary
Inshes Primary	Inshes Primary
Milton of Leys Primary	Milton of Leys Primary
Raigmore Primary	Raigmore Primary
Strathdearn Primary	Strathdearn

Wider Achievement & Notable Successes 2016-17

Crown Primary:

- Whole School “Be Inspired” week managed and led by PT. Adult visitor led sessions throughout the week. Presentations on topics from STEM @ UHI, mechanical engineering, psychiatry, GP, architect, marine conservation, human rights law, drama teaching, Fire Service, Police. Class visits to local businesses, restaurants, services. All focussed on the skills at the heart of Developing the Young Workforce.
- Read2Dogs research-based initiative aimed at engaging reluctant readers, led by probationer.
- Crown has the Burns’ Factor Multicultural Extravaganza- fits in with Rights Respecting Schools Agenda. Pupils from across the school shared a wide variety of talents- instruments, song, poetry, dance and gymnastics.
- Transformation of classroom practice in tracking attainment in numeracy. Staff have started to engage with Highland Numeracy Progression and progress in numeracy will be individually tracked and interventions put in place. ASG wide training in Assessment tasks.
- ASG wide moderation of ASN levels and INSET training for all ASN staff.
- The school vision is to have the tagline “The Motivated School” with visual planning, learning, feedback and target setting at the heart of the collective language we speak at Crown Primary.
- Health and Wellbeing- explicit teaching of weekly social skills to build self-esteem and have a shared understanding of expectations of each other- pupils, parents and staff.
- Leadership Programme- leading learning through Coding Club, Little Learners Club, Junior Jannies, Play Leaders, Tableteers, Lost Property Management, VIP lunches..
- Pupil, Staff and parental involvement in building School Improvement Plan. Working parties delivering an improvement agenda across the school community.
- Establishment of a Community Links Group through Crown Church where senior citizens share their experience and pupils share their technological expertise.
- Groups from P6 stage participated in Highland Hospice’s Junior Apprentice. Finals next week.

After School Clubs

Football, Shinty, Hockey, Chess, Cross Country, Athletics, Gymnastics, Karate, French

Drakies Primary:

- Party in the Park – Local coverage for Reach Out event where our school walked around the park, encouraging our neighbours to come out to greet us and have a picnic in the park.
- First Parent Health and Well-Being Partnership Group – Discussing various aspects of HWB
- P7 visited the STEM Hub at UHI
- Donations from Community Café given to Macmillan Coffee Morning
- World Milk Day – Whole day dedicated to Milk!
- Gaining our 3rd Green Flag
- Whole school wore Blue for Diabetes Awareness Day
- 12 children took part in the Children in Need Choir in Glasgow starring on the show and community café featured
- Community Café raised £181 for Children in Need
- Christmas Community Café had over 300 visitors for a sing a long between 3-5pm.
- Singing at Tesco Inshes for Clic Sargeant raising £119
- Basketball team made it to the Inverness school finals.
- Parent Council secured £3200 from Ward Discretionary Fund to enable every child in P7 to take part in the school residential.
- Community Café was focused on World Cancer Day raising £80 for Maggie's Highland
- Community Café will be in next week's Sunday Post
- Gymnastics team qualified for Scottish Schools competition
- Forest Schools – Leafy Trails

Inshes Primary:

Over the last year we have invited parents and families to a number of performances;

- P6 and P7 working with Scottish Opera- Fever
- Christmas concerts
- Senior citizen concert
- 'In the Jungle and Beyond'
- P1 end of year performance
- We have also invited our parents to numerous open days where parent and child review child's learning and setting next steps.
- Sporting success
- Gymnastic (Highland) competition, Inverness leisure, 5/2/17 when our two teams came first and third.
- Badminton tournaments
- Hockey tournaments
- Football tournaments
- Athletics competition
- Cross Country
- Initiative 'healthy hearts' (mile a day) has run since August 2015. All pupils should get 2h of PE per week, plus have their heart pumping heart for 12 minutes each day.
- Received our third green flag in October 2016. Outdoor Friday, Fruity Friday. Working closely with Farr primary in promoting outdoor learning in Farr community woods.
- Taken part in a number charity events; children in need, MFR cash for kids, British Heart Foundation.
- Busier than ever in our out of school care- around 65 children most days.

- Busy school with many out of school clubs (hockey, badminton, football, dancing, gymnastics, cross country, sport Friday). Number of lets that also allow children to be active (private providers).
- Second year of delivering flexibility of 600 hours in the nursery- going well
- Working closely within ASG; joint ASG day February inset. ASN training at MOL and moderation across ASG at Drakies. Previous ASG insets equality and equity, writing
- Millburn DYW project (pilot 15/16) happening across ASG P7 every year with a showcase event at the end.

Milton of Leys Primary:

- Pupils from Milton of Leys represented Inverness Harriers competing at Scottish Athletics Under 12's event at the Emirates Stadium, Glasgow.
- Gymnastics – The MoL: Level 2a Team won Gold and have qualified for the national championships in Perth
- P5/6's took part in the SSFA Junior 7's tournament and played superbly well to win the Highland Qualifier and qualify for the Regional Finals in Dundee in March.

Raigmore Primary:

- P7's are involved with skill development Scotland and have attended workshops.
- Some P6/7's are taking part in Science Skills Academy next week in the stem hub HIE
- We have after schools club - shinty, a MKC Heroes club and we are starting basketball after school club.
- P7's have raised money to pay towards their residential trip.
- I have copied this off the most recent newsletter.
- Charity Fundraiser
- We are having a 'Wear Something Purple Day' on Friday 10th March in aid of Glasgow Children's Hospital. Please help up support this wonderful hospital and donate £1.
- Shinty
- Congratulations to P4 & P5 shinty players who won all their games and the Inverness Development League Trophy at the end of January.
- Before Christmas and during January, a group of adults from the 'Corbett Centre' visited the school to talk to some classes about anti-bullying. These visits were very popular with both the adults and the children.
- We have some children from P6 training to be playground leaders. They will then organise games in the playground for the younger children during interval and lunchtime.
- Nursery 4 and P1 children built tepees and did some wood whittling with Sharon Amos a Forestry Ranger from the Forestry Commission

School	Date of Latest Published Report	Link to Education Scotland Pages
Millburn Academy	March 2010	Millburn Academy Inspection
Crown Primary School	March 2007	Crown Primary Inspection
Daviot Primary School	April 2014	Daviot Primary Inspection
Drakies Primary School	February 2012	Drakies Primary Inspection
Inshes Primary School	No report available	
Milton of Leys Primary School	No report available	
Raigmore Primary School	January 2009	Raigmore Primary Inspection
Strathdearn Primary School	May 2015	Strathdearn Primary Inspection

Early Years CentresLink to Care Inspectorate website: [Find a care service](#)

Early Year Centre	Inspection Month	Quality of Care & Support	Quality of Environment	Quality of Staffing	Quality of Management & Leadership
Local Authority Provision					
Strathdearn Primary Nursery	Nov-16	Very Good	Good	Not Assessed	Not Assessed
Crown Primary Nursery	Sep-16	Very Good	Good	Not Assessed	Not Assessed
Raigmore Primary Nursery	Jun-16	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
Milton of Leys Primary Nursery	Apr-16	Good	Good	Good	Good
Inshes Primary Nursery	May-15	Good	Very Good	Very Good	Good
Drakies Primary Nursery	Nov-14	Good	Good	Good	Very Good
Partner Centres					
St Johns Pre-School Centre	May-14	Good	Good	Good	Good
Andy Pandy Nursery	Jan-15	Good	Good	Good	Good
Playpen Nursery	Aug-15	Good	Good	Good	Good
Wimberley Way Childcare Service	May-15	Very Good	Good	Good	Very Good
Les Enfants Inshes		Very Good	Not Assessed	Very Good	Not Assessed
Out of School Care Provision (OoSC)(not Local Authority)					

Crown Corner	Sep-14	Good	Good	Very Good	Very Good
Drakies OoSC (CALA)	Feb-15	Very Good	Good	Very Good	Good
Raigmore OoSC (CALA)	Feb-15	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
Strathdearn OoSC (CALA)	Registered in March 2016 no inspection reports				

1.2 Pupils

Free School Meal information extracted from Healthy Living Survey collected February 2016 Free Meals Eligibility is the percentage of the present school roll registered for free meals. Free Meals Uptake is the percentage of those present on census day who were registered and took free meals.

1.2.1 Attendance/Absence/Exclusion Profile 2015/16

Scottish Government collect Attendance, Absence and Exclusions on a bi-annual basis.

SCHOOL	% Actual Attendances	% Authorised Absences	% Unauthorised Absences	No of Exclusions and Rates per 1000 Pupils	No Pupils Excluded and Rate per 1000 Pupils
Highland Secondary (2014-15)	90.8%	5.8%	3.2%	38/1000	26/1000
Scotland Secondary (2014-15)	91.9%	5.4%	2.5%	50/1000	29/1000
Millburn Academy	90.98%	2.31%	6.60%	49/1000	38/1000

1.3 School

SCHOOL	ECO School	No of Placing Requests In	No of Placing Requests in Granted	No of Placing Requests Out Granted
Millburn Academy	Bronze	34	12	16
Crown Primary School	Withdrawn	7	7	3
Daviot Primary School	Green Flag	2	2	2
Drakies Primary School	Green Flag	8	8	1
Inshes Primary School	Green Flag	15	10	1
Milton of Leys Primary School	Silver	1	1	5
Raigmore Primary School	Green Flag	3	3	9
Strathdearn Primary School	Green Flag	0	0	1

Placing requests are those received to start in a school at the beginning of academic year 2016-17.

1.4 School Staffing

School	Teaching Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	
Millburn Academy	81.28	
Crown Primary School	18.40	
Daviot Primary School	2.35	
Drakies Primary School	2.29	
Inshes Primary School	22.40	
Milton of Leys Primary School	21.9	
Raigmore Primary School	12.40	
Strathdearn Primary School	3.66	
Nursery	Teacher (FTE)	EYP & OoSC (FTE)
Crown Primary Nursery	0	4.34
Drakies Primary Nursery	0	7.10
Inshes Primary Nursery	0	8.07
Milton of Leys Primary Nursery	0	14.51
Raigmore Primary Nursery	0	5.60
Strathdearn Primary Nursery	0	1.31

School staff information from Staff Census collected Sept 2016. Please note that only certain types of teaching posts are counted here: Normal complement, Long term sick absence replacement, secondment replacement, maternity leave replacement, other replacement, temporary contract, covering a vacancy. Teachers who teach at the school but are centrally employed are excluded. Pre-school staff information as at 31 January 2017.

Core staffing is calculated using the Highland Staffing Model, which takes account of national agreements for P1 to P3 class sizes. As a result, the primary is staffed according to the model. The Primary Staffing Arrangements are currently being revised and the new Highland Staffing Model will be shared in due course.

School Rolls as at 10 February 2017 – Appendix 1

In addition to core staffing for each school, a model will be used to provide an appropriate level of ASN cover. This model was approved at Adult and Children's Services Committee, 26th September 2012 (Item 9a). Report [ACS-33-12](#).

This session we are funding additional staffing for the Millburn Academy ASG as follows:

- 443.5 PSA hours - secondary
- 1224.5 PSA hours – primary
- 9.1 FTE ASN teacher - secondary
- 11.2 FTE ASN teacher – primary

The identified level of need at start of session was:

92	Pupils at level 3
84	Pupils at level 4

1.5 Buildings 2016-17

School	% Roll Capacity
Millburn Academy	92%
Crown Primary School	87%
Daviot Primary School	72%
Drakies Primary School	80%
Inshes Primary School	99%
Milton of Leys Primary School	103%
Raigmore Primary School	87%
Strathdearn Primary School	57%

2.0 HIGH LIFE HIGHLAND in Millburn ASG

Programme information

Inverness Library:

<https://www.highlifehighland.com/libraries/inverness-library/>

Spectrum Centre:

<https://www.highlifehighland.com/community-centres/spectrum-centre>

Inshes Community Library:

<https://www.highlifehighland.com/libraries/inshes-library/>

Raigmore Community Centre:

<https://www.highlifehighland.com/community-centres/raigmore-community-centre>

Inverness Museum and Art Gallery:

<https://www.highlifehighland.com/inverness-museum-and-art-gallery/>

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Area Committee is asked to scrutinise and note the content of the report.

Signature:

Designation: Area Care & Learning Manager (South)

Author: Karen Ralston

Date: 13/02/17

Appendix 1

SCHOOL ROLLS

Session 2016-17

SEED Code	School Name	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	TOTAL
5139929	Crown Primary School	38	39	42	40	43	43	45	290
5138620	Daviot Primary School	3	1	3	3	6		2	18
5140129	Drakies Primary School	35	30	30	38	28	34	32	227
5120721	Inshes Primary School	43	55	54	53	45	56	48	354
5101620	Milton of Leys Primary School	57	52	61	46	61	54	46	377
5140625	Raigmore Primary School	34	38	24	42	24	19	25	206
5102626	Strathdearn Primary School	5	7	5	7	8	8	2	42

School Name	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	TOTAL
Millburn Academy	198	189	195	190	174	134	1080

PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY Session 2016 - 2017

Nursery	Deferred Entry	N5	N4
Crown Primary Nursery	7	30	11
Drakies Primary Nursery	5	28	23
Inshes Primary Nursery	4	28	23
Milton of Leys Primary Nursery	5	54	43
Raigmore Primary Nursery	1	26	19
Strathdearn Primary Nursery	0	9	7

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee - 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	12
Report No	CIA/10/17

Housing Performance Report – 1 April 2016 to 31 December 2016

Report by the Director of Community Services

Summary

This report provides information on how the Housing Section performed in relation to Scottish Social Housing Charter and other performance indicators up to 31 December 2016.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) has set out the performance indicators that it will use in its scrutiny of landlords.
- 1.2 This report provides key performance information based on the reporting framework recommended by the SHR. Information on other performance indicators for housing management is presented in tabular format at **Appendix 1**.
- 1.3 Further performance information by Council Ward can be found on the Highland Council Intranet ward reporting pages.
http://www.highland.gov.uk/staffsite/info/13/members_intranet/37/ward_reporting/2
- 1.4 In accordance with the Scottish Social Housing Charter guidance, the Repairs, Tenancy Management and Rent Arrears figures are cumulative, while the Homeless Presentations figures are given for each separate quarter.
- 1.5 Scottish Quality Network (SQN) benchmark information, derived from the performance of all Scottish Landlords, has also been provided where available.

2. Repairs

- 2.1 The key indicators for measuring repairs performance are considered to be the average time taken to complete Emergency repairs and Non-emergency repairs.
- 2.2 The average length of time taken to complete Emergency repairs is calculated in hours.
- 2.3 Repairs performance is well within the 14 hour target in Inverness.

2.4 **Table 1: Average length of time taken to complete emergency repairs (hours)**
Target 14 hours
2015/16 SQN Benchmark – 5.1 hours

	No of Houses	2014/15				2015/16				2016/17		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Aird & Loch Ness	321	8.3	8.0	7.2	9.6	8.8	12.3	10.6	13.4	9.8	8.3	9.9
Inverness West	469	5.9	5.5	5.1	7.2	4.0	3.8	4.7	9.1	10.8	9.2	7.0
Inverness Central	1897	16.5	10.4	4.8	5.1	6.3	5.3	5.8	6.5	4.2	4.3	4.4
Inverness Ness-Side	508	34.8	17.1	12.9	6.2	3.2	4.9	6.2	7.3	5.1	7.9	7.5
Inverness Millburn	388	20.7	14.3	11.0	6	6.4	5.7	5.2	5.1	4.0	4	3.7
Culloden & Ardersier	564	9.5	9.3	9.4	9.3	4.5	6	6.4	8	5.9	5.3	5.5
Inverness South	93	4.8	4.9	4.3	6.1	8.6	7.3	5.9	6.6	5.3	3.4	3.6
Highland	13980	14.8	11.1	9.3	9.1	6.2	6.9	7.1	7.9	6.6	7.2	6.9

2.5 Non-emergency repairs are measured in working days.

2.6 **Table 2: Average length of time taken to complete non-emergency repairs (days)**
Target 8 days
2015/16 SQN Benchmark – 7.5 days

	No of House	2014/15				2015/16				2016/17		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Aird & Loch Ness	321	12.5	9.9	8.3	7.6	8.4	8.4	8.9	8.1	6.7	6.6	6.1
Inverness West	469	6.2	7.0	7	7.1	8.1	7.9	8.0	7.6	6.2	6.7	6.5
Inverness Central	1897	9	7.9	7.7	7.3	6.5	7.3	7.6	7.5	6.5	6.3	6.3
Inverness Ness-Side	508	8.1	7.0	6.7	6.5	6.0	6.9	7.2	7.3	6.1	5.9	5.8
Inverness Millburn	388	7.7	8.0	7.8	7.7	6.1	6.4	6.8	7	6.1	6.4	5.7
Culloden & Ardersier	564	8.7	7.1	6.8	7	7.0	7.5	7.6	7.5	6	6	5.9
Inverness South	93	8.4	8.0	6.9	7	6.7	6.7	6.4	6.4	4.9	5.2	5.3
Highland	13980	7.5	7.6	7.4	7.3	7.1	7.3	7.5	7.5	6.6	6.9	6.9

2.7 Repairs performance continues to be within the 8 day target time in Inverness and performance is better than the Highland wide figure.

2.8 In gathering the information for repairs indicators, we do not include instances where we have been unable to gain access to properties. This is in accordance with the Scottish Social Housing Charter guidance.

3. Tenancy Management

3.1 The chart below provides information on the average re-let time showing the trend back three years and highlighting the same quarter in previous years for comparison.

3.2

**Table 3 : Average re-let time (days) Target 35 days
2015/16 SQN Benchmark – 35.4 days**

	No of Houses	No of relets	2014/15 Q3	2015/16 Q3	2016/17 Q3
Aird & Loch Ness	321	18	33.88	21.88	21.48
Inverness West	469	16	41.65	37.67	24.30
Inverness Central	1897	56	30.96	31.69	26.86
Inverness Ness-Side	508	17	33.32	28.72	26.95
Inverness Millburn	388	13	41.41	24.58	24.61
Culloden & Ardersier	564	14	31.17	26.16	23.46
Inverness South	93	1	23.00	30.33	35.00
Highland	13980	436	39.20	49.28	41.53

3.3 Performance for re-let times across Inverness is within the 35 day target. Performance in Inverness South has decline compared to the same quarter last year this was due to one property which required significant repairs and exceeded the 35 day turnaround time.

4. Rent Arrears

4.1 A key indicator for rent arrears is considered to be the value of current rent arrears. The table below shows the comparative figure for the same quarter in the previous three years. The Highland wide current arrears figure is £1,501,827.

4.2

Table 4 – Current Rent Arrears

	No of Houses	2014/15 Q3	2015/16 Q3	2016/17 Q3
Aird & Loch Ness	474	20624	29462	36209
Inverness West	1895	43240	50340	66494
Inverness Central	508	238354	251887	317236
Inverness Ness-Side	367	70199	75955	72862
Inverness Millburn	561	47987	41883	51857
Culloden & Ardersier	666	64584	55990	76255
Inverness South	104	10874	9678	14132

4.3 As previously reported to Members the level of rent arrears across the Inverness Area continues to rise. Universal Credit Full Service was introduced in the Inverness jobcentre catchment area in June 2016. Tenants claiming Universal Credit Full Service are required to have an online account to manage and maintain their claim. This includes interactions with DWP staff at the job centre and service centres.

4.4 Staff process an APA request (a request for direct payments to landlords) for all known Universal Credit cases this is an area of work that is monitored to ensure we capture all known cases and make an APA application in each case. Changes to DWP administrative processes for direct payments for Full Service Universal Credit means that it is becoming increasingly difficult to monitor payments and manage arrears without extensive manual intervention.

4.5 Community Services has set up a small working group of Officers to look at the impact that Full Service Universal Credit is having on rent arrears with a view to identifying changes to policies and procedures that will help mitigate the impacts. This will include the management of rent arrears and potential changes to IT systems. The outcomes from this working group will be reported to Community Services Committee.

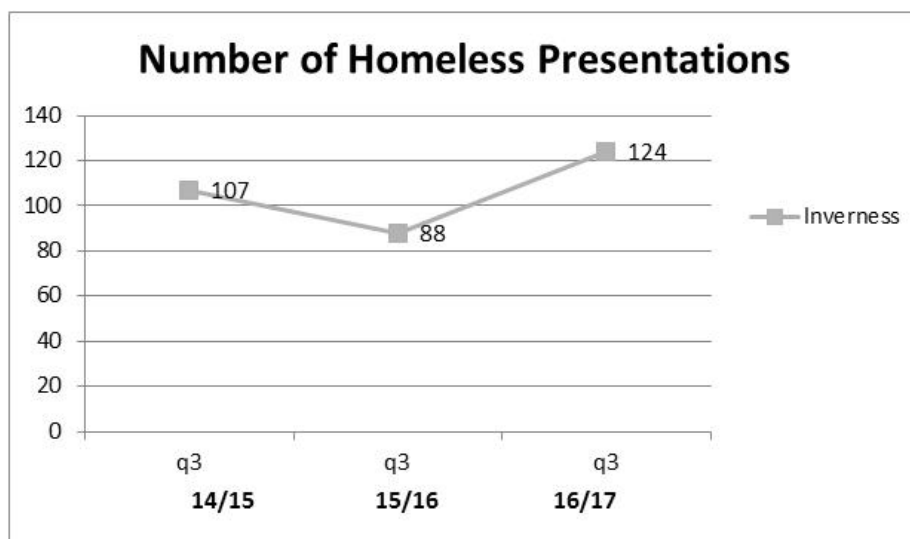
5. Homelessness

5.1 Performance information on homelessness is not collected as part of the Scottish Social Housing Charter return, however a number of indicators have been agreed for reporting to Local Committees.

5.2 Table 5 shows the number of homeless presentations received by Inverness Area charting the same quarter in previous years.

5.3 There were 266 presentations across Highland at the end of Quarter 3 2016 at 31 December 2016.

5.4 **Table 5 - Homeless presentations**



5.5 Table 6 provides information on the cases opened and closed in the quarter. These figures are by quarter and are not cumulative.

5.6 **Table 6 - Housing Options cases**

	2015 Qtr1	2015 Qtr2	2015 Qtr3	2015 Qtr4	2016 Qtr1	2016 Qtr2	2016 Qtr3
Housing Option cases opened	273	282	227	209	81	132	55
Housing Options cases closed	326	352	248	215	226	105	122

5.7 The table at 5.6 shows a reduction in the number of housing options cases opened. Changes to operational and recording arrangements to comply with national guidance on housing options are reflected in the figures in the table. They reflect the removal of double counting between homeless applications and housing options (prevention) cases. This is in line with guidance emphasising the duty to open a homeless application if the local authority believes an applicant is homeless or threatened with homelessness.

6. Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme Update

6.1 The HRA Capital Programme 2016-17 was approved by the Community Services Committee on 5 November 2015. The status of the 2016-17 HRA Capital Programme for the Inverness Area is detailed at **Appendix 2**.

7. Implications

7.1 Resources

There are no resource implications arising from this report.

7.2 Legal

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

7.3 Equality

There are no equality implications arising from this report.

7.4 Climate Change/Carbon Clever

There are no climate change/Carbon Clever implications arising from this report.

7.5 Risk

Risk is managed through regular review and reporting to allow corrective action to be taken if necessary.

7.6 Gaelic

There are no Gaelic implications arising from this report.

7.7 Rural

There are no rural implications arising from this report.

Recommendation

Members are invited to scrutinise the information provided on housing performance in the period 1 April 2016 to 31 December 2016.

Designation: Director of Community Services

Date: 30 January 2017

Author: Sandra MacLennan, Housing Manager South
Lachie MacDonald, Repairs Manager South
Brian Cameron Policy and Investment Manager

Background Papers: Scottish Housing Regulator: The Scottish Social Housing Charter: Indicators and Context Information

Appendix 1

SPI 15/16	16/17	Scottish Average	Target	2016/17			2015/16	
				Qtr 3	Qtr 2	Qtr 1	Qtr 4	Qtr 3
Reactive repairs carried out first time - Inverness	GREEN	90.2	92.0	94.5	94.2	92.9	95.0	94.5
Repairs appointments kept - Inverness	AMBER	92.4	95.0	88.7	88.9	85.1	94.2	94.5
Rent collected as of rent due - Inverness	AMBER	99.5	99.0	98.6	98.9	91.6	98.1	99.1
Gross rent arrears as of rent due - Inverness	AMBER	5.3	5.0	6.3	6.1	5.6	5.8	5.3
Rent loss through voids - Inverness	GREEN	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6
ASB Cases reported and resolved - Inverness	AMBER	83.2	85.0	81.8	70.4	63.6	82.2	83.3
% of new tenancies sustained for more than a year - Inverness	GREEN	88.8	90.0	90.6	89.3	90.0	89.8	88.6
% of tenancy offers refused - Inverness	GREEN	42.0	38.0	29.1	30.3	28.6	12.1	13.1
% of lettable houses becoming vacant - Inverness	GREEN	8.9	8.9	6.1	6.4	9.2	9.8	9.5
% households requiring temporary accommodation who receive offer - Inverness	GREEN	100	100	100	99.4	100	100	100
Ave time in temporary accommodation -Inverness	AMBER		15	16.3	16	16.4	16.3	16.4

Appendix 2

Project Number	Project Title	Number Of Houses	Budget 2016/17 (£)	Project Status	Additional Comments	RAG rating
	Equipment and Adaptations					
BM	Equipment & adaptations Inverness City and Area	Subject to survey	200,000	Ongoing	Works on demand following occupational health referrals	GREEN
	Major Component Replacement					
BMINVBAT2016	Bathroom replacement Inverness City & Area	14	70,000	Works on site	Works progressing on site – 80% complete	GREEN
BMINVKIT2016	Kitchen replacement Inverness City & Area	33	165,000	Works on site	Works progressing on site – 80% complete	GREEN
CSH16002	Window & door replacement Inverness City	91	780,000	Contract awarded	Works anticipated to be complete on site by March 2017.	GREEN
CSH16003	Window & door replacement Inverness Area, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey	71	542,000	Being Re-tendered	Part of wider project of window and door replacement in Inverness Area, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey; 50 Inverness addresses at estimated £382,000; project being retendered to achieve better value for money; works now anticipated to be delayed into next financial year	AMBER
	Heating/Energy Efficiency					
CSH16008	Heating replacements Inverness and Nairn	52	500,000	Project complete	Part of wider project of gas heating replacement in Inverness and Nairn; 36 Inverness addresses have been completed on site	GREEN
BMINVHEA2016	Heating replacements Inverness	10	85,255	Project complete	Works complete on site	GREEN
CSH16009	Non-gas heating replacements Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey	40	600,000	Being Re-tendered	Part of wider project of non-gas heating replacement in Inverness Area, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey. There are 16 properties in Inverness at an estimated value of £240,000; project being retendered to achieve better value for money; works now anticipated to be delayed into next financial year	AMBER
	External Fabric (Major Component Replacement)					
BMINVFAB2016	External fabric works Inverness City & Area	All wards	477,895	Works ongoing	Various environmental works across Inverness including works to communal areas, fencing, guttering and bin stores; additional proposals for works to be submitted to Ward Members for approval	AMBER
	External Fabric (environmental improvements)					
BM	Low-energy lighting in communal blocks	Subject to survey	50,000	Works on site	Replacement of communal stair lighting with low-energy lighting; works match-funded through CARBON CLEVER; works 60% complete on site	GREEN

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	13(a)
Report No	CIA/11/17

Inverness Common Good Fund Financial Monitoring

Report by the Inverness City Area Manager

Summary

This report presents the expenditure monitoring position for the Inverness Common Good Fund as at 31 January 2017 and the projected year end position.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report is produced in support of the Council's corporate governance process. The purpose of the report is to advise members of the anticipated financial position against the agreed budget at the end of financial year 2016/17. **Appendix 1** shows income and expenditure to 31 January 2017, the predicted year end outturn and the predicted variance.

1.2 **Appendix 2** provides members with more detail on the Events and Festivals Budget, which was agreed previously by the Committee.

1.3 Comments on significant variances (i.e. greater than £0.005m per cost centre):

Income

1.4 There has been no change to the previously reported outturn, with Victorian Market income expected to be £0.016m less than budget reflecting the number of vacant units.

1.5 Similarly, Other Properties income is still expected to be £0.019m less than budget reflecting the vacant floor in 1-5 Church Street.

Expenditure

1.6 Victorian Market

As previously indicated, the estimated overspend of £0.013m is as a result of Standby payments for out of hours call-outs.

1.7 Inverness Common Good Fund Grants

The estimated underspend of £0.240m relates to projects where funding has been agreed before or during 2016/17 but where the delivery of the project and all or part of the actual expenditure is not now expected to take place before the end of the current financial year.

1.8 Conference Support

The estimated underspend of £0.019m relates to conferences where funding has been agreed before or during 2016/17 but where the event and all or part of the actual expenditure is expected to take place after the end of the current financial year.

Projects

- 1.9 Town House Refurbishment
The project has slowed down due to additional works being instructed and the budget will be carried forward into 2017/18. The project remains on target to meet the agreed overall budget.
- 1.10 Refurbishment 1-5 Church Street
The remaining budget for 2016/17 is retention funds, with retention due to be released in February 2017.
- 1.11 Ness Islands – Structural Maintenance Programme
The scope of the works has been agreed and contracts are currently being let. A progress report will be provided to Central and West Ward Members. Any unspent budget is proposed to be carried over to 2017/18.
- 1.12 Inverness City Arts Project
The Common Good Fund's contribution to the City Arts Project will be finalised once the Project programme has been revised, following the appointment of the Artist for the Gathering Place Project.
- 1.13 Victorian Market – Opportunities for Improvement
The allocation of £0.010m is being made in respect of facilitating the work of the Victorian Market Stakeholder Group.

2. Overview

- 2.1 At this stage in the financial year the overall budget is projected to be underspent by £1.352m. This is largely due to the timing of spend on the capital projects, along with grants and conference support payments, all of which will be carried forward into 2017/18. Further detail on both these items is provided to Members today in a separate report.

3. Implications

- 3.1 The report details the financial resource implications. There are no other resource implications. There are no Equalities, Climate Change/Carbon Clever, Legal, Gaelic, Risk or Rural Implications.

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to consider the financial monitoring report.

Designation: Inverness City Area Manager
Date: 10 February 2017
Authors: David Haas, Inverness City Area Manager
Victoria MacDonald, Accountant

MONITORING STATEMENT 2016/17
INVERNESS COMMON GOOD FUND
FOR PERIOD ENDING 31 JANUARY 2017

	ACTUAL YEAR TO DATE	ANNUAL BUDGET	ESTIMATED OUTTURN	ESTIMATED VARIANCE
	£000	£000	£000	£000
INCOME				
Rents				
Industrial Estates	1,422	1,471	1,471	0
Victorian Market	209	264	248	16
Town House	0	258	258	0
Other Properties	78	85	66	19
	<u>1,709</u>	<u>2,078</u>	<u>2,043</u>	<u>35</u>
Other Income				
Contribution to Grants from Reserves	0	157	157	0
Contribution to Subvention from Reserves (underspend f	0	24	24	0
Interest on Revenue Balances	0	5	5	0
TOTAL INCOME	<u>1,709</u>	<u>2,264</u>	<u>2,229</u>	<u>35</u>
EXPENDITURE				
Victorian Market	142	185	198	13
Town House Maintenance	60	100	100	0
1-5 Church Street Maintenance	11	20	20	0
Other Properties	43	110	110	0
Civic and Conference Hospitality	83	128	128	0
Ness Islands & Bank Maintenance	0	35	35	0
Festive Lights	0	65	65	0
Town Twinning	7	9	9	0
Winter Payments	77	85	85	0
Inverness Common Good Fund Grants	218	472	232	(240)
Conference Support	16	58	39	(19)
City Promotions	40	58	58	0
Disabled Go Project (2013-18)	8	8	8	0
Castle Wynd Conveniences	15	23	23	0
Partnership Working	109	106	109	3
Events & Festivals	279	320	320	0
CCTV	0	90	90	0
Property Management Fees	0	124	124	0
Central Support Charge	0	60	60	0
Other Charges	1	14	14	0
Town House Other Costs	2	11	11	0
Inverness Steeple	0	10	10	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>1,111</u>	<u>2,091</u>	<u>1,848</u>	<u>(243)</u>
Income Less Expenditure	<u>598</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>381</u>	<u>(208)</u>
PROJECTS				
Town House Refurbishment	593	1,805	1,000	(805)
Refurbishment 1-5 Church Street	22	80	80	0
Ness Islands - Structural Maintenance Programme	0	225	0	(225)
Inverness City Arts Project	0	114	0	(114)
Victorian Market - Opportunities for Improvement	4	10	10	0
TOTAL PROJECTS	<u>619</u>	<u>2,234</u>	<u>1,090</u>	<u>(1,144)</u>

**Events and Festivals Budget Monitoring
For Period Ending 31 January 2017**

Appendix 2

**ACTUAL
YEAR TO DATE
£**

Income

Grants	(6,000)
Income	(42,398)
	<hr/>
	(48,398)

Expenditure

Council Staff	3,172
Entertainers	75,494
Equipment	137,321
Event Office	39,935
Licences	1,500
Marketing	35,514
Security and First Aid	34,230
	<hr/>
	327,166

Net Total

278,768

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	13(b)
Report No	CIA/12/17

**Inverness Common Good Fund
Budget Setting for 2017/18 and Capital Programme**

Report by Director of Finance and Inverness City Area Manager

Summary

This report invites Members to set the revenue budget for the Inverness Common Good Fund (ICGF) for the financial year 2017/18. It clarifies:-

- governance arrangements;
- anticipated income (primarily from tenancy rentals);
- the proposed expenditure, split into essentials (for the maintenance of buildings and the provision of basic services) and a number of additional items;
- action on the future investment of any projected surplus funds;
- the structure of payments made to the Council for services rendered in support of the fund and how these services should be supported in the coming financial year and thereafter.

1. Governance Arrangements

1.1 The total value of the ICGF (£31.135m) is under the governance of the Council. This is not controlled by a Trust Deed but by the principles laid down in legislation and case law and covers Investments, grants and general expenditure. This results in:

- (i) the principles of Best Value being applied
- (ii) the principal benefit of resources going to the residents of the former Burgh of Inverness; and
- (iii) funds being allocated against essential expenditure first. Surplus funds being invested in shares and property so as to consolidate and grow the ICGF for future generations.

1.2 The Common Good Fund Balance sheet at 31st March 2016 is attached at **Appendix 1** details the assets of the ICGF, which can be summarised as follows:

- (i) land and property (including Town House) – value - £21.669m
- (ii) heritage assets (pictures and artefacts) – value - £2.063m
- (iii) investments (equity portfolio) – value £7.208m
(valuation as at 31st December 2016- £8.166m)
- (iv) sundry debtors – value £0.271m.
- (v) loans fund deposits – value £0.099m

- (v) sundry creditors – value £0.175m

1.3 City of Inverness Area Committee. The City of Inverness Area Committee (CIAC) has the power to administer the assets of the fund and current values are summarised as follows:

- (i) Land and buildings – management of these is delivered by the Development and Infrastructure Service who advise on investment opportunities in property and manage current property assets.
- (ii) Revenue from investment properties and equity investments – Equity investments are managed by Messrs Adam & Co, through the Council's Investment Sub-Committee.
- (iii) Other property – the ICGF does hold Heritage Assets¹ and these are shown on the Balance Sheet as having a value of £2.063m.

2. Anticipated Revenue

- 2.1 Rental Income – The total income expected to be available in 2017/18 from rents, mostly from industrial estates, the Victorian Market and the Town House is expected to be £2.061m.
- 2.2 Interest on Revenue Balances – Assuming that the current low interest rates continue, it is anticipated that interest receivable on projected surplus balances will be approximately £0.001m in 2017/18.
- 2.3 Share Dividends – The equity investments made on behalf of the ICGF by the Council's agents, Messrs Adam & Co have produced income of £0.146m in the current financial year to 31st December 2016. The demands on the fund in the next 2 years mean that significant withdrawals will be required from the portfolio. An accurate cash flow projection will allow the Manager to continue to exit the market at the most appropriate time.

3. Consequences for Revenue Balances

- 3.1 As at 31st March 2016, the Common Good Fund had investments with a market value of £7.208m, (current valuation as at 31st December 2016-£8.166m) managed by external investment managers (Adam & Co.).
- 3.2 Close monitoring takes place of capital projects through regular meetings led by the Inverness City Area Manager and the Principal Project Manager assigned by the Development and Infrastructure Service to support Common Good Fund Projects. The governance is also assisted by regular project monitoring reports being made to this Committee.

¹ A tangible asset with historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that is held and maintained principally for its contribution to knowledge and culture.

4. Proposed Expenditure

4.1 Competency – principal regard must be given to the interests of the residents of the City who reside within the boundaries of the former Burgh and to the need to maintain property assets. Expenditure has been broken down into:-

- essential; and
- discretionary

Essential – this is competent as it is for the upkeep of property either in the ownership or the control of the ICGF (Council).

Discretionary – this falls into two classes being:-

- expenditure that is planned but not absolutely essential for the upkeep of ICGF owned/managed properties; and
- grants – here the test falls back on whether or not that expense brings sufficient benefit to the residents of the Burgh.

The expenditure proposed within this report meets the test of competency as detailed, benefiting a broad cross-section of the residents of the City, including residents of the former Burgh.

4.2 Grants (including Hospitality) – when projects are funded, outcomes are identified before recommendations are made to fund and appropriate Business Plans are put in place. Benefits to the City and, especially with the larger projects, a strong link to the Council's Programme, Highland First, is established.

5. Proposed Budget – Application and Inflationary Increase

5.1 17/18 Budget - The draft budget for 2017/18 is set out in **Appendix 2**. This shows the budgeted expenditure from 2016/17 together with a roll forward budget. In accordance with Council policy, wherever practicable, no inflationary increase has been applied to budget heads. The third column shows the movement from the prior year budget on each heading.

5.2 Impact on available funds – It should be noted that if the expenditure headings are to be set at the levels proposed in **Appendix 2**, this will require a total transfer from reserves of £1.302m for the year 17/18. This includes £0.259m of unspent prior commitments on Grants and Subventions. The current balance on revenue reserves is £5.497m.

The total Reserves balance, as per the published Accounts is £31.135m; however this reflects Local Authority Accounting Practice where revaluations are treated as "Unusable Reserves". In reality the ICGF assets are all potentially realisable, although this would neither be prudent or practical to do so. Cash investments of £7.208m are being used to finance capital and revenue projects over and above the general budget funded by rental receipts.

6. Movements from current year revenue budgets

- 6.1 The movements from current year (16/17) budgeted expenditure to proposed expenditure for 17/18 expenditure are highlighted in the third column in **Appendix 2**. The main movements in revenue budget headings can be summarised as follows:
- 6.2 Common Good Fund Grants – the £0.569m proposed for 17/18 comprises £0.254m for grants committed during or prior to 16/17, and £0.315m for 17/18 grant approvals. In respect of unspent grants, projects have variously been successfully completed at anticipated or reduced cost, amended or abandoned. Detailed reports on grants expenditure have been provided to the Grants Sub-Committee for monitoring during the financial year.
- 6.3 Income from Rents - the projected budget allocation is decreased by £0.017m. This includes estimations on the outcome of pending rent reviews and foreseeable changes in tenancies.
- 6.5 Castle Wynd Public Conveniences – Budget provision is proposed noting that discussions are underway with Community Services regarding Public Toilet provision within the City. This will provide facilities between 1st April and 31st October 2017.
- 6.6 Partnership Working – The allocation is sufficient to include expenditure on all partnership initiatives. A separate report, detailing the funding applications from BID was made to the Grants Sub Committee. Provision has also been made for the expenditure on the only application relating to Operation Respect Winter 2017 which will be submitted later in the year. Members may note that according to information provided to the Grants Sub-Committee on 30th January 2017, the average Council (ICGF) contribution to projects has reduced from 55% in 2016/17 to 53% for 2017/18.
- 6.7 Conference Support Grants – the proposed budget allocation comprises £0.019m for grants committed during or prior to 16/17, and £0.040m for 17/18 grant approvals.

7. Third Party Applications

- 7.1 Third Party applications for funding have not been included in the terms of this report. These applications are dealt with under the governance of the Grants Sub Committee and where appropriate, are reported to the CIAC for decision.

8. Investment Strategy

- 8.1 It is proposed that £2m continues to be retained as a general reserve, with £1.6m earmarked as a Property Investment Fund. This was originally agreed when the 2015/16 ICGF budget was set at the CIAC held on 5 March 2015.

8.2 Victorian Market – work is being undertaken to build on opportunities to enhance the Market. The sum set aside will allow this to be progressed, with Members and stakeholders within the business community, including the Market Tenants being briefed and consulted as appropriate. Progress is planned to be reported to Committee in September. Tenancies' continue to be managed efficiently by the Council and all current vacancies are being marketed to minimise any rental voids. This has impacted on the income projection for the Market.

9. Implications

9.1 Equalities Policy – in the application of funding, whether it be through the provision of improvements to facilities or the supply of funds to third party organisations who are running projects, care is taken to ensure that the relevant projects give close attention to the need to provide facilities for as broad a range of the community as possible, including those who are physically disadvantaged. Also, wherever possible, projects incorporate consideration for the increasing number of people coming to live in our City who will not necessarily have English as their first language. Care is also taken to ensure that any projects targeted at a particular age sector of the population are supported by a strong business case for doing so.

9.2 Climate Change/Carbon Clever – in the application of funds, in particular relating to the improvement/refurbishment of buildings, attention is given to the need to reduce energy consumption. A balance has to be achieved between the costs of providing additional materials for doing so set against the benefit. Whilst the works being undertaken to the Town House are largely external, ongoing assessments will be made as to whether or not any actions can be undertaken which will improve the heat retention capabilities of the Town House.

9.3 Legal and Financial Implications – the application of funds will fall within the competency guidelines set out both in statute and in common law in relation to Common Good Funds. Additionally, through the governance being applied by the Finance Service, funds will remain compliant with all financial regulations. In order to meet revenue expenditure requirements, it may prove necessary to sell share investments.

9.4 Expenditure – If the expenditure outlined above and set out in the proposed budget is spent, it would total £3.364m. For 17/18, this exceeds income by £1.043m leaving a deficit which will have to be funded by cash investments. The expenditure proposed will provide the relevant properties, many more years of strength and stability.

9.5 Rural Implications – Principal benefit of any grant awards rests with the residents of the former Burgh. However when applications are made which impact areas outside the Burgh, consideration is given as how this reflected benefit impacts those communities. Projects which improve the wellbeing of communities are looked on favourably so long as they have a strong Business

Plan.

- 9.6 Risk Implications – The decision making process along with the administration of the agreed budgets addresses all known risk implications.

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to agree:

- i. the Common Good Fund budget for 2017/18 detailed within the report and Appendices; and
- ii. to maintain a general reserve of £2m and reallocate the remaining uncommitted sum of £1.6m to a Property Investment Fund.

and to note that officers will continue to monitor projected cash flow for the Common Good Fund, in particular through the Capital Projects Monitoring Report, with an emphasis on the utilisation of surplus revenue either within projects or as an opportunity for investment.

Designation: Director of Finance and Inverness City Area Manager

Date: 9 February 2017

Authors: Derek Yule, Director of Finance and
David Haas, Inverness City Area Manager

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

APPENDIX 1

2014/15
£

Inverness Common Good Fund

2015/16
£

Income and Expenditure Account

	<u>Expenditure</u>	
107,294	Staff costs	113,324
307,507	Property costs	224,335
1,691,484	Other costs	4,142,302
1,687,086	Grants and contributions	544,893
60,014	Administration charges	181,087
3,853,385	Total expenditure	5,205,941
	<u>Income</u>	
2,082,233	Rents	2,019,337
80,331	Miscellaneous income	66,703
0	Interest on revenue balances	1,325
277,460	Income on investments	251,143
211,286	Grants and contributions	606,716
2,651,310	Total income	2,945,224
(1,202,075)	Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(2,260,717)
723,856	Revaluation gains/(losses)	(448,045)
1,456,014	Unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	(350,720)
977,795	Total comprehensive income and expenditure	(3,059,482)

Balance Sheet

	<u>Non current assets</u>	
22,117,045	Investment properties	21,669,000
9,853,586	Investments at valuation	7,207,886
2,063,374	Heritage Assets	2,063,374
34,034,005		30,940,260
	<u>Current assets</u>	
310	Sundry debtors	270,732
522,273	Loans fund deposits	99,293
522,583		370,025
	<u>Current liabilities</u>	
(362,005)	Sundry creditors	(175,185)
(362,005)		(175,185)
34,194,583	Total assets	31,135,100
	Usable reserves	
6,379,514	Revenue funds	5,496,791
	Unusable reserves	
2,063,374	Revaluation reserve	2,063,374
22,117,045	Capital adjustment account	21,669,000
3,634,650	Available for Sale Reserve	1,905,935
27,815,069		25,638,309
34,194,583	Total reserves	31,135,100

Inverness Common Good Fund

Appendix 2

Budget 2017-18

INCOME	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000	Movement £000
Rents			
Industrial Estates	1,471	1,471	0
Victorian Market	247	259	(12)
Town House	258	263	(5)
1-5 Church Street	75	85	(10)
Other Properties	10	0	10
	<u>2,061</u>	<u>2,078</u>	<u>(17)</u>
Other Income			
Contribution to Grants from Reserves	240	157	83
Contribution to Conference Support from Reserves	19	24	(5)
Interest on Revenue Balances	1	5	(4)
TOTAL INCOME	<u>2,321</u>	<u>2,264</u>	<u>57</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Victorian Market	198	185	13
Town House Maintenance	100	100	0
1-5 Church Street Maintenance	20	20	0
Other Properties	110	110	0
Civic and Conference Hospitality	132	102	30
Ness Islands & Bank Maintenance	35	35	0
Festive Lights	65	65	0
Town Twinning	9	9	0
Winter Payments	85	85	0
Inverness Common Good Fund Grants	569	472	97
Conference Support	59	84	(25)
City Promotions	34	58	(24)
Disabled Go Project (2013-18)	8	8	0
Castle Wynd Conveniences	23	23	0
Partnership Working	109	106	3
Events & Festivals	320	320	0
CCTV	90	90	0
Property Management Fees	124	124	0
Central Support Charge	60	60	0
Other Charges	14	14	0
Town House Other Costs	11	11	0
Inverness Steeple	10	10	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>2,185</u>	<u>2,091</u>	<u>94</u>
Income Less Expenditure	<u>136</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>(37)</u>
PROJECTS			
Town House Refurbishment	690	1,805	(1,115)
Refurbishment 1-5 Church Street	0	80	(80)
Ness Islands - Structural Maintenance Programme	225	225	0
Inverness City Arts Project	114	114	0
Victorian Market - Opportunities for Improvement	150	10	140
TOTAL PROJECTS	<u>1,179</u>	<u>2,234</u>	<u>(1,055)</u>

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	13(c)
Report No	CIA/13/17

**Inverness Common Good Fund
Grant and Capital Projects**

Report by the Inverness City Area Manager

Summary

This report sets out the current applications for grant funding to be determined and the current status of capital projects.

1. Grants and Capital Projects

1.1 The current summary of funds available following the Grants Sub-Committee meeting on 30 January 2017 is set out in **Appendix 1**.

1.2 **Booklet A** includes details of current grant applications for more than £10,000. Members are invited to consider the applications from **The Ledge**. The Grants Sub-Committee recommend approval of a Grant of £45,000 towards marina climbing walls and an adventure sports gym;

1.3 Members are also invited to consider an application from **Flow Photography Festival** towards the Flow Photography Exhibition which will run from September 2017 to September 2018. A grant of £15,000 is requested. Unfortunately time did not allow this application to be previewed by the Grants Sub Committee.

1.4 At the Grants Sub-Committee Meeting of 30 January 2017 the Sub-Committee deferred an application from the European Highland Dancing Festival for further information. On receiving the further information the Sub-Committee have agreed to approve a grant of £4000.

1.5 If all recommendations of the Grants Sub Committee are approved and the application from Flow Photography the Grants Budget will be overspent by £5,358.

1.6 Partnership Working

Inverness BID: The Grants Sub-Committee recommended approval of the applications submitted by Inverness BID:

- a. Operation Respect Easter/Summer 2016 - £5,790
- b. Inverness Community Safety Partnership - £9,000
- c. Inverness Gull Project - £12,000
- d. Inverness Street Festival - £7,000
- e. Coach Ambassador - £9,750

If the Committee approves the application funding would be from the “Partnership Working” cost centre.

1.7 **Appendix 2** details the current status of capital projects.

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to:

- (i) consider the applications for funding;
- (ii) scrutinise the current status of capital projects;
- (iii) agree to allocate £15,000 from the Inverness Common Good Fund Other Properties Budget to the Merkinch Community Centre Windows Replacement Project.

Designation: Inverness City Area Manager

Date: 07 February 2017

Authors: David Haas, Inverness City Area Manager
Jason Kelman, Project Manager

APPENDIX 1

**Inverness Common Good Fund
Available Resource for Allocation**

£

Budget Balance Available - Grants	315,000
Underspend from 2015/16	211,758
	526,758

Committee Date	Category	Award	Total for meeting	
(Committed from previous financial years)	Grants < £10k	95,124		
	Grants > £10k	116,634		
			<u>211,758</u>	315,000
08/05/16 Grants Sub Committee	Grants < £10K	48,858	<u>48,858</u>	266,142
03/06/16 City of Inverness Area Committee	Grants > £10K	30,466	<u>30,466</u>	235,676
08/08/16 Grants Sub Committee	Grants<£10K	29,465	<u>29,465</u>	206,211
07/11/16 Grants Sub Committee	Grants < £10K	36,530	<u>36,530</u>	169,681
01/12/16 City of Inverness Area Committee	Grants > £10K	55,000	<u>55,000</u>	114,681
30/1/17 Grants Sub Committee	Grants < £10K	56,039	<u>56,039</u>	58,642
Recommended for Approval	Grants > £10K	45,000	<u>45,000</u>	13,642
Grant Deferred from 30/01/17 Grants Sub Committee Meeting and now recommended for approval		4,000	<u>4,000</u>	9,642

Budget Balance Available - Conference Funding	30,000
Underspend from 2015/16	25,395
	55,395

Committee Date	Category	Award	Total for meeting	
(Committed from previous financial years)	Convention		<u>25,395</u>	30,000
03/06/16 City of Inverness Area Committee	Grants < £10K	1,800		
	Grants > £10K	21,600	<u>23,400</u>	6,600
08/08/16 Grants Sub Committee	Grants < £10K	4,500	<u>4,500</u>	2,100
Transferred from Civic Hospitality			<u>30,000</u>	32,100
30/1/17 Grants Sub Committee	Grants < £10K	5,400	<u>5,400</u>	26,700
Transferred to Civic Hospitality			26,000	700

Capital Projects Funded by Inverness Common Good Fund

1 General

- 1.1 This appendix provides project status information for current key capital projects funded by the Inverness Common Good Fund, including financial progress details, as of 2 February 2017.

2 Capital Programme Update

- 2.1 The current status of each individual project is summarised below.

2.2 Conservation of External Fabric Phase 1, Town House, Inverness

- 2.2.1 The contract was completed on the 27 May 2016 and the defects liability period will end on the 26 May 2017.

Agreed Total Council Funding	£1,500,174
Anticipated Final Account	£1,500,174

2.3 Refurbishment 1-5 Church Street, Inverness

- 2.3.1 The contract was completed on the 15 January 2016 and the defects liability period will end on the 14 January 2017

Agreed Total Council Funding	£1,867,189
Agreed Final Account	£1,867,189

2.4 Conservation of External Fabric Phase 2, Town House, Inverness

- 2.4.1 The project was approved at City of Inverness Committee on the 3 December 2015. The contractor was then accepted on the 8th January 2016.

The total cost of the three additional items discussed at the last City Committee at a cost of £150,800 has been instructed. At this stage of the project we still have contingency sums available to cover the majority of these costs but advise that we have used £10,500 of contingencies over the last several weeks as the project has progressed. The worst case scenario still remains in place that additional funding for the full amount might be required but at this stage we are only forecasting the figure below.

The works commenced on Monday 16 May 2016 with a completion date of 30 June 2017. The project is currently on programme but will overrun by 4 weeks due the additional stonework repairs, the revised completion date will now be 28 July 2017. The quality of workmanship is excellent.

Agreed Total Council Funding	£1,752,908
Anticipated Final Account	£1,769,467

2.5 Merkinch Community Centre, Window Replacements

- 2.5.1 Tenders have been received and the project budget is insufficient to carry out the works. The budget was set as £22,000 but after tender returns the total cost to complete the project will be £37,000. The increase in costs is due to additional strengthening of the window units and compliance with Health and Safety regulations. It should be noted that the original budget was never realistic and would never have been undertaken at this cost.

3. Governance

- 3.1 These projects are funded by the Inverness Common Good Fund and monthly Contract Monitoring reports will be issued to the Inverness City Manager, in line with governance arrangements.

The Highland Council

Minutes of Meeting of the **City of Inverness Area Committee** held in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness on Thursday, 1 December 2016 at 10.30am.

Present:

Mrs H Carmichael	Mr D Kerr
Mr R Balfour	Mr R Laird
Mrs C Caddick	Mrs B McAllister
Miss J Campbell	Mr K MacLeod
Mr A Christie	Mr F Parr
Mr J Crawford	Mr T Prag
Mrs M Davidson	Mrs T Robertson
Dr J Davis	Mr G Ross
Mr N Donald	Mrs G Sinclair
Mr K Gowans	Ms J Slater
Mr A Graham	Mrs K Stephen
Mr J Gray	Mr H Wood

Officials in Attendance:

Mr D Haas, Inverness City Area Manager, Chief Executive's Office
 Mr D Goldie, Head of Housing and Building Maintenance, Community Services
 Mr D Esson, Area Care and Learning Manager – West, Care and Learning Service
 Mr S Dalgarno, Development Plans Manager, Development and Infrastructure Service
 Ms U Lee, Urban Designer, Development and Infrastructure Service
 Mr J Kelman, Principal Project Manager, Development and Infrastructure Service
 Mr K Forbes, Property Manager – Estates, Development and Infrastructure Service
 Mr A Bryce, Road Safety and Safer Routes to School Officer, Development and Infrastructure Service
 Mr N Young, Transport Planning Officer, Development and Infrastructure Service
 Ms A Tanner, Inverness City Heritage Trust Project Officer, Development and Infrastructure Service
 Mr J Taylor, Roads Operations Manager, Community Services
 Ms S MacLennan, Housing Manager – South, Community Services
 Mr S Manning, Principal Traffic Officer, Community Services
 Mr P Kelly, Horticultural Officer, Community Services
 Ms A MacNeill, Senior Corporate Communications Officer, Chief Executive's Office
 Miss J MacLennan, Democratic Services Manager, Corporate Development Service
 Miss J Green, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Development Service

Also in Attendance:

Mr M Smith, Inverness BID Manager
 Ms J Cuddy, Eastgate Shopping Centre Manager
 Mr D Mackay, Station Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

An asterisk in the margin denotes a recommendation to the Council. All decisions with no marking in the margin are delegated to Committee.

Mrs H Carmichael in the Chair

Business

1. **Apologies for Absence**
Leisgeulan

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Mr I Brown and Mr A Duffy.

2. **Declarations of Interest**
Foillseachaidhean Com-pàirt

The Committee **NOTED** the following declarations of interest:-

Item 3 – Mrs H Carmichael (non-financial) and Mr K MacLeod (financial)

Item 7 – Mr G Ross (non-financial)

Item 13 – Mr A Christie (non-financial) and Mr D Kerr (financial)

Item 14c – Mr A Graham (non-financial)

Item 15 – Mr A Gray and Mr K MacLeod (non-financial)

Prior to commencement of the formal business, the Chair welcomed Mrs Trish Robertson to her first meeting of the City of Inverness Area Committee following her election as a Member of Ward 18 (Culloden and Ardersier).

Also, with reference to the Inverness Partnership, it was **AGREED** that the Provost and Leader of Inverness and Area should continue to chair meetings of the Partnership until the end of the current term of the Council.

Further, and in noting that the Chair would require to leave the meeting for a short time later in the day, it was **AGREED** that Mr G Ross should chair the meeting in her absence.

3. **Annual Report on Inverness Business Improvement District**
Aithisg Bhliadhnaile Sgìre Leasachadh Gnothachais Inbhir Nis

Declarations of Interest –

Mrs H Carmichael declared a non-financial interest in this item as a Board Member of Inverness BID and Tourism BID but, having applied the test outlined in Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, concluded that her interest did not preclude her from taking part in the discussion.

Mr K MacLeod declared a financial interest in this item as a member of BID but, having applied the test outlined in Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, concluded that his interest did not preclude him from taking part in the discussion.

There had been circulated Report No CIA/46/16 dated 18 November 2016 by the Inverness City Area Manager which provided a summary of the activities of Inverness BID Ltd, operating as Inverness City Centre Business Improvement District (BID), for the period December 2015 to November 2016.

During a presentation, a summary of the history of the BID organisation was provided, with emphasis being placed on the current arrangements for

partnership working, such as with the Council, and the importance of the sharing of experience and good practise. It was also confirmed that BID's role covered a wide area of responsibility (including issues such as amenity, advocacy, business development, marketing & events and the promotion of Inverness as a safe and friendly City) and that it sought to both work constructively and to challenge the Council when necessary. Key achievements over the previous year were also listed and, looking to the future, a BID ballot was due to take place on 2018 and this process would define what would be included in its Business Plan for the following five years.

During discussion, Members raised the following issues:-

- consideration should be given to reviewing the BID area to include businesses on the west side of the River Ness and in the Longman as this could increase income and help to project the City's image. In this regard, clarification was also sought as to which businesses in these areas were covered by the Loch Ness and Inverness Tourism BID;
- the projects detailed in the report were broadly similar to those reported to the Committee four years previously and it was hoped that new projects could be added;
- it was important that BID lobbied a range of organisations and not just Highland Council e.g. Police Scotland in relation to anti-social behaviour and property owners in relation to rental prices;
- details were sought as to BID's input into the City Centre Development Brief which it was felt could help to define BID boundaries;
- BID should encourage businesses to bind together where possible to achieve economies of scale and to enhance the local environment, with the creation of a unified waste collection contract being cited as an example;
- much of BID's work benefited Inverness as a whole and particular mention was made of the City's floral displays which were especially appreciated by visitors;
- considerable improvements had been achieved by the Gull Project and in this regard an update was requested as to the project's success as the decline in the gull population could also be the result of a number of factors and the suggestion was made that it had in some cases displaced the problem elsewhere;
- businesses should be actively encouraged to examine what had/had not worked well in the current Business Plan; and
- there was disappointment at some of the public criticism from BID in relation to Houses in Multiple Occupation in the City Centre as many of the owners of these premises were in fact BID members.

Thereafter, the Committee otherwise **AGREED** to endorse the work detailed in the report and the on-going development of partnership working.

In accordance with Standing Order 18, the Committee **AGREED** that the following item on the agenda - Item 12 - should be considered at this point in the meeting.

**12. Kilchuimen Academy Associated School Group Overview
Sealladh air Buidheann Sgoiltean Co-cheangailte Acadamaidh Chille
Chuimein**

There had been circulated Report No. CIA/54/15 dated 10 November 2016 by the Director of Care and Learning which provided an update of key information in relation to the Schools within the Kilchuimen Associated School Group and also useful updated links to further information in relation to these Schools.

During discussion, reference was made to the extremely positive transformation of schools within this area in terms of academic attainment and position within the community, including links with local employers and industries.

It was also confirmed that further information would be provided in relation to the reference within the report to the cost per pupil within the 2014/15 and 2015/16 devolved budgets.

Thereafter, the Committee otherwise **NOTED** the terms of the report as circulated.

**4. Scottish Fire and Rescue Area Committee Performance Report for
2015/16
Aithisg Coileanaidh Comataidh Sgìreil Smàlaidh agus Teasairginn na h-
Alba airson 2015/16**

There had been circulated Report No CIA/47/16 dated 18 November 2016 by the Local Senior Officer for Highland which provided an update of progress against the priorities outlined in the Area Plan for the City of Inverness for 2015/16.

In this regard, priority areas had been identified through a range of intervention, prevention and protection activities delivered in partnership to reduce risk to the communities of the City of Inverness, as well as previously agreed information and performance as requested by Committee Members.

Following a summary of the report, Members raised the following issues:-

- there was concern that in many homes smoke detectors were not being maintained and therefore not always fully operational. Also, in flatted developments, alarm calls were often raised as a result of smoking in communal hallways and this could result in considerable disruption for other residents;
- the reduction in the number of fatalities was welcomed and this could often be directly attributed to the installation of smoke detectors in Council owned properties;
- in regard to the proposed changes to duty systems, assurance was required that there would still be sufficient resources in place to deal with issues as and when they arose within a continually expanding City;
- appreciation was expressed that Members' comments regarding a more modular approach, rather than a two week training programme, had been fed back to the Scottish Fire Service National Training Centre;
- in relation to Station availability, information in future reports detailing the number of times pump appliances had been off-line was requested;

- the contribution made by retained firefighters and employers was recognised;
- the increase in female fire fighters was welcomed and it was hoped that this would continue;
- clarification was sought and received as to why Fort Augustus and Drumnadrochit had higher retained Station availability than the City of Inverness; and
- an update was requested for a future meeting regarding the review of the training programme.

The Committee otherwise **NOTED** the Area Performance Report as circulated.

5. Inverness City Centre Development Brief Mion-teagasg Leasachaidh airson Meadhan Cathair-bhaile Inbhir Nis

There had been circulated Report No CIA/48/16 dated 17 November 2016 by the Director of Development and Infrastructure which presented a draft of the updated Inverness City Centre Development Brief for approval.

In this regard, it was confirmed that the purpose of the Brief was to promote and guide opportunities through planning policy for regeneration, development and enhancement of Inverness City Centre. Preparation had been informed by public and stakeholder feedback on priorities and how best these should be addressed. Following public consultation and further Committee approval, the updated Brief would be adopted as a statutory part of the Council's Development Plan.

In this connection, the draft Brief (Appendix A to the report) had been circulated separately.

During discussion, Members raised the following issues:-

- assurance was sought and received that reference to the aspiration for a Cultural Hub in the vicinity of the Castle would be included within the development brief;
- it was noted that with regard to developing the Castle as a visitor attraction, there were limitations due to its size and type and also parking issues but good progress had been made with the viewing platform;
- concern was expressed in relation to the lack of progress with the regeneration of Academy Street;
- there was also concern that property developers could avoid the 25% affordable housing requirement in some instances;
- people living and working within the City Centre were vital in terms of creating a vibrant community;
- there were a number of specific sites which had a significant amount of development potential but it was important to carefully consider planning guidelines to ensure that there was adequate waste disposal, bicycle storage and parking in place from the outset;
- a report should be presented to a future meeting to address the concerns raised in relation to the considerable number of waste bins which were currently located in the City Centre;
- it should be recognised that the purpose of the development brief was to shape development and assist in planning decisions;

- there was a need to also consider alternative methods of consultation, such as social media, in future;
- it was essential that various stakeholders, including Inverness BID, Chamber of Commerce, Trade Groups, Community Councils and Parent Councils, responded to the public consultation so that their comments could be considered before the final Development Brief was approved;
- there were different boundaries for Inverness (BID, Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) policy, Conservation Area Management Plan for the Old Town and the Development Brief) and it was requested that there was some consistency between them;
- further consideration was required of the cap on new planning permissions for HMOs of 13% which was just above the current rate of 12.9%;
- an explanation was sought and received in relation to the proportion of the population residing in HMOs (which was forecast to rise to 18%);
- an explanation was also sought as to how the Development Brief related to the new requirements under the Community Empowerment Act; and
- there was a need to widen the range of attractions within the City Centre, particularly for children, to address the problem that on average tourists stayed for 1.8 days and in this regard it was suggested that the green space at the Castle was underutilised so attractions could be placed there on a rotational basis.

Thereafter, the Committee:-

- i. **AGREED** the draft Inverness City Centre Development Brief as set out in Appendix A to the report for a six week public consultation commencing at the end of January 2017; and
- ii. **NOTED** the timescale for adoption of the updated Brief set out in Paragraph 6.3 of the report.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.50pm and resumed at 1.50pm.

(In the absence of Mrs H Carmichael, Mr G Ross took the Chair as previously agreed)

6. Approaching Inverness Strategy Ro-innleachd Tighinn gu Inbhir Nis

It was confirmed that public consultation on the draft 'Approaching Inverness' Strategy had been completed with only one response having been received which was broadly supportive. No changes were therefore being proposed as a result of the consultation.

The Committee **AGREED** the recommendation that the draft 'Approaching Inverness' Strategy, as provided at the meeting on 2 June 2016, should now be adopted as non-statutory supplementary guidance.

**7. Inverness City Arts – Annual Report
Ealain Bhaile Inbhir Nis – Aithisg Bhliadhnail**

Declaration of Interest – Mr G Ross declared a non-financial interest in this item on the grounds that a close relative was a local artist but, having applied the test outlined in Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, concluded that his interest did not preclude him from taking part in the discussion.

There had been circulated Report No CIA/49/16 dated 10 November 2016 by the Inverness City Area Manager which presented the Annual Report of the Inverness City Arts Working Group (ICArts) and provided an update on progress made by ICArts in meeting the criteria set by the Committee at the meetings held on 8 October 2012, 3 December 2012 and 15 April 2013.

In this regard, it was confirmed that update reports had since been provided on funding and project progress and this report formally updated on the Action Plan.

During discussion, Members raised the following issues:-

- consideration should be given to the membership of the ICArts Working Group as currently not all political groups were represented;
- assurance was sought and received that proper governance had been followed in appointing the Youth Convener to the Evaluation Panel
- further detailed information on the overall project budgets was sought;
- it was requested that a private Members' briefing on further detailed information on the overall project budgets be organised and that the spreadsheet be circulated to Members in advance of the meeting;
- it was hoped that the expenditure already incurred for fees for artists for the Gathering Place project was not repeated until feedback had been received from public consultation.

Thereafter, the Committee **NOTED** the terms of the report as circulated.

It was also **AGREED** that a Members' Briefing should be arranged in order to provide further detailed information on the overall project budgets and that the relevant spreadsheets should be circulated to Members in advance of this Briefing.

(At this point, Mrs H Carmichael resumed the Chair).

**8. Ness Islands Management Works
Pròiseact Eileanan Nis**

There had been circulated Report No CIA/50/16 dated 15 November 2016 by the Director of Community Services which detailed the allocation of work required on the Ness Islands in accordance with the current Ness Islands Management Plan and a report by Crudens Consulting Engineers dated April 2015.

During discussion, Members raised the following issues:-

- it was important that Community Services had a maintenance regime in place which included tree felling, replacement planting, clearing shrubbery and erosion repair works;
- concern was expressed on the lack of progress that had been made since the major works had been commissioned and that it was unlikely one contractor could undertake the full project. In this regard, it was requested that an update on progress should be provided for a future meeting of the Inverness West Ward Business Meeting in January and the next City Committee meeting;
- part of Ness Islands was also located in the Inverness Central Ward and therefore Members in that Ward should also be kept up to date on progress;
- clarification was sought and received in relation to the overall project costs;
- consideration should be given to the creation and placement of inspirational plaques within Ness Islands; and
- clarification should be provided on the works undertaken in relation to the Eagle Statue on the roundabout.

Thereafter, the Committee **NOTED** that the improvement plan was in progress and that a further update would be available once works were underway and there was more progress to report.

9. Consideration of Objections to Decriminalised Parking Enforcement Order Car Club Bays
Beachdachadh air Cur an Aghaidh Bhàghannan Club Chàraichean

There had been circulated Report No CIA/51/16 dated 3 November 2016 by the Director of Community Services which advised that, subject to the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999, unresolved objections made to a Traffic Regulation Order had to be considered by the appropriate Committee and in making the order in part, as per Section 18 of the Act, unresolved objections could be heard without delaying the bulk of the Order.

In this regard, the Inverness Car Club Feasibility Study 2014 (Appendix 3 to the report) had been circulated separately.

During discussion, Members raised the following issues:-

- there was general support for the proposal to set up a Car Club in Inverness. However, there were concerns about the process which had been followed and particularly the lack of consultation with Local Members;
- all the proposed car parking spaces were in prime sites and it was felt that concerns from Inverness BID, the Crown Community Council and constituents were still unresolved. As such, it was suggested that a report should be brought back to the next meeting following further consultation, including with Local Members;

- this project had been ongoing since 2014 so there was no immediate need for a decision and more time could be allowed to further consider alternative proposals;
- deferring the report would not resolve the issues and would only delay a decision being made on this issue;
- there was concern that alternative proposals for Car Club parking spaces which had been proposed, considered and discussed at the Members' briefing had not been included in the report;
- there was a need for the Car Club spaces to be sited in prominent locations in order to increase publicity for the scheme;
- the Car Club Scheme differed from the e-bikes scheme in that it would be operated by a private company and therefore did not require subsidising or any cost from the Council other than for white lining.

Thereafter, Miss J Campbell, seconded by Mr D Kerr, **MOVED** that a further report be presented to the next meeting following further consultation with Local Members.

As an **AMENDMENT**, Mr T Prag, seconded by Mr R Laird, moved the recommendations as outlined in the report.

On a vote being undertaken, the **MOTION** received 6 votes and the **AMENDMENT** received 14 votes, with no abstentions, and the **AMENDMENT** was therefore **CARRIED**, the votes having been cast as follows:-

For the Motion:

Miss J Campbell, Mr J Crawford, Mrs M Davidson, Mr N Donald, Mr D Kerr and Mr G Ross.

For the Amendment:

Mrs C Caddick, Mrs H Carmichael, Mr A Christie, Dr J Davis, Mr K Gowans, Mr A Graham, Mr J Gray, Mr R Laird, Mr F Parr, Mr T Prag, Mrs T Robertson, Mrs G Sinclair, Mrs J Slater and Mr H Wood

The Committee therefore **AGREED** the Car Club Bays detailed in the report in the locations as advertised and that the objections should not be upheld.

**10. Winter Maintenance Plan 2016/17
Plana Obair-gleidhidh Geamhraidh Rathaidean 2016/17**

There had been circulated Report No CIA/52/16 dated 14 November 2016 by the Director of Community Services which provided information on winter maintenance preparations and arrangements for the 2016/17 winter period and invited approval of the Winter Maintenance Plans for Inverness.

During discussion, Members raised the following issues:-

- the Roads Team should be congratulated for the considerable work undertaken on the proposals and for the consultation with Ward Members;
- although the ideal would be for more roads to be gritted, it was understood that resources were limited and therefore there was no alternative but to accept the recommendations;

- it should be recognised that Inverness South had fairly elevated areas and it was therefore suggested that Caulfield Avenue and Tower Road should be added to the list of secondary routes;
- it was noted that there would be some flexibility built into the winter services so that, depending on weather conditions, there could be an opportunity to suggest some roads for additional treatment and this was welcomed;
- the concentration on bus routes would be particularly beneficial; and
- protection of the winter maintenance budget was essential and it was hoped that this could be continued in future years.

Thereafter, the Committee otherwise **APPROVED** the Winter Maintenance Plan for the Inverness Area, which included the priority roads presented in Appendices B and C to the report.

11. **Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets Update** **Cunntas às Ùr mu Rothaireachd, Coiseachd agus Sràidean nas Sàbhailte**

There had been circulated Report No CIA/53/16 dated 16 November 2016 by the Director of Development and Infrastructure which invited approval of the projects delivered through the Scottish Government funding for Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets for the City of Inverness Area Committee as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

The Committee:-

- APPROVED** the Cycling Walking and Safer Streets/Safer Routes to School (CWSS/SRTS) Project as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report; and
- NOTED** that the Road Safety Unit would continue to work with Schools to develop further SRTS Projects for future years.

13. **Housing Performance Report – 1 April to 30 September 2016** **Aithisg Dèanadais a thaobh Taigheadais – 1 Giblean to 30 Sultain 2016**

Declarations of Interest – Mr A Christie declared a non-financial interest in this item as General Manager of Inverness, Badenoch and Strathspey Citizens Advice Bureau but, having applied the test outlined in Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, concluded that his interest did not preclude him from taking part in the discussion.

Mr D Kerr declared a financial interest in this item as a Council House tenant but, in terms of the dispensation granted by the Standards Commission, remained to participate in the discussion.

There had been circulated Report No CIA/55/16 dated 16 November 2016 by the Director of Community Services which provided information on how the Housing Section had performed in relation to the Scottish Social Housing Charter and other performance indicators up to 30 September 2016.

During discussion, serious concerns were expressed by a number of Members in relation to the level of rent arrears which had been highlighted within the report and also the number of homeless presentations – both of which could be

attributed in large part to welfare reform measures and specifically the introduction of Universal Credit.

In this respect, it was suggested that there was an urgent need for the UK Government to be lobbied on the effect of welfare reform measures and the roll out of Universal Credit which was driving more and more families into poverty. In this regard, figures had been recently published which confirmed that it was expected that the Highland economy was expected to lose approximately £39m per annum in future years which was of very serious concern.

In noting that representatives from the Council's Finance and Community Services teams continued to engage with DWP and other partners through the Highland Operational Forum to look at the impact of welfare reform locally in order to plan and deliver effective mitigation across the area, it was also suggested that some of the detail of the actual difficulties facing families across the area should be contained within future reports alongside the statistical information.

In relation to the HRA Capital Programme, and specifically the schedule for Window and Door Replacements, it was suggested that consideration should be given to avoiding the winter months (January/February) when undertaking such works wherever possible.

Thereafter, the Committee otherwise **NOTED** the information provided on housing performance in the period from 1 April to 30 September 2016 as detailed.

14. Inverness Common Good Fund Maoin Math Coitcheann Inbhir Nis

(a) Annual Report 2015/2016 Cunntasan airson 2015/16 agus Sgrùdadh Ionmhasail

There had been circulated Report No CIA/56/16 dated 18 November 2016 by the Inverness City Area Manager which presented the audited accounts for the financial year 2015/16.

In this regard, it was confirmed that expenditure was within budget with income higher than expected due to a refund of grant from Creative Scotland and an unanticipated compensatory payment. Also, fewer reserves than anticipated had had to be realised to fund major projects which included important ongoing work to major Inverness assets, including the Town House and 1-5 Church Street.

During discussion, and with specific reference to CCTV, it was confirmed that a further report on this issue would be submitted to a future meeting.

Thereafter, the Committee otherwise **NOTED** the final monitoring report and balance sheet for the Inverness Common Good Fund at 31 March 2016 as circulated.

**(b) Financial Monitoring
Sgrùdadh Ionmhasail**

There had been circulated Report No CIA/57/16 dated 18 November 2016 by the Inverness City Area Manager which presented the expenditure monitoring position for the Inverness Common Good Fund as at 31 October 2016 and the projected year end position.

During discussion, and in response to issues raised in relation to the Victorian Market, it was confirmed that both income and expenditure would continue to be closely monitored and also every opportunity would be taken to advertise vacant units as widely as possible.

Thereafter, the Committee otherwise **NOTED** the financial monitoring report as circulated.

**(c) Grants and Capital Projects
Pròiseactan Tabhartais agus Calpa**

Declaration of Interest – Mr A Graham declared a non-financial interest in this item on the grounds that a family member was a volunteer for Blythswood but, having applied the test outlined in Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the Councillors’ Code of Conduct, concluded that his interest did not preclude him from taking part in the discussion.

There had been circulated Report No CIA/58/16 dated 11 November 2016 by the Inverness City Area Manager which set out the current applications for grant funding to be determined and the current status of capital projects.

In this connection, there had been circulated separately a copy of supporting documentation as Booklet A.

During discussion, reference was made to the Date Stone on the east elevation of the Town House and the proposal that this should be carved with the following wording – ‘Restored 2015-17 – Helen Carmichael, Provost’.

(At this point, and in view of the subject matter, the Chair confirmed that she would leave the meeting during the remainder of this discussion and Mr G Ross would chair the meeting in her absence).

Thereafter, Mr D Kerr, seconded by Mr R Laird, **MOVED** that the Date Stone on the East Elevation of the Town House should read ‘Restored by Inverness Common Good Fund’.

As an **AMENDMENT**, Mr R Balfour, seconded by Mrs M Davidson, moved that the Date Stone on the East Elevation of the Town House should read ‘Restored 2015-17 – Helen Carmichael, Provost’ as detailed in the report.

On a vote being taken, the **MOTION** received 11 votes and the **AMENDMENT** received 4 votes, with 2 abstentions, and the **MOTION** was therefore **CARRIED**, the votes having been cast as follows:-

For the Motion:

Mrs C Caddick, Mr A Christie, Dr J Davis, Mr D Kerr, Mr K Gowans, Mr J Gray, Mr R Laird, Mr F Parr, Mrs T Robertson, Mrs G Sinclair and Mrs J Slater

For the Amendment:

Mr R Balfour, Miss J Campbell, Mrs M Davidson and Mr G Ross

Abstentions:

Mr A Graham and Mr T Prag

The Committee therefore **AGREED** that the Date Stone on the East Elevation of the Town House should read 'Restored by Inverness Common Good Fund'.

(At this point, the Chair returned to the meeting).

The Committee also **NOTED** the current status of capital projects and **AGREED** to approve applications for funding as follows:-

- i. Blythswood Care - £20,000
- ii. Community Action Raigmore Estate (CARE) – £35,000
- iii. Inverness BID - £54,800

15. Inverness City Heritage Trust – Reporting of Company Activity to Council Urras Dualchais Baile Inbhir Nis

Declarations of Interest – Mr J Gray and Mr K MacLeod declared non-financial interests in this item as Board Members of Inverness City Heritage Trust but, having applied the test outlined in Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, concluded that their interests did not preclude them from taking part in the discussion.

There had been circulated Joint Report No CIA/59/16 dated 22 August 2016 by the Inverness City Area Manager and City Heritage Trust Officer which provided information on the work of the Inverness City Heritage Trust during the financial year 2015/16.

In this regard, particular attention had been given to the total grant allocation to the project in Inverness Riverside Conservation Areas to date and during 2015-16.

Members were also asked to note the work of the Trust in partnership with Inverness College and Historic Environment Scotland with regard to raising awareness of traditional building skills and materials amongst professionals, practitioners, local contractors and property owners and with the Council in relation to the Academy Street Townscape Heritage Project.

During discussion, it was suggested that it would be helpful if a Briefing could be arranged for Members in the New Year in order to highlight the conservation work being undertaken by the City Heritage Trust in the City Centre and surrounding areas.

Thereafter, the Committee **NOTED**:-

- i. the contributions made by the Inverness City Heritage Trust in delivering a programme of conservation work funded by grant assistance in Inverness since 2005;
- ii. the work carried out in partnership with Inverness College, Historic Environment Scotland and others to deliver Conferences for building professionals/ practitioners and also the work with CITB Scotland and other building professionals to try and find realistic options for retention and repair of important City buildings and features; and
- iii. the current situation with regard to future funding from Historic Environment Scotland for the Inverness City Heritage Trust.

**16. Street Naming – New Housing Development at Tornagrain
Ainmeachadh Sràide – Leasachadh Ùr aig Tornagrain**

The Committee **HOMOLOGATED** the new street names which had been agreed at the Culloden & Ardersier Ward Business Meeting for the first phase of the Tornagrain development as follows - Croy Road, Mid Coul Road, Hillhead Road, St Columba's Way, Malvina Lane, Malvina Court, Lochandinty Lane, Lochandinty Road, Lochandinty Court, South Coul Way, Douglas Court, Bishop's Hill Road and Bishop's Hill Court.

In this regard, it was confirmed that the names had been agreed between the developer and the Croy Community Council and were of local significance. Future phases of the development would continue to use local names, including names taken from the local War Memorials.

**17. Inverness Local Holidays 2017/18
Saor-làithean Ionadail Inbhir Nis 2017/18**

The Committee **AGREED** the following dates as Local Holidays for the City of Inverness in 2017 and 2018:-

2017

Monday 2 January
 Tuesday 3 January
 Monday 6 February
 Monday 6 March
 Monday 17 April (Easter Monday)
 Monday 1 May (May Day)
 Monday 3 July
 Monday 2 October
 Monday 6 November
 Monday 25 December
 Tuesday 26 December

2018

Monday 1 January
 Tuesday 2 January
 Monday 5 February
 Monday 5 March
 Monday 2 April (Easter Monday)
 Monday 7 May (May Day)
 Monday 2 July
 Monday 1 October
 Monday 5 November
 Tuesday 25 December
 Wednesday 26 December

18. Minutes
Geàrr-chunntas

The following Minutes had been circulated for noting or approval as appropriate:-

- i. City of Inverness Area Committee held on 1 September 2016 – **NOTED**;
- ii. Events and Festivals Working Group held on 19 September and 7 November 2016 – **APPROVED**;
- iii. Inverness City Arts Working Group held on 19 October 2016 – **APPROVED**; and
- iv. Inverness Common Good Fund Grants Sub-Committee held on 7 November 2016 – **APPROVED**.

19. Exclusion of the Public
Às-dùnadh a' Phobail

The Committee **AGREED** to resolve that, under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public should be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following items on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 6 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

20. Inverness Common Good Account Sites and Premises Transaction Report
Aithisg Gnothachais Làraich agus Togalaichean Chunntasan Maoin Math Choitcheann Inbhir Nis

There had been circulated to Members only Report No. CIA/60/16 dated 10 November 2016 by the Head of Property Partnerships which summarised the property transactions between 11 November 2015 to 14 November 2016 as approved by the Head of Development and Regeneration under the Highland Council's Scheme of Delegation after consultation with Local Members as appropriate and in accordance with policy, together with a statement on the current position in respect of the Inverness Common Good fund rents.

The Committee **NOTED** the terms of the report as circulated.

21. Inverness Common Good Fund – Civic Hospitality Application

There had been circulated to Members only Report No. CIA/61/16 dated 25 November 2016 by the Inverness City Area Manager which detailed an application for civic hospitality.

In this regard, the Committee **AGREED** that this item should be withdrawn from the agenda.

The meeting ended at 4.20 pm.

The Highland Council
City of Inverness Area Committee

Minutes of Meeting of the **Inverness Common Good Fund Grants Sub-Committee** held in the 1st Floor Committee Room, Town House, Inverness on Monday, 30 January 2017 at 9.30 am.

Present:

Mr I Brown
Mrs H Carmichael
Mr A Christie
Mr A Graham

Mrs E McAllister
Mr T Prag
Mr G Ross
Mrs J Slater

Officials in Attendance:

Mr D Haas, Inverness City Area Manager
Mrs H Tolmie, Administrative Assistant, City Manager's Office
Miss J MacLennan, Principal Administrator, Corporate Development Service

Mr A Christie in the Chair

Business

1. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Mr R Laird.

2. Declarations of Interest

The Committee **NOTED** the following declarations of interest:-

Item 4 Booklet A – Mr T Prag (non-financial)

3. Exclusion of Public

The Sub-Committee **RESOLVED** that, under Section 50(A) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public should be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following item on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 6 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

4. Requests for Financial Assistance 2016/17

Declarations of Interest

Mr T Prag declared a non-financial interest in this item as he was acquainted with some members of Inverness Chamber Music Strategy but, having applied the test outlined in Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, concluded that his interest did not preclude him from taking part in the discussion.

150

There had been circulated Report No GSC/01/17 dated 23 January 2017 by the Inverness City Area Manager which listed the applications received for financial assistance from the Inverness Common Good Fund. A copy of the applications and supporting documentation had been circulated as Booklets A and B.

Booklet A

The Sub-Committee determined applications for funding of up to £10,000 as follows:-

Inverness High School (£9,535 sought) **APPROVED £9,535**
S1 Outdoor Transition Project 2017

Highland Rugby Football Club (£9,500 sought) **APPROVED £9,500**
Community Rugby Development Programme 2017-2020 year 1

Inverness College (£9,568 sought) **APPROVED £9,568**
Scotland's Salmon Festival

Although there was a relatively small number involved in the event it was recognised that this was a new event which would take time to grow and Members were of the view that it was important, at this stage, to support it.

Northern Meeting Charitable Piping Trust (£9,800 sought) **APPROVED £4,500**
Northern Meeting World Solo Piping Championships 2017
Members were of a mind to support this application in line with the previous year.

Inverness Chamber Music Society (£4,200 sought) **APPROVED £4,200**
Annual Series of Chamber Music Concerts for 2017/18
Members recognised that these events would attract people into the Town House. Also, it would make good use of the piano, originally purchased by the Society and gifted to the Town House with a Grant from the Common Good Fund. The application originally had been for three years but it was recognised that the Grants Sub Committee would only commit funding on a one year basis.

Inverness Foodstuff (£8,736 sought) **APPROVED £8,736**
Inverness Foodstuff
Again, the applicant had sought funding for a three year period, given the length of the project, but it was acknowledged that the funding requested would be for the project's first year. Whilst not generally supportive of applications seeking 100% funding, the aims and objectives of this project were commended.

City of Inverness Pipe Band (£10,000 sought) **APPROVED £10,000**
Community Pipe Band
The success of the Pipe Band was highlighted and their profile had increased considerably. The Band was working hard to source other third party funders and this demonstrated the need to be self-sufficient. There was now also a clear progression for those leaving the Youth Pipe Band to continue into the main Band.

European Highland Dancing Festival (£4,000 sought) **DEFERRED**
'European Highland Dancing Championships to take place in Inverness on 3rd and 4th April 2017

In considering the merits of the application the contribution made by volunteers of similar events was recognised, many of which were self-funded. Further information was sought as to the benefit which would be gained and what local involvement would be. Whilst it was acknowledged that such competitions required considerable space in terms of performance areas and changing facilities, the estimated cost of hall hire was questioned. Generally, Members were of the view that further information surrounding the application was required before it could be determined and accordingly the application was deferred meantime with the Inverness City Area Manager delegated with authority to determine it, in consultation with the Sub Committee, once the necessary information had been obtained.

Booklet B

The Sub-Committee **AGREED TO RECOMMEND** the following to the City of Inverness Area Committee (at its meeting on 23 February 2017) as it related to an application for more than £10,000:-

The Ledge (£45,000 sought) **APPROVED £45,000**

Marina Climbing Walls and Adventure Sport Gym

The aim was to develop a professional/community facility. The applicants were sure that there was a demand for such a facility and had put forward a strong business case. Accordingly, an indication of support was sought on the basis that other funding sources were confirmed.

Booklet C

The Sub-Committee determined an application for subvention funding as follows:-

Association for Heritage Interpretation (£5,400 sought) **APPROVED £5,400**

Heritage Interpretation Conference "Making Connections - Re-imagining Landscapes" at Eden Court in October 2017.

This event had close links with tourism and would benefit the local area not only in terms of hosting it but also by exploring best practice in the interpretation of culture, heritage and nature.

5. Request for Extension to Grant Period

The Sub-Committee **AGREED** to extend the grant period to the grants awarded to Caledonia Community Leisure Ltd – Inverness Leisure Queens Park Upgrade.

6. Request for Amendment to Grant

The Sub-Committee **AGREED** to the request from Inverness Youth Pipe Band.

7. Inverness BID

There had been circulated Report No GSC/02/17 dated 23 January 2016 by the Inverness City Area Manager which invited Members to consider applications from Inverness BID, totalling £43,540, for the following projects:-

- Operation Respect Easter/Summer 2017

- Inverness Community Safety Partnership 2017
- Inverness Gull Project 2017
- Inverness Street Festival 2017
- Coach Ambassador 2017

The Sub-Committee **AGREED** to recommend to the Area Committee to accept the applications for funding.

8. Civic Hospitality/Conference Funding Budgets

The Sub-Committee **AGREED** to transfer £26k from the Civic Hospitality Budget for 2016/17 to the Conference Funding Budget for 2016/17.

9. Homologation of Civic Hospitality Requests

The Sub Committee **AGREED TO HOMOLOGATE** the decision to award the following Civic Hospitality requests:-

Alan MacLennan - PSYV Inverness – Passing Out/Awards Ceremony - Civic Reception on 28 January - cost £1891.38.

10. Recurring Annual Events

There had been circulated Report No GSC/04/17 dated 18 January 2017 by the Inverness City Area Manager which invited Members to consider approval in principle for recurring annual events and to decide which by option they would like to determine them.

The Sub Committee:-

- i. **NOTED** the applications;
- ii. **APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE** the expenditure for the annually recurring events listed in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- iii. **AGREED** to delegate authority to the City Area Manager in consultation with the Inverness Common Good Fund (ICGF) Chairman and the Provost to approve the necessary expenditure in 2017/18.

At this juncture, it was suggested that some form of annual reception should be held at which recipients of grants could give a presentation to City of Inverness Area Members of how the money had been used. This would also promote the benefit that the Common Good Fund made. There was a lack of understanding about the Common Good Fund and a strategy to raise awareness should be pursued. It was acknowledged that this could encourage additional applications to be made and, in so doing, a better system of allocating money would need to be considered to manage demand and to ensure funding was available throughout the year.

The Sub Committee **AGREED**:-

- iv. that a report be prepared for its next meeting exploring the merits of developing a strategy to promote the Common Good Fund, including the possibility of an annual event for grant recipients to showcase how they had used their grants; and

- v. that applicants seeking grants exceeding £25,000 be invited, in consultation with the Chair of ICGF Sub Committee, to make a presentation to the Sub Committee.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The Sub-Committee **NOTED** that the next meeting would take place on Monday 27 March 2017 at 9.30 am.

The meeting ended at 10.05 am.

City of Inverness Area Committee

Minutes of Meeting of the **Events and Festivals Working Group** held in 1st Floor Committee Room, Town House, Inverness on Monday 13 February 2017 at 09.30 am.

Present:Highland Council

Mr I Brown

Mr F Parr

Mr G Ross

Other Representatives

Mr M Smith, Manager, Inverness BID

Officials in Attendance:

Mr D Haas, Inverness City Area Manager

Mr G Reynolds, Inverness Events Manager

Miss J Green, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Development Service

Miss L Farquharson, Administrative Assistant, City Area Manager's Office

Mr F Parr in the Chair**Business****1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Mr H Wood, Highland Council, Mr G Ambrose, CEO, Visit Inverness Loch Ness, Ms J Cuddy, Manager, Eastgate Shopping Centre and Mr C Marr, Chief Executive, Eden Court Theatre.

It was noted that the Hotels Association would appoint a new representative in due course.

2. Exclusion of the Public

It was **AGREED** that, under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public should be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following items on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 6 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

There had been circulated Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 7 November 2016 which were **NOTED**.

5. Matter Arising

In relation to Item 8 Sponsorship Report Update, the Events Manager confirmed that the issues raised during discussion at the previous meeting would be included in a report which would be presented to the City of Inverness Area Committee on 14 September 2017.

In relation to Item 11 Inverness British Legion and following the meeting between the Provost and Sir Alistair Irwin regarding the arrangements for the Armed Forces Day Flag Raising Ceremony, the Events Manager advised that the City of Inverness Area Committee would now be held on 16 June 2017 and therefore the Flag Raising Ceremony would be arranged for 17 June 2017.

In relation to Item 5 Events Sponsorship / Support – Options for Change, Mr M Smith commented that he had not received a copy of the presentation due to be circulated to Members. In response, the Inverness City Area Manager confirmed he would arrange for the presentation to be emailed to Mr M Smith.

6. Events Managers Report

An update was provided by the Events Manager on the following areas:-

Events Advisory Group

The Events Advisory Group, a newly established partnership group working with various partners at HIE, was making good progress consolidating the procedures for ensuring that details of incoming events and conferences was collated and available in order to ensure the best possible support was given to event and conference organisers by agencies and other partners. The move towards a “one stop shop” approach had also enable work to commence on the redesign of the events section of the Inverness Loch Ness Tourism BID’s website. A diary of the events for 2017 was circulated. In addition, it was further explained that this would allow for opportunities and problems to be more easily identified at an early stage than before; and would improve collaborative working between partners. The next stage was to categorise events and work with Loch Ness Tourism BID.

During discussion, Members queried whether this would be time-consuming for the Events Manager and in response he explained that this approach was more efficient and would improve processes and greatly improve the flow of information between partners. Furthermore, clarification was sought, and received, that Inverness BID were invited to attend the Events Advisory Group.

Inverness British Legion

The Events Manager provided details of the arrangements for the Armed Forces Day Flag Raising Ceremony that the Inverness British Legion had agreed at the meeting hosted by the Provost and attended by Sir Alistair Irwin and officials from the Legion.

Inverness Highland Games / Gala Weekend

It was noted that discussions with Inverness Rotary to use the marquees at Bught Park on Highland Games and Gala weekend had not led to the submission of an application as the Rotarians had requested a finishing time that could not be accommodated. Birchwood Highland had put forward an alternative proposal with a 10.00 pm finish.

During discussion, Councillor Ross commented that Ballifeary Community Council were aware of the programme of events being developed at Bught Park and did not object providing the hours of operation took into consideration the number of young families living in the area; and the same arrangements continued to be made as at previous events regarding parking. It was also suggested that the Community Councils on the other side of the river be consulted.

Inverness Concerts

The Events Manager outlined the progress with ticket sales for UB40, Bryan Adams and Olly Murs and the work being undertaken in partnership with Les Kidger, LCC Live and High Life Highland to achieve economies of scale.

The updates were **NOTED** and in relation to the Events Advisory Group, the work in progress was **NOTED** and it was **AGREED** that further information including membership and protocol be presented to the next meeting.

7. **Hogmanay 2017**

An update was provided by the Events Manager on the Hogmanay Concert which had been successfully stage without incident. He highlighted the positive feedback that had been received from the media and the public and from the bands who had taken part in the event. He provided an overview of the line-up for the 2017 event and advised that a band had made an approach to perform at the 2018 event. It was agreed that the public announcement of the 2017 event's line-up would take place earlier.

During discussion, Members requested that the 2017 bands be asked to consider a request to include more singalongs in their sets if possible. Members also requested that consideration be given to increasing the entertainment during the breaks between bands.

Thereafter, the update was **NOTED**.

8. Spring Festival

The Events Manager reported that he was now looking at the launch of a Spring Festival which would consist of a package of new and existing events for 2018. A list of the events for the proposed Spring Festival and the current Summer and Winter Festivals was circulated.

Members discussed the potential for a Spring Festival and noted the work being undertaken to support the Inverness Music Festival by the Council; and we briefed on the visit undertaken to the SPECTRA Festival in Aberdeen.

Thereafter, the position was **NOTED**.

9. Caledonian Canal 2022 Update

An update was provided by the Events Manager during which he explained that 2022 was the bicentenary year of the completion of the Caledonian Canal and provided details of the research he had undertaken to see if it was possible to replicate the event which marked the Canal's opening in 1822. He advised the Working Group that 2022 had been highlighted as having significant potential for Event Tourism. Other bicentenary events in 2022 included the staging of the first Highland Games in Inverness; as well as the Highland Show, the visit of King George IV to Edinburgh and the opening of the Union Canal. Discussion had taken place with Russell Thomson, Scottish Canals who was keen to work in partnership; and Events Scotland and Sail Scotland had recognised the potential for 2022 to be a 'Year of Waterways' with the opening of the Caledonian Canal as a signature event.

In discussion, Members highlighted that the World Canals Conference in Inverness was highly attended from people all over the world which showed the potential that a celebration of the bicentenary of the Caledonian Canal had.

The Working Group **NOTED** the update and expressed support for work being undertaken in relation to Caledonian Canal 2022.

10. Feedback from Spectators

Feedback received from spectators and the media on events had been reported previously during the meeting.

11. Budget

An update was provided at the meeting by the Events Manager during which he presented the actual expenditure for the period ending 31 January 2017 and forecasted an underspend in the 2016/17 budget. It was also confirmed that, as agreed, the actual expenditure would be included in the Inverness Common Good Fund Financial Monitoring Report to be presented to the next meeting of the City of Inverness Area Committee.

During discussion, Members noted that the cost for the Halloween and Winter Wonderland events had been slightly higher than estimated due to the provision of additional and replacement lighting and it was agreed that the budget for the next financial year would be adjusted to reflect the changes made. These increases had been achieved by savings made elsewhere during the course of the year and the forecast of an underspend was welcomed by all.

Thereafter, the position was **NOTED**.

12. Report to City Committee for 2018/19 Budget

The Event Manager provided a summary of the contents of the report that would be made to the City of Inverness Area Committee on 14 September 2017. It was also highlighted that partnership work was improving.

The position was **NOTED**.

13. Date of Next Meeting

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would take place following the Election on 4 May 2017 and that updates would be circulated to Members via email during purdah.

The meeting ended at 11.00 am.

BOOKLET A

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL COMHAIRLE NA GÀIDHEALTACHD

The accompanying papers are circulated
relative to the Agenda for the Meeting of the

CITY OF INVERNESS AREA COMMITTEE COMATAIDH SGÌREIL CATHAIR-BHAILE INBHIR NIS

on / air

**THURSDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2017
DIARDAOIN, 23 GEARRAN 2017**

at/ aig

10.30 am



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

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)

The Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

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

Total amount applied for: £45,500

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			

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 £		45,500			

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 Social Discretionary Fund	£200,000			
HIE	£235,000			
sportscotland Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision x	£200,000			
Social Investment Scotland	£250,000			
Private Resources Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision x	£26,011			
Totals	911,011			

*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 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.

- 3.3 a) When did your organisation start? Month: Nov 2014
- b) What geographic areas and/or communities of interest (e.g. Young people, people with disabilities, older people, people from an ethnic minority background) does your organisation cover?

Principally Inner Moray Firth then the whole of the Highland Region.
 Principle communities of interest served will be: Young people, Disabled sport and activities, Young and low level offenders, isolated individuals and groups.

- c) Is there any restriction on who can join your organisation?

No If yes, what are they and why do you have them?

No

- d) How many people are on your governing body or management committee? 5
- e) Are there Highland Council Elected Members or Officers or Community Councillors on or attending your Management Committee or Board? *(please note that this will not affect your application)*
- Yes No x as yet not decided.

If yes, please provide names:

Highland Council Elected Members	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official / advisory, other

Community Councillors	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other

Council Officers	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other

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 Capital Discretionary Fund for support.

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?

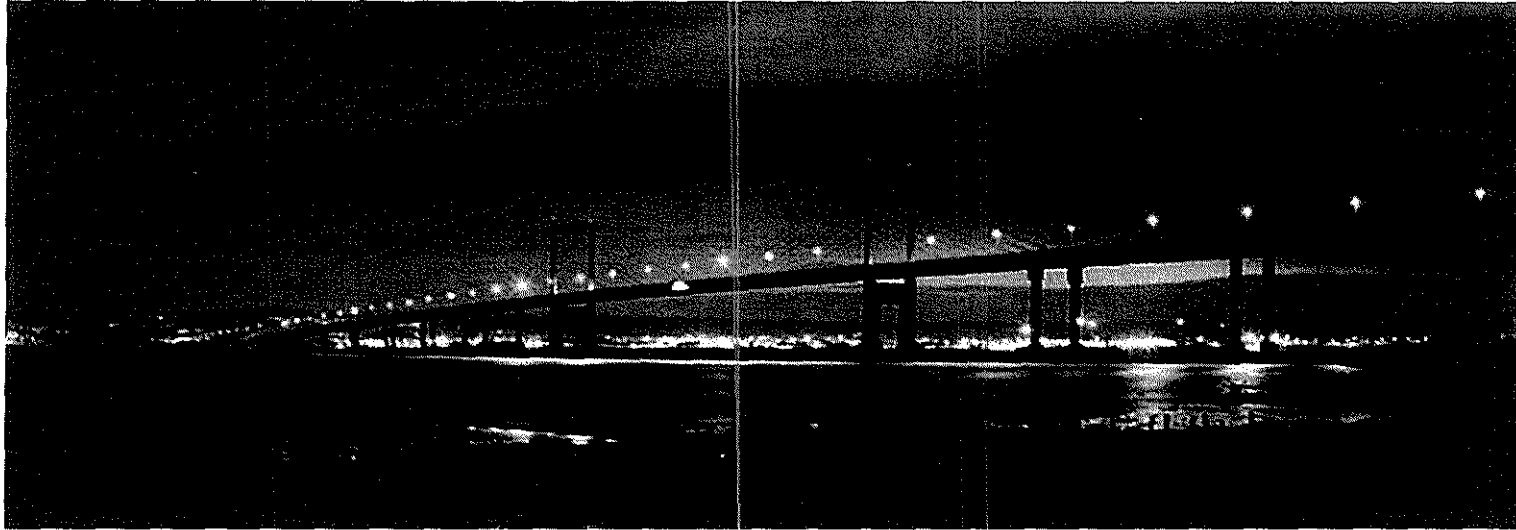
Year 1:
Year 2:
Year 3:

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:

The LEDGE

INVERNESS MARINA



THE PLAN FOR THE CLIMBING PERFORMANCE CENTRE/Level 3 HUB
FOR THE HIGHLAND REGION AT THE INVERNESS MARINA

"The facilities currently being considered within Marina Walls (The Ledge) would meet all our Facilities Strategy criteria as a Level 3 Hub and would be the second largest climbing wall in Scotland.... will cater for the growing population and the growth in the interest in climbing across the Highland area"

Kevin Howett, Sports Development Officer, Mountaineering Scotland

"The Highland Capital is the most logical place to support any significant investment into a dedicated climbing facility.... I believe the Marina Wall (The Ledge) project is the scale of facility required at the heart of collaboration between key partners to bring the required growth to rock climbing within the north, creating many more active and healthy lives."

Shaun Roberts, Principal, Glenmore Lodge

"There is no doubt therefore that the Marina Walls (The Ledge) proposal has the potential to fill this significant gap in the regional sports infrastructure, creating a facility for which we are clear there would be a great deal of demand"

Ian Murray, Chief Executive, High Life Highland

"The highlands are crying out for a venue with national status"

Adam Cruttenden, Manager EICA (Edinburgh International Climbing Arena)

"As well as providing a world class climbing facility in Scotland's highland capital Inverness, the Marina Wall (The Ledge) has the potential to provide a much needed publicly accessible hub"

Mark Diggins, Co-ordinator - Scottish Avalanche Information Service

Technical Commission and Board Member - International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations.

"The Marina Wall (The Ledge) proposal represents a valid and desirable project on a number of levels... As a Lecturer in Sport and Outdoor studies at the UHI I could foresee opportunities for research, work and coaching placements, training and sports performance workshops and other vocational fields associated with facility operation"

Nicola Diggins, Lecturer of sport & outdoor studies, Inverness Collage University of the Highlands and Islands

"Firstport highlighted that they felt the project has the potential to deliver clear social impacts and were impressed by the strength of the business plan"

Kirstie Penman, Program Manager, Firstport

"As the GB Paraclimbing Team Coach, I am excited to see a drive for more social inclusion in climbing... it is a perfect fit for such a great much needed resource for further social inclusion in climbing."

Mark McGowan GB Paraclimbing Team Coach

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1. Executive Summary

Mountaineering Scotland (the sports governing body) has identified Inverness as being at the centre of a region where a major climbing development is a strategic necessity. They also have redefined their National Facilities strategy, which would see this project (The Ledge) fulfilling its role as a **“Climbing Performance Centre”, a Level 3 Hub**. Current local facilities are inadequate and limited and are over-crowded at peak times. Many committed climbers ignore the local walls climbing completely, travelling to better facilities in the south. (See MS Facilities Position Statement) With Rock Climbing as an Olympic sport for Tokyo 2020 and as a past Olympic demonstration sport, the creation of a National structure to develop and foster talent, provide climbers with high standard training facilities both regionally and Nationally is extremely important if we are to compete at the highest levels. The Ledge’s training facilities have been specifically designed to meet the sports progression targets set by the governing body. These targets include the development of competition and elite standard facilities as well as a substantial provision for recreational, entry level and pathway development.

The plan is create a large scale “Climbing Performance Centre” and Adventure Sports destination at the Inverness Marina by developing a sustainable business with a wide appeal and also a mountain sports and climbing gym facility that will be specifically tailored to meet the needs of climbers and the mountaineering community in the Highlands. The project also has a **wider leisure and tourism** role, which includes the development of a café and varied adventure facilities, designed to appeal to visiting tourists and families on holiday. This is of integral importance in the creation of a sustainable business. In addition to the indoor facilities mid term development plans are to run a comprehensive program of outdoor adventure sports courses and activities using the indoor facilities and training programs as a launch pad to our outdoors and community programs. The project has received some significant endorsements supporting the objectives of the project. (See Appendix 1). The project will be run as a SCIO, with its charitable aims focused towards the provision of facilities, opportunities and training to those with specific needs.

It has long been recognised that there is a real lack of adventure sport/leisure-tourism, and climbing facilities in the Highland region. The City of Inverness and the wider Highland region have few wet weather active tourism and adventure sports facilities for both locals and visitors. The recent growth in the Inner Moray Firth’s population and the general increase in awareness and participation in outdoor and mountain sports, have both now reached a stage where it is felt that the Highland region can support a climbing and adventure centre worthy of the city of Inverness and the Marina site.

It is felt that at the end of its first mature year of operation the Centre should receive over 80,000 visits. It is estimated that the 2000m2 building will cost in the region of £1.65ml to build with an additional £950,000 to “fit out” and deliver the project to the required standard. Government and sports grant aid is required to meet this requirement and initial enquiries have suggested that the relevant sports and government agencies are ready to support a venture that they see as important to the health of performance sport, community sport, adventure leisure and tourism the area.

Anticipated levels of participation are inline with similar facilities elsewhere, given the size of the catchment areas local and regional, however the poorer weather in the Highlands and the active nature of the regional sports population, the project could see a much more robust uptake than anticipated.

The Ledge (SCIO) will be the leaseholder, and we aim to create a **community engagement fund**, to support the community and social aims of the project. The aims and objectives include the promotion of community engagement, creating opportunities for young people, **supporting a healthier Scotland** and providing sports and leisure activities for all people, at all levels of ability, regardless of their social and economic status. The structure is designed to be as dynamic and flexible as possible, allowing the business to develop opportunities as they surface and to provide a structure acceptable to our grant and community funders.

2 Project Overview

Development History

In early 2014, following discussions with the owners of the Inverness Marina site, Scotlog Ltd and the Mountaineering Scotland (MS), Adventure Concepts Ltd who have worked as an adventure sports design consultancy since 2001, was invited to investigate the feasibility of a major adventure leisure and climbing centre on the site.

This feasibility study coincided with the MS publishing a new policy document. This document outlines the current provision and future facility development requirements for the (mountaineering and climbing) sport in Scotland. The Highland Region, centred on the City of Inverness was highlighted as specifically lacking in quality facilities and was a region in need structural facilities development and support. This report opened the door for the project. Combined with the positive results of the feasibility study commissioned by Scotlog Ltd. this combination demonstrated the viability of the proposed Marina Walls project.

3 The proposed Marina Centre in a National Sports context.

The following climbing specification was agreed with the MS as being the ambition of the Centre. This specification is sufficient for the centre to gain Level 3 HUB/ Climbing Performance Centre status, placing it at the centre of climbing sport in Scotland.

1,000m² of lead walls, ranging in height between 10 and 14m high

This should include a wall capable of hosting Local and National competitions

350m² of bouldering (4.5m) un-roped training walls

UIAA Olympic Speed Climbing wall, between 10m-12m high.

(To put this into a European context, most regard a 1,000m² to be of moderate size. It is estimated that that the Marina centre would be in the region of 1,550m², including the speed and competition walls. We believe this to be pragmatic given the local conditions.)

Additional supporting facilities should be included in order to provide a “Level 3/Climbing Performance Centre” centre:

- Lecture room/space
- Gym/strength and conditioning
- Showers and changing facilities
- Café
- Small retail rock shop 30-50m²
- Toilets
- Disabled services and access
- Yoga/physio Studios (doubling as competition isolation space)
- Early years, and community sports facilities to include Play Climbing and High Ropes
- Traditional gear lead facility

4 The Ledge as a National Centre (Hub) (prepared in conjunction with the MS.)

Key outcomes for MS through the Level 3 Hub criteria.

- Offer the standard and scale of facilities available in South Scotland but lacking in the North
- Act as a Level 3 standard Hub at the centre of a network of local and school walls (there are more primary school traverse walls in Highland Region than anywhere else in Scotland but no pathway to take that basic intro further due to lack of facility)
- This we envisage will increase participation in climbing and bring North Scotland participation levels up and so increase competition attendance, allow talent identification, build coaching structures etc.
- Allows National competitions to be held in North including International standard speed.
- Give a home for the North Scotland Regional Team
- Allows a Speed Team to train in the North (there is an established Scottish Speed Team training in Ratho EICA and attending IFSC comps)
- Allows coaching academies to be held in the North
- Allows MS and others to deliver Level 3 Coaching in Climbing Awards and modules (Performance Coach)
- Will allow engagement with the MS Regional Development Officers (Paul Calton and Michael Jeans) in developing clubs, next-steps REALrock etc.
- Speed wall 10m – to IFSC specs.
- Performance walls are required (systems board, circuit board, finger and campus) other ancillary gym equipment including rings, Versa Climber CV, hang bars, physio-balls in climbing area and free weights etc. in gym
- Indoor trad climbing provision is required
- Enhance pathway development through engagement with local schools and youth groups, junior clubs, support to the local youth climbing club, coaching support, build competitions; a shared sport area and no drive to expand and make a dedicated climbing space

5 Complementary Facilities

The Ledge – Gym/Fitness (The Adventure Sports Gym)

The Level 3 Hub requires the facility to provide limited CV, strength and conditioning equipment and cross-training equipment for the teams, and the elite and recreational sports climbers and mountaineers.

It is therefore proposed to develop of complimentary training and therapeutic facilities to be those required to reach the Level 3 Hub status and those thought will benefit the mountaineering and climbing community in the Region. These facilities will mirror the most modern climbing centre models both operationally and functionally (classes and facilities). These facilities must also be able to meet the demands of both the MS and the British Mountaineering Council as climbing moves on towards to the Olympics in 2020.

These are

	Sizes	
A Space suitable for yoga, stretching, core and floor work and lectures		
Functional fitness space, for group work, HIT training and competition isolation		
Strength and Conditioning equipment, namely free weights and Kafe Craft, Tools, TRX,	Mountain sports functional fitness and free weights training	– 100m2
Boards, Ropes and ladders	CV Classes in a flexible studio space/isolation room	– 100m2
Selected CV machines such as the Versaclimber etc.	Lecture theatre	- 100m2

Modern climbing centres in the USA are leading the trends, and those facilities are now being mirrored in Europe, in most cases, they have a large Yoga/Studio space for up to 40 participants, dedicated Strength and Condition areas with Free Weights, CV and flexible functional fitness spaces, which can double as competition isolation and warm up rooms. They also are set up to service local competitions and coaching sessions, and the desired FFME (French Federation) Bebe' Climb style tools.

Fun Climbing – (Hangfast – Clip and Climb – Funtopia)

Fun climbing walls are a new climbing leisure activity. They can act as stand alone kids and young teens active play spaces but are strongly linked to climbing activity and are an effective introductory tool and gateway into the deeper climbing experience. They are vertical play - a mix between climbing, high ropes and jungle gym suitable for kids between 5-14 yrs old. They also provide excellent team building and party venues - Fun Climbing – 200m2 x 8m high (18-20 Units) and a Soft Play area or between 60 - 100m2 is regarded as a significant additional draw and an effective pathway into the sport of climbing.

Standalone “Clip and Climb” facilities in England such as Hangfast in Exeter post 49,000 annual visits and are also regarded as a major tourism draw. Similarly Bournemouth’s regeneration success cites the Pier’s “Rock Reef” centre as being of major importance in the wider tourism offering.

High ropes and Zip lines (potentially phased in)

Integrated into the roof structure and supported by the Fun Climbing Structure will be a 12-18 obstacle High Ropes course. It is important that this is separated from the main climbing hall due to noise disturbance. A Zip Wire would then leave the building and cross the Marina as a final obstacle choice. The Zip could be offered as a separate stand-alone activity. GoApe and similarly and the Eden Centre’s zip wire and high-ropes course are seen as part of the accepted leisure and tourism mix acting as major draws and a demonstration of an areas modern active leisure provision.

Shelter Stone Café

A 100m2 café providing up to 12x2m rectangular tables = 80-100 covers.

We strongly believe that the Marina Wall should be home to an excellent café that would become a destination café in its own right. The success of the Mountain Café in Aviemore, the Storehouse at Foulis Ferry and the recently redeveloped Brodie Countryfare near Nairn, show that there is a real demand for quality casual cafés. The backlash against chain cafés such as Starbucks and Costa suggests that people want good independent cafés with adequate parking. It is suggested that the café serve plated lunch and evening food similar to the Bristol’s Mud Docks and the successful Tiso Experience café in Perth.

The Shelter Stone would provide daylong healthy snacks and sandwiches, breakfast bagels and bakery style food in addition. This will be a quality offering capable of becoming a local lunchtime spot to service local business, the centre and marina visitors alike. Limited local competition exists, notably the Tiso Experience café. It is important that the café is social, friendly and has an excellent level of welcoming service to all comers.

It is proposed that the café operation will play an important part in creating awareness that the Inverness Marina is a destination in its own right. The café, retail and events business will be subcontracted to a company with these specific skills. Funding is not being sought for the Café and retail elements of the project.

6 Key Deliverables in the context of sportscotland's facilities awards.

- The project must have meaningful community access, provide community benefit and not be for private gain.

The building will be open to all comers to train and use the centre. Opening hours will be from 7 or 8am for gym and studio usage and from 10am – 10.30pm weekdays and 10 am to 8pm on the weekend for the climbing arena.

The SCIO will develop and administer a surplus fund, which will be used to support various initiatives to support those in the wider community who require special support and access to the facilities. The project also will provide a much needed sports venue for the climbing and adventure sports community as a whole.

The proposed structure provides for the SCIO to generate funds to support the charitable objectives.

- There must be a clear need and demand for what is proposed.

Most major cities in the UK have large climbing centres. Inverness is the current exception and has been identified by the governing body as a major gap in the provision of climbing and adventure facilities. The population has reached the critical mass to support such a development and a number of private companies have targeted Inverness as a potential development opportunity.

- Financial need must be clearly demonstrated, in order to be considered eligible for the requested level of funding.

In order to develop a facility that can answer the governing bodies requirements and that of the sports community of the region, significant grant support is required to allow the project to exist on a strong and sustainable footing. This is best provided through grant awards rather than incurring large unsustainable debts. The (total) funding package proposed, is a mix of local, regional and national funds. The facilities grant will be specifically attributed to the climbing hall/wall fixtures of the project as a clearly defined governing body target. The climbing arena and its walls can be viewed almost as a stand-alone funding element, clear and defined.

- In all cases, applicants must demonstrate the operational viability of the project for the period of the award. Maintenance and eventual replacement must be planned and funded by the applicant, taking account of realistic income projections.

A comprehensive financial plan is attached to this application, complete with maintenance and repair allowances

- The facility must be fit for purpose in terms of: Location; scale and content; design, accessibility; management and environmental impact.

The project is designed to fit not only the governing body requirements for its national and regional development aims and objectives, but is also market and catchment area refined. The site has good road links and has been designed to fit into the surroundings of the site and location.

- The project must be able to show that with funding from sportscotland you have the finance or will be capable of raising the balance of finance to start up to 12 months of the date of the award.

The sportscotland facilities grant is an essential component of the funding package, without which this project will not be viable. We have identified – and are in varying stages of application and negotiation with – multiple complementary sources of financing, who view support from the governing body and sportscotland as the keystone funding on which their funding will be built. The sportscotland facilities grant is a prerequisite to securing each of the additional funding sources. Many of the additional funding sources are smaller in nature and such smaller funding lines would not, in themselves in isolation, result in a shortfall should they not be obtained.

- The applicant must be able to complete the project within a set timescale.

Once the funding package is complete a defined design and build timetable has been set and verified but major construction company Colorado construction. Gantt Chart attached.

- We look for applicants to demonstrate security of tenure for at least ten years (from date of completion) for projects, which received an award of up to £100,000, including VAT. Where the award level exceeds £100,000, Including VAT, we require the applicant to have security of tenure for at least 25 years from date of completion. This can be through ownership or by way of a lease.

A 40 year lease has been offered by the owners of the site and the developers of the building. Copy attached

7 Company/Project Structures

The building will be built, owned and partially fitted out by Scotlog Ltd. The Ledge the SCIO, will lease the building and operate the project.

The SCIO will sign a minimum of a 40-year lease with the building owners, a key requirement of a Sportscotland award. A long lease protects the grant investment and the Mountaineering Scotland's strategic goal for nationally important sporting facility. The Company will have first option on re-signing the sporting lease at the end of the initial period. Scotlog Ltd is supportive of the long lease terms as it provides consistent tenancy and continuity for the site. It is the SCIO that will apply for the grants essential for the projects developments. The development recognises Sportscotland's requirement to hold a first/joint first legal charge over assets up to the value of any grant. We will therefore structure the enterprise to accommodate this in as straightforward a manner possible. Sportscotland would be able to take the first charge over this lease should that be their preferred option.

As mentioned earlier, the projects sporting infrastructure has been agreed with the sports Governing Body the Mountaineering Scotland (MS). It also should be noted that we have given careful consideration to Sportscotland's objectives as they relate to "priority projects" and "specific considerations" of

1) Facilities which increase opportunities for or improve the quality of outdoor and adventure sport.

The Centre is designed to become a Level 3 "Regional Hub" Climbing Centre and fit into the governing bodies National development plan (which includes increasing participation in indoor and outdoor climbing). In addition the gymnasium, studio and proposed outdoor sports training programs will see the project become the focal point for adventure sports participants in the Highlands. The plan is to create training programs and outdoors sports opportunities which otherwise would not exist. This would include introductory outdoor courses to climbing and mountaineering, plus developing guiding and coaching programs. The mid-term ambition is to run a comprehensive outdoor climbing and mountaineering curriculum led by our senior guiding and instructional staff.

2) Community access and increase the range of available sporting activity.

The existing facilities in the City, according to the “governing bodies facility” review carried out in early 2016, state that the current facilities in the city are inadequate and out-dated. This is recognised by Highland Council, the owners of the exciting wall and Highlife Highland the operators of the facility. Both agree when The Ledge is operational they will review the old provision and consider dismantling or relocating it, to a more suitable location.

Therefore the SCIO recognises that it will be providing part of a much needed community leisure mix. Memberships and entry will be open to all, who pass the relevant safety checks and training and inductions, classes will be open to all comers.

The SCIO will fund and support community access and target specific user groups considered appropriate for the organisations charitable aims.

3) National and/or regional standard training facilities identified by Scottish governing bodies of sport as part of their facility strategies and/or linked to success at the Commonwealth Games, Olympic Games and Paralympics or other events of national importance.

The Centre fits into the governing bodies national development strategy for competition and Olympic development.

8 Community, Sport and Health.

The SCIO understands it plays a vital role in promoting and providing facilities for the community. It also fully understands the benefits of positively introducing people to climbing and adventure sports in a positive and engaging way. More than many activities, “lifestyle sports” tend to stay with people throughout their lives, evolving as their interests and abilities develop. The wide age range seen in climbing walls is testament to this.

The SCIO aims to create a fund to support low cost access to the facilities, and provide the sports facilities and training, for those with specific needs

SCIO Aims and Objectives – Social and environmental impact

- 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

9 Key social outcomes linked to Climbing and Adventure Sports

The following bulleted points are taken from observed outcomes of a group of young offenders and youth at risk during a 6-week course at Rock Reef, a climbing and adventure centre in Bournemouth.

- ☑ Increased confidence – overcoming the physical and mental challenges through the attainment of realistic goals.
- ☑ Tenacity and persistence – repeating attempts when initial ones are not as successful as hoped, until, after personal skill development the goal is achieved
- ☑ Setting & meeting personal goals – going further than before, or further than they believed they could through voluntary effort, without comparing themselves to others
- ☑ Peer support – specifically, encouraging one another to achieve for the other person's benefit, rather than for their own
- ☑ Working with difference – mixing with others different to themselves, and making this work so that the collective experience is better for all
- ☑ Health and exercise – seeing the positive impact of regular physical exercise
- ☑ Life impact – a sense of exhilaration through optimal experiences some young people are noticing that they have a different outlook since starting in a challenging activity develops a greater state of well being and a benefit to life quality.

"Experience of the outdoors (sports)... has the potential to confer a multitude of benefits on young people's physical development, emotional and mental health and well being and social development. Mental health and wellbeing benefits from (adventure) play appear to be long-term, realised in the form of emotional stability in young adulthood.

- ☑ Attitudes, beliefs and self-perceptions - examples of outcomes include independence, confidence, self-esteem, locus of control, self-efficacy, personal effectiveness and coping strategies
 - ☑ Interpersonal and social skills - such as social effectiveness, communication skills, group cohesion and teamwork
- Literature Review by Penny Travlou, OPENspace Research Centre (2006) "

"In diverse and marginalized groups within today's society you need to be resilient. Rock climbing builds and strengthens resilience as well as increasing individuals confidence in themselves and grows trust and communication with others in a very focused environment that benefits a person both physically and mentally in a highly positive, exciting and highly social environment."

Mark McGowan GB Paraclimbing Team Coach

"Optimal experience, where we feel a sense of exhilaration, a deep sense of enjoyment that is long cherished, does not come through passive, receptive, relaxing times. The best moments usually occur when a person's body or mind is stretched to its limits in a voluntary effort to accomplish something difficult and worthwhile. Such experiences are not necessarily pleasant at the time they occur. Yet, in the long-run, optimal experiences add up to a sense of mastery, or perhaps, better, a sense of participation in determining the content of life. Because optimal experience depends on the ability to control what happens in consciousness moment by moment, each person has to achieve it on the basis of his own individual efforts and creativity. This happens when psychic energy--or attention--is invested in realistic goals, and when skills match the opportunities for action. The pursuit of a goal brings order in awareness because a person must concentrate attention on the task at hand and momentarily forget everything else."

Mihaly Csikszentmihaly - Flow

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, Highlife Highlands Active Schools initiative, Reach Climbing Coach Mark McGowan, Lee Craigie of Cycletherapy, Nicola Diggins Department of Sport and Outdoors Studies Inverness College UHI, and Day 1 Charity.

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.). Additionally we plan to work on local initiatives with the Day1 Charity in Inverness and The Bridge (School).

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.

11 The Site

The location is a 1,675 m2 brown field site overlooking the new Inverness Marina, which opened in 2008; The site is owned by Scotlog Ltd. Scotlog are a shipping and transportation company who developed the Inverness Marina Harbour as part of a wider master plan for the site. This includes future plans for a number of tourism, leisure and business opportunities, the development of a climbing and adventure leisure business will be a catalyst to the wider master plan aims for the Marina site.

The land is on a prime site with fine views of the Kessock Bridge and east into the Cromarty Firth. It is a 3-minute drive from the Longman A9 roundabout and a 5-minute drive from the A96 to Aberdeen. This is the main intersection for all road traffic travelling to and from the Highlands, east to Aberdeen/Morayshire and south to the Cairngorm National Park.

Nearby notable sites includes the SPL football team Inverness Caley Thistle's stadium, The Tiso Inverness Outdoor Experience Shop and Bairds Malting.

12 Industry and Market Analysis (Commercial)

Introduction - Overview

The Highlands have a long tradition as one of the best mountaineering and climbing venues in the UK. Since the 1900's climbers have travelled to the Scottish mountains to walk and climb. With the improvement in working prospects and improved communication links with the West Highlands and the Cairngorms, Inverness has now become one of the cities in the UK where active people are choosing to live as part of their desire for a better work-life balance.

This gradual increase in the active population has now reached a level where local demand for adventure sports and climbing facilities has never been greater. Climbing follows the growth in mountain biking, which has seen major investments in trails and trail centres from Golspie to Laggan and Fort William.

Destination Highlands

A major part of the economy of the Highlands and Islands is described as nature-based tourism. This wide title includes fishing, hunting, mountaineering and hillwalking. Mountaineering activity - defined as climbing and walking above 2,000 feet - was estimated to account for £164m of direct expenditure and income generation of £53m in 1996. In 2008 Scottish Recreation Survey showed that 384 million outdoor recreation trips in Scotland could be linked to £2.8bn of spending. This study estimated that 80% of these outdoor trips had walking and mountain sport as the prime motivation, (Cuninghame, 2009).

Since 2010 The Mountaineering Council of Scotland has seen an increase in these climbing numbers.

13 Demographic Considerations - Inverness – Population and official figures

- Highland - 232,940 [Population Factsheet Highland](#)
- Moray - 94,350 [Population Factsheet Morayshire](#)

The population of "Greater" Inverness grew from an estimated 51,610 in 2003 to 62,470 at the time of the 2011 Census. Inverness is one of Europe's fastest growing cities, with a third of the Highland population living in or around the city. It is ranked fifth out of 189 British cities for its quality of life, the highest of any Scottish city. Inverness and the rest of the central Highlands showed the largest growth of average economic productivity per person in Scotland and the second greatest growth in the United Kingdom as a whole, with an increase of 86%.

Functional Catchment

The theoretical catchment of the Highlands is 327,290. However due to the remote nature of many of the communities and the fact that the wider rural population is aging, and agricultural, this number must be much lower.

Therefore we estimate the (30min - 45min drive) catchment for the Marina site is between 120,000 and 150,000 individuals. This is the area defined as Inner Moray Firth by Highlands and Islands Enterprise. During peak periods this drive time will extend to 60 mins and includes Elgin, Forres, Aviemore, Kingussie and Newtonmore, adding another 37,000 residents to this figure. This is within the margins that a commercial Climbing Centre can be successfully run.

14 User Numbers and Market size. Climbing Walls

There are 650 climbing walls in the UK, many of which are small local leisure centre walls such as can be found in the Bught Park Leisure Centre in Inverness. Often they have restricted opening hours and share their facilities with other sports and activities. In Scotland most major cities apart from Inverness have modern commercial climbing walls. These include the National Centre in Ratho, Edinburgh, Alien Rock in Edinburgh, Transition Extreme Aberdeen, The Glasgow Climbing Centre, The Bouldering Academy in Glasgow, with other centres in Dundee, Aberdeen, Fort William, Elgin and Kinlochleven.

For modern new-build centres to thrive the critical mass of population is understood to be around 100,000 people living within 30-60mins drive of the proposed building. Anecdotal evidence from the British Mountaineering Council and commercial investment information from Walltopia a climbing wall builder and investor, confirms this 100,000-user figure.

Factors, which contribute to the success of such centres, are as follows:

- Schools with developing outdoor sports programs
- Local Universities or colleges
- Adjacent military bases or training centres
- A high percentage of active locals e.g. Sheffield and Manchester have more climbers per head of population than London.

Climbing Wall user numbers

Climbing Wall user numbers vary greatly depending on the position of the walls and local competition

The following figures have been gathered from climbing centres in the UK

EICA National Centre Ratho	-Total activity attendance	- 265,000 in 2014
Alien Rock Edinburgh	- Climbing attendance	- 65,000 in 2014
Glasgow Climbing Centre	- Climbing attendance	- 56,000 in 2013
Xscape Glasgow	- Total activity attendance	- 65,000 in 2011
Awsome Walls Liverpool	- Climbing attendance	- 58,000 in 2012
Castle Climbing London	- Climbing attendance	- 268,000 in 2013
Highland Lesuire Inverness	- Climbing attendance	- 12,000 in 2014
Transition Extreme Aberdeen	- Total activity attendance	- 110,000 in 2012

Tourism and Visitors (potential)

User numbers proposed for the climbing usage at the Centre are 37,000 per annum and the total centre is 79,000, covering all activities and sports in Year 1. For the purposes of building a solid robust plan, little additional tourism impact has been estimated in these figures. The Beacon Climbing Centre in Wales and the Keswick King Kong Walls estimate that between 25% and 35% of their business comes from passing tourist drop in usage. The Landmark and Treezone in Aviemore exist almost entirely as tourism businesses, therefore as Inverness sees 1,000,000 tourism visits pass through per annum, we will target this market from year 2 onwards. This activity could see between a 15%-20% increase in visitation over and above our projected numbers Years 1-3 numbers.

15 Competition and other facilities - Climbing Walls

- Glenmore Lodge, Aviemore – Small 50m2 with limited height
- Inverness Leisure Centre – 220m2, Max height 9.5m – Limited access but low cost. This wall has 15 Rope Lines, is 10m high and has limited bouldering
- Grantown Grammar School Wall – Small wall in a mixed use hall
- Fort William Bouldering Wall – Small and old
- Three Monkeys Fort William - Small church conversion (projected 44,000 users)
- Kinlochleven Ice Factor – Remote and small to mid sized
- Elgin Church Wall - Recently opened, small.

Notes - Recent information acquired from Highland Leisure sources concerning the climbing wall at Bught Park, suggests that it has 12,000 visits per annum and 7,200 registered users.

User numbers for the Inverness Leisure Climbing Wall are low due to the inadequate number of ropes available at peak times, when the wall operates at capacity. The limited surface now carries little or no interest to committed climbers and the bouldering wall is very poor. Many of the active climbers prefer to use home training facilities or make the arduous journey south to the EICA Ratho.

Play Spaces etc.

Landmark – Adventure play facility including high ropes and pole climbs. Limited by outside nature as weather affected

TreeZone Aviemore - High ropes course near Aviemore with an estimated throughput of 17,000 per annum

ZipPark Aviemore – Zip line park in Aviemore doing about 8,000 visits per annum

Soft Play in Inverness

Playzone, Asda Culduthel– Busy, quiet modern kids play space run by a local nursery and crèche provider.

Frankie and Lolias - Bright and airy with separate toddler and older kids areas. Coffee, food, and parties

Building a Sustainable Business

Statistically there is a sufficiently active local population to support a mid sized commercial climbing centre. However in order to build a strong sustainable business the inclusion of some key additional sports and leisure activities is considered vital to fully exploit the gaps in the local provision and to create a valuable sport, tourism and leisure facility worthy of the site and city.

Mountaineering Tourism

The Highlands are a major climbing and mountaineering destination with many thousands passing through Inverness as a gateway to the West Coast and Northern Highlands. Some additional benefit must be expected from this traffic. In fact the provision of a national quality climbing centre would help encourage some climbers to “risk” a journey north, knowing that if the conditions were poor, a good indoor alternative was possible, therefore saving their weekend.

16 The Threat from Local Competition

The local climbing walls are not of a sufficient quality or scale to offer significant competition. HighRopes and Fun Climb - Around Aviemore good adventure play facilities are available but they tend to serve the summer visitor and do not necessarily attract city dwellers to them on a regular basis. They are seasonal and weather affected.

Soft Play - There are limited but growing soft play provisions in the city but they are often oversubscribed at peak times. However it is expected that the soft play facilities will be targeted at our own membership and not offer competition to existing facilities.

Comparative Models and how they influence the project

It is important when developing this project to look at similar projects in towns or areas with similar or lower demographics.

The Highland/Inverness model, a mid-sized regional city/town with a low-density rural area, is similar to two areas in the UK where climbing centres successfully operate, one in North Wales and the other in the Lake District. The Beacon Centre in North Wales and King Kong Climbing in Keswick represent the model on which the Inverness project is based.

Both North Wales and the Lake District, like the Highlands of Scotland see many thousands of visitors to the area to climb and walk and both centres benefit from the centres being used as “bolt holes” when the weather turns, with the percentage of drop-ins being larger in Keswick than the Beacon.

Area		Climbing Centre
Keswick Lake District		King Kong
Population	30mins Drive	60 min (including Allerdale District and Carlisle District)
5,257	96,000	201,500

Main Climbing Walls within the Region (North lakes/Cumbria)

Sands Centre Carlisle	– Small Regional
Penrith Wall Eden	– Mid Regional
Keswick Climbing Centre	- Small Regional
King Kong Centre Keswick	– Mid Regional
Ambleside Wall	- Small

Caernarfon North Wales

The Beacon -

Population	30mins Drive	60min (Including Gwynedd and Conway)
9615	121,874	200,174

Main Climbing Walls within the Region (North Wales/Ellesmere Port)

Indy Climbing Centre Bangor - Mid Regional
 Harlech Climbing Centre - Mid Regional
 Boardroom Deeside - Large regional
 Beacon Centre - Large Regional

Inverness Highlands

Population 30mins Drive 60min (Including Aviemore and Moray)
 79,000 153,295 225,000

Main Climbing Centres within the Region

Inverness Leisure Small local (future TBD) Elgin Church Small Local

Comparative statistics

Facility	Beacon	King Kong	The Ledge
Lead Walls	930m2	800m2	800m2 + Speed = 1000m2
Bouldering	320m2	180	350m2
Fun Climb	18 tracks	16 tracks	18tracks
Gym	Proposed	Yes	Yes
Yoga	Yes	No	Yes
Other	No	Ice Wall -Caveing	High Ropes/Studio
Cafe	45 seats	40	40-80
Creche/kids play	Yes	Yes	Yes
Shop	Yes	Yes	Yes

Annual User Numbers

Facility	Beacon	King Kong	The Ledge (Yrs 1-4)
Climbing	48,000 - 50,000	38,000 - 42,000	36,000 -39,000
Funclimb	17,000	16,000	14,000 - 15,500
Yoga	3240	N/A	2,000 - 4,200
Others	N/A	15,000	4,000 - 5,000
Courses (Climbing +)	8000	6000	5,000 - 10,000*
Total Known	75,000	79,000	73,700

- Includes, Fitness and Highropes

80% of traffic to the Beacon is local, 20% from visitors and occasional regional users, 65% of traffic to King Kong is local, 35% from visitors and occasional users. Both the Beacon and King Kong have much stronger local competition than would be faced in the Highlands, with the Indy Wall near the Beacon and the Keswick Climbing wall being within 15 mins of their sites. Both Centres are successful and sustainable operations.

Additional Note Notes:-

Beacon – Steve Mayers - Yoga and Pilates courses are predominantly populated by climbers, a gym is now required as training methods widen (His other centre in Milton Keynes has a gym)

King Kong - Paul Conforth - Kids and Schools usage is growing year on year with mixed adventure tickets popular with families. The Training facility/Gym is too small, Fun Climb is fully booked in summer and winter (shoulder spring/autumn), the Café too small, the Bouldering area too small and at capacity during wet weekends.

Both owners are clear that 36,000+ climber visits in Inverness “should be easily achievable” and that FunClimbing is a great way to introduce non-climbers to the centre. Their respective gym/studio facilities are too small and larger cafes would benefit their centres. They also see a rise in complimentary training and health classes including pilates, yoga, core work, functional mountain fitness is being asked for and taken up by their core climbing users.

17 Strategic Partnerships

The Ledge project has a number of key supporters and groups who see considerable synergy with the project ie University of the Highlands and Islands (ICUHI)

Following discussions with the business Development Director, it has been proposed that Marina Walls can work directly with ICUHI on

- Curriculum provision of facilities for Rock Climbing and Adventure Leisure
- Opportunities for ICUHI to support trainer training for technical staff
- Modern Apprenticeships
- International Summer School programs built around provision
- Work placements
- Customer service training and hospitality ‘guest spots’
- Joint course delivery – Outdoor and adventure sports/catering
- Indoor Rock Climbing is being added to the sports curricula for 2017, for the Outdoor Education Qualifications

“The project is a welcome and vital component in the continuing sports and cultural development of Inverness and Highland Region. For our students it should offer more than a much needed leisure facility, but also a facility that could add value to the curriculum of the Inverness College UHI. The project offers good opportunities for work placement, vocational training and physical facilities for hospitality, leisure, tourism and outdoors sports. Inverness College UHI believes the Climbing and Adventure Centre will become an integral part of the Cities sports and tourism mix and welcome the opportunity it offers to our students both vocationally and socially.” Kathleen Woolton, ex-Head of Business Development ICUHI

18 Sports Facilities and Building size

Facility – Sports	Floor Space estimate	Height	Notes
Climbing - Lead	700m2	10-15m	1000m2 of surface
Climbing – Boulder	In main arena	4m	350m2
Clip and Climb	175m2 inc. services	10m	18 stations
Fitness area	100m2	4m	2 nd Floor
Studio/lecture theatre	80-100m2	4m	2 nd Floor
High Rope & Zip	Within C&C		

Notes: The Zip Line is exterior.

19 Estimated Building size x m2

Building Accommodation		Sports/Climbing Arena	
Café	110	Funtopia/creche	200
Kitchen	40	Bouldering *	in main hall and room
Reception *	100	Climbing *	700
Lecture Theatre	100	High Ropes	Suspended
Retail	30m2	Zip Wire	Suspended and exterior
Toilets *	200	Storage room CH	12m2
Offices	55-65	Gym/Studio	200
Cash Office	15	Physio/First Aid	15
	655m2 not circulation		1127m2

20 Construction Cost Estimate.

Gross Internal Floor Area GIFA			
Excluding Fit-out and internal services	555m2	1127m2	100m2
Climbing/Community	Main Building	Climbing Hall inc. bouldering, sport	Café
Building Cost	=	=	£1.65ml

A full QS estimate, (attached) was independently produced by Colorado Construction and Thomas and Adamson.

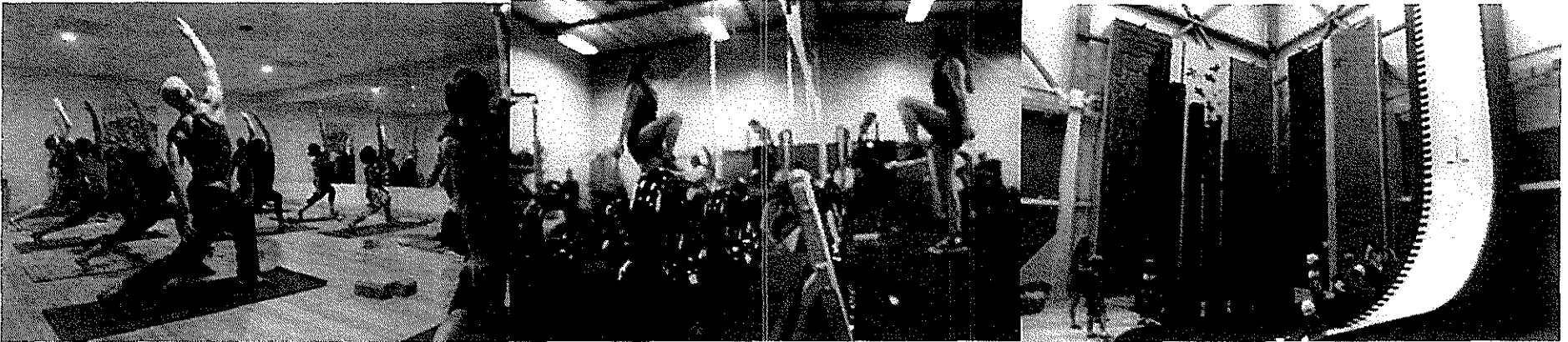
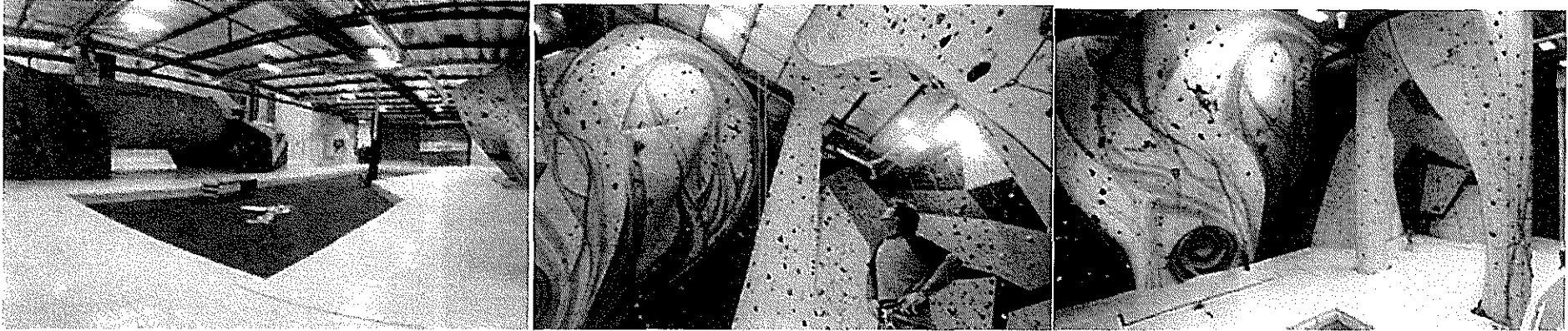
21 The Building

The construction is a simple insulated steel clad shell, similar to a large industrial unit or distribution centre. The climbing hall has a maximum height of 16m with no internal wall finishing over and above the insulated wall and roof panels. Heating and lighting of similar spec. Opaque wall panels to provide additional daylight. The climbing walls are either self-supporting or impose minimal additional loading on the building structure. The flooring is a basic concrete flat painted floor covered with safety matting. The sports facilities, gym/fitness, studio, changing toilets etc. have a similar cladding but have a higher spec finish with internal and exterior windows. The studio and gym/fitness have basic sprung wooden flooring or similar. All toilets and showers are at ground floor level. These units are built on a grid of blocks of 100m2 and are stacked where necessary. A higher cost fit-out is expected for the café. The Café fit out is simple, bright and open with a mix of table and chair styles. A quirky innovative cost effective fit-out is sought.

22 Construction Reference Images

Reference Images from Sender One, Santa Ana – California USA

The Marina Climbing Centre is likely to be modelled on the best of the most recent climbing walls worldwide. Sender One in Santa Ana is this reference centre.



Sender One Yoga

Sender One Gym

Sender One

Is the most modern climbing centre that fits our model - simple construction, modern interior, yoga and fitness studio as well as a small shop and Funtopia.

<http://www.senderoneclimbing.com/>

23 Financial Planning

It is important that the Business Plan is based on sound assumptions. A list of key information contributors is supplied in Appendix 1. Income is based on assumed visitor numbers and a projected opening of Feb 2018. The main income for the centre is derived from selling tickets to the various sports facilities in the building.

Membership percentage of total footfall have been estimated matching membership numbers at the EICA National Centre i.e. 12% of annual climbing footfall and 6.5% from full and discounted members

Activity Income	Ticket Price				Number of Tickets						
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
	Funtopia	£12.00	£12.00	£12.00	£12.00	14000	14500	15000	15500	£168,000	£174,000
Climbing Wall	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00	30600	32000	35000	38000	£306,000	£320,000	£350,000
Discounted Climbing Wall	£7.50	£7.50	£7.50	£7.50	7400	7400	7400	7400	£55,500	£55,500	£55,500
Yoga	£6.00	£6.00	£7.00	£7.00	3000	6000	6000	6000	£18,000	£36,000	£42,000
Fitness/gym	£7.00	£7.00	£7.50	£7.50	8000	9000	9000	9200	£56,000	£63,000	£67,500
Courses	£25.00	£25.00	£25.00	£25.00	3,600	4000	4100	4200	£76,500	£85,000	£87,125
High Ropes + Zip	£10.00	£10.00	£11.00	£11.00	6,000	6500	7000	7300	£60,000	£65,000	£77,000
Team Building	£25.00	£25.00	£25.00	£25.00	0	30	60	90	£0	£638	£1,275
School and Group Day Courses	£10.00	£10.00	£10.50	£10.50	3000	3000	3000	3000	£25,500	£25,500	£26,775
Mountain Core/CV	£7.00	£7.00	£7.00	£7.00	4000	4200	4300	4400	£23,800	£24,990	£25,585
Parties	£14.00	£14.00	£14.00	£14.00	400	400	400	400	£4,760	£4,760	£4,760
IRATA	£50.00	£50.00	£50.00	£50.00	10	20	20	20	£425	£850	£850
Induction Fee	£5	£5	£5	£5	2,000	1,500	1,000	1,000	£10,000	£7,500	£5,000
Equipment Hire (averaged)	£3	£3	£3	£3	1,900	1,970	2,120	2,270	£5,700	£5,910	£6,360
Discounted Members	£350.00	£350.00	£360.00	£360.00	50	50	50	50	£17,500	£17,500	£18,000
Gym Memberships	£240.00	£240.00	£240.00	£240.00	100	100	100	100	£20,400	£20,400	£20,400
Full Centre Memberships	£450.00	£450.00	£450.00	£450.00	25	25	25	25	£11,250	£11,250	£11,250
Activity Attendance					84085	90695	94575	98955			
Total Gross Income									£859,335	£917,798	£979,380
VAT	20.00%								£51,077	£54,232	£56,074
Net Income									£808,258	£863,566	£923,306

Net Income	Year 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	Year 2	Year 3	
Monthly %																	
Activity Income	£808,258	£24,248	£80,826	£80,826	£80,826	£80,826	£80,826	£80,826	£80,826	£80,826	£64,661	£56,578	£48,495	£48,495	£808,258	£863,566	£923,306
Total Net Income	£808,258	£24,248	£80,826	£80,826	£80,826	£80,826	£80,826	£80,826	£80,826	£80,826	£64,661	£56,578	£48,495	£48,495	£808,258	£863,566	£923,306
Direct Wages																	
Climbing Centre Salaries	£95,152	£7,929	£7,929	£7,929	£7,929	£7,929	£7,929	£7,929	£7,929	£7,929	£7,929	£7,929	£7,929	£7,929	£95,152	£95,152	£95,152
Activity Wages	£36,376	£3,031	£3,031	£3,031	£3,031	£3,031	£3,031	£3,031	£3,031	£3,031	£3,031	£3,031	£3,031	£3,031	£36,376	£38,865	£41,554
Total Direct Wages	£131,528	£10,961	£10,961	£10,961	£10,961	£10,961	£10,961	£10,961	£10,961	£10,961	£10,961	£10,961	£10,961	£10,961	£131,528	£134,017	£136,706
Gross Profit	£676,730	£13,287	£69,865	£69,865	£69,865	£69,865	£69,865	£69,865	£69,865	£69,865	£53,700	£45,617	£37,535	£37,535	£676,730	£729,549	£786,600
Overheads																	
Salaries	£207,588	£17,299	£17,299	£17,299	£17,299	£17,299	£17,299	£17,299	£17,299	£17,299	£17,299	£17,299	£17,299	£17,299	£207,588	£211,740	£215,975
Marketing	£32,155	£2,680	£2,680	£2,680	£2,680	£2,680	£2,680	£2,680	£2,680	£2,680	£2,680	£2,680	£2,680	£2,680	£32,155	£34,418	£36,549
Office & Admin	£25,724	£2,144	£2,144	£2,144	£2,144	£2,144	£2,144	£2,144	£2,144	£2,144	£2,144	£2,144	£2,144	£2,144	£25,724	£27,534	£29,239
H&S	£10,718	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£10,718	£11,473	£12,183
Insurance	£21,437	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£21,437	£22,945	£24,366
Security	£10,718	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£893	£10,718	£11,473	£12,183
Repairs & Maintenance	£51,448	£4,287	£4,287	£4,287	£4,287	£4,287	£4,287	£4,287	£4,287	£4,287	£4,287	£4,287	£4,287	£4,287	£51,448	£55,068	£58,479
Utilities	£33,763	£2,814	£2,814	£2,814	£2,814	£2,814	£2,814	£2,814	£2,814	£2,814	£2,814	£2,814	£2,814	£2,814	£33,763	£36,139	£38,377
Rates	£26,796	£2,233	£2,233	£2,233	£2,233	£2,233	£2,233	£2,233	£2,233	£2,233	£2,233	£2,233	£2,233	£2,233	£26,796	£28,681	£30,458
Misc Overheads & Finance	£21,437	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£1,786	£21,437	£22,945	£24,366
Rent as % of Build Capex	£158,292	£13,191	£13,191	£13,191	£13,191	£13,191	£13,191	£13,191	£13,191	£13,191	£13,191	£13,191	£13,191	£13,191	£158,292	£158,292	£158,292
Total Overheads	£600,077	£50,006	£50,006	£50,006	£50,006	£50,006	£50,006	£50,006	£50,006	£50,006	£50,006	£50,006	£50,006	£50,006	£600,077	£620,708	£640,468
EBITDA	£76,653	(£36,719)	£19,859	£19,859	£19,859	£19,859	£19,859	£19,859	£19,859	£19,859	£3,694	(£4,389)	(£12,472)	(£12,472)	£76,653	£108,841	£146,132
Finance Costs 6%	£33,250	£2,771	£2,771	£2,771	£2,771	£2,771	£2,771	£2,771	£2,771	£2,771	£2,771	£2,771	£2,771	£2,771	£33,250	£33,250	£33,250
Net Free Cashflow	£43,403	(£39,490)	£17,088	£17,088	£17,088	£17,088	£17,088	£17,088	£17,088	£17,088	£923	(£7,160)	(£15,242)	(£15,242)	£43,403	£75,591	£112,882
Cumulative Free Cashflow		(£39,490)	(£22,402)	(£5,314)	£11,773	£28,861	£45,949	£63,037	£80,125	£81,048	£73,888	£58,645	£43,403				

24 **Business Plan Extract – Mid (Base Model) - Capital Requirement** - The total project has a capital requirement of approximately £942,540, including working capital, to secure the facilities required to build a Regional Hub project in order to fit in the Mountaineering Council of Scotland's development strategy.

Capex	
Attractions	
Leadwalls	£200,000
Bouldering and speed	£73,000
Funtopia	£158,000
Gym Equipment	£100,000
Yoga Mats	£1,000
Matting	£55,000
Mountain CV	£34,397
Indoor High Ropes	£105,000
Holds 8000	£26,000
Total Attractions	£752,397
Operational Fitout	
Membership systems	£16,000
Working Capital	
Design & Consultancy Services	£40,000
Kit Purchase (Harnesses etc)	£12,500
Fixed Kitchen and services	£13,000
Recruitment	£2,000
Start Up Wages	£65,466
Pre Launch Marketing	£14,695
Fit equip (see list 1)	£16,000
Total Working Capital	£150,661
Total Capital	£919,058
Total Legal	£14,000
Total Funding Required	£946,058

Grants

The project is designed to answer many of the needs and requirements of the local community and wider sporting strategy, The SCIO may qualify the company to apply for many grants and sports infrastructural awards.

25 Funding Sources

The project therefore will be funded by a mix of strategic, sporting and community based grants, investment from sporting and community Trusts into which our aims and objectives comply. It is understood that the project fits many of the criteria for grants support by two or three major funders.

The total group-funding package is based on discussions and indicative commitments provided by senior representatives of Highland Council, HIE as well as percentages achieved by Transition Extreme, a very similar project in Aberdeen.

Funding Requirement – The Funding requirement for the non-fixed or operational fit out is £946,058 including working capital

Funding Requirement	Grant/Funding	Basis of funding
Sportscotland	£200,000	Governing body sports
Highland Council – Capital Discretionary Fund	£200,000	Tourism and local facilities
Highland Council – Common Good Fund	£45,000	Community Access and Sport
HIE	£235,000	Climbing Centre and Regional Sports Development
Trusts and Grants Local Contribution	Unknown	Infrastructure Regional Leisure Provision
Social Investment Scotland	250,000	Social investment Scotland
Equity investment D. McCallum and Partners	16,058	Private contribution (potential)
Total	946,058	

Grant Bodies

Principal government funded bodies that may provide funds for such a project.

- Sport Scotland – Facilities and Sports Facilities
- HIE – Climbing Centre support
- City and Regional sources
- Social Investment Scotland
-

A series of applications will be created in order to access these funds and a company structure created in order to satisfy their terms and conditions. These awards will be to the operations company The SCIO, not the building owners.

Developers/Applicant Contribution

Social Investment Scotland <http://www.socialinvestmentscotland.com/> have made The Ledge an offer of loan funding based on our business plans and sensitivity analysis modelling. Loans from SIS are specifically and exclusively available to Third Sector projects.

26 Security of lease

It is a central tenant of Sportscotland's grant conditions is that they wish to secure the legacy investment in strategic sports facilities. In order to do this they wish tenants to secure leases of 25 years. This has been discussed with Scotlog and this is an achievable minimum.

27 Long term Rental Value.

The business plan model is based on landlords Capex of an estimated £1.699ml for a building of 1750m2. Scotlog Ltd. has required a rental based on a return on Capital. On a building of this size it was imperative that this equates to a standard leisure based commercial rent. The rental requested is equivalent to £9 per sq. foot per annum or £90 per m2 sq. Research based on figures from specialist property companies, CBRE UK and Cushman Wakefield indicate rental values in Scotland range from £6 per sq.' to £12 per sq.' depending on fit out services and region.

Building / Landlords Capex	
Building Shell and fitout Not inc Sports Equ	
Total Build Capex	£1,599,000- £1,699,000 inc

Caveats

It should be noted that these figures are thought to be reasonable and fair, given the fact that this model is based on known company structures.. All figures are based on the assumptions and details as set out above and in the full appendices.

28 Project Operations.

It is estimated that the project will produce or support 22-26 full time job equivalents. This figure has been confirmed during initial discussion with the HIE's Business Development Unit

The Gantt chart has been produced by Colorado Construction Ltd and shows a projected opening date of Feb 2018.

Next steps

Development Process

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| • Research project to establish viability | Completed |
| • Liaison with Sport Governing Body | Ongoing |
| • Formal request to Governing Body | Completed |
| • Informal discussions with Sport Scotland | Ongoing |
| • Initial operational structures investigated | Completed |
| • Sports facilities outline approved by MS | Completed |
| • HIE – Highlands and Islands Enterprise contacted | Ongoing |
| • Construction cost verification by Colorado group | QS completed |
| • Sketch and detailed design process commenced | |

Following this it is believed that detailed design and planning consent should be sought.

30 Summary

There is no doubting the need in the region for a National quality centre of climbing and adventurous activities. This has been recently demonstrated by survey feedback gained during the first 2 weeks in November 2014 though the Climb-Inverness Facebook Forum survey (attached - revised version March 2015) . Frustration at the quality of the current provision and the inflexibility of Inverness Leisure limiting access to the facility for teaching groups and instructors further compounds this need. However need does not on its own constitute a firm basis for making such an investment. Whilst researching the plan it is clear that the Highland catchment area is on the lower limits of what could reasonably be regarded as a safe margin or buffer for such a facility. However having discussed the project's catchment area with Climbing Centre professionals in Scotland and farther afield, all seem to think that the climbing wall user numbers projected are quite achievable. However business stability is gained from offering a wider range of facilities for local and tourist visitors.

It is proposed that the centre should offer a wider set of activities based on the theme of climbing and play at height. Play climbing activities such as the new wave Clip n' Climb and the similar Funtopia offer recognisable branded fun activities which run very successfully in increasing numbers of sites in the UK. Likewise high-ropes indoors offer perfect play, party and team building experiences.

These two anchor activities are firstly very marketable which will raise the profile of the project; offer a fun vertical crèche or a kids club set of activities and are suitable for the casual visitor, as well as being attractive to school and youth groups. In Scotland similar activities such as these report solid visitor numbers of between 15,000 and 35,000 per activity, depending on their location. It is proposed that it is the sum of its adventure parts that make the project more likely to succeed.

The additional sports facilities such as the gym and the studio whilst being required by the MS regional standard tag are bit part players in the overall mix. For these two areas we have shown modest visitation based on classes and throughput numbers experienced in other specialist sports training facilities. The Gym and the Studio whilst being on the conservative side of the numbers offer a significant opportunity for the centre to grow into the region's prime mountain sports training venue.

Partnerships are key to growing this sporting core. With that aim we have already formed a strong and potentially fruitful relationship with the Outdoor Education Department of the Inverness College UHI. The UHI will have upwards of 8,000 daily students attending the campus. Likewise we intend to work with Glenmore Lodge, the National Outdoor Training Centre in Aviemore, who have in the word of one instructor a "*pitiful climbing wall for a National Centre*". School and community group access will also be a prime source of throughput all be it at a lower price point per head. We plan to self subsidise this income with contributions from the company funds as this generation will in time become the adult users of the Centre.

As the plan has developed since 2014 the "Social Impact" of the project has become increasingly important therefore the decision to move towards a SCIO structure was natural and logical. This provides the project with a clear *raison d'être*.

31 Conclusion

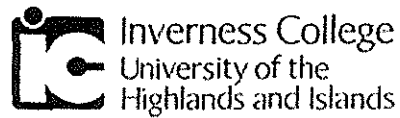
If the Inverness and Highland population reacts in a similar way to other population centres in Scotland it is expected that the centre would have every chance of success.

In addition if the supporting facilities perform in a similar manner to known sites in Aviemore, Fort William, Aberdeen, Perth and further afield, it must be reasoned that if the Centre is run by a motivated and professional team that the project has every chance to succeed.

The plan clearly demonstrates that the business will produce the level of return required and a sustainable level of profitability at the same time as creating a landmark operation. This will have a broad base of appeal and has the potential to become a highly visible and significant attraction for Inverness and the Highlands.

Supporting bodies

It is expected the following bodies will support the project, both in terms of capital support/advice and on-going programmes



Appendix 1
Endorsements



THE MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL OF SCOTLAND

The Old Granary
West Mill Street
Perth PH1 5QP

Tel: 01738 493 946 (direct dial)

kev@mcofs.org.uk

Website: www.mcofs.org.uk

To whom it may Concern

MCOFS CLIMBING FACILITIES SUPPORT and MARINA WALLS

The Mountaineering Council of Scotland has been supportive of the Marina Walls project and has been working with them to ensure that if the project goes ahead, then it meets the requirements set out in our Facilities Position Statement.

We are in the process of finalising a Facilities Strategy from the position statement that will be the basis of our support for any new climbing wall and how we prioritise support for funding through the period of 2016-2021. This will be completed by the end of December 2015.

We have already identified the need for a substantial 'Regional Hub' in Inverness that will cater for the growing population and the growth in the interest in climbing across the Highland area. The level of interest has been demonstrated by Climb Inverness Surveys. Such a Hub would be the focus of Regional and National competitions, being fed from the sports development offered at local walls such as now exist in Gairloch and Elgin, and the new wall in Fort William. We would hope to see that the establishment of a major Hub at Inverness be a catalyst for the installation of more community or school climbing walls across the region. We have recently taken on a Regional Development Officer whose role is to help the Regional Hub and local walls and schools in the area engage more with climbing. The highland region has the greatest number of climbing facilities at Primary Schools in Scotland, but they are currently under-used and it is our intention to help the Regional Hub utilize this great asset and encourage greater climbing participation through our recently launched ClimbScotland initiative.

The facilities currently being considered within Marina Walls would meet all our Facilities Strategy criteria as a Level 3 Hub and would be the second largest climbing wall in Scotland, only the National Centre, EICA, at Ratho being bigger.

Yours
Kevin Howett
Sports Development Officer

Note- now Mountaineering Scotland



Shaun Roberts, Principal, Glenmore Lodge

Marina Walls Project – A Supporting Statement

The Highland Capital is the most logical place to support any significant investment into a dedicated climbing facility. The climbing community will happily travel 2 hours to a destination for their sport and I believe the Marina Walls project represents the ambition to be that destination, supporting a huge catchment area via the A9, A82, A835 and A96. Climbers no longer wish their sporting facilities to compete for attention within a multi purpose sports halls and indoor climbing has established itself as the modern pathway to a life on rock. The Marina Walls project links well to the Mountaineering Council of Scotland's national plans for climbing facilities and through working with a number of partners should become the focal point for climbing participation in the north of Scotland. Critical here is the proposed projects ability to host regional and national events and competitions.

The National Outdoor Training Centre, Glenmore Lodge, would welcome a facility of the scale proposed and would actively seek to support training for climbing participation and progression, for recreational and professional instructors, at such a facility. I believe the Marina Wall project is the scale of facility required at the heart of collaboration between key partners to bring the required growth to rock climbing within the north, creating many more active and healthy lives.

Kind Regards

Shaun

Shaun Roberts | Principal | Glenmore Lodge

t: 01479 861256 | Glenmore Lodge | Aviemore | Inverness-Shire | PH22 1QU

www.glenmorelodge.org.uk

Ian Murray, Chief Executive, High Life Highland

As you know, HLH is working with The Highland Council to put the case for a Regional Sports Facility [RSF] in Inverness. The RSF will address many of the long standing gaps in provision enabling local sports people to progress to the next level of sporting endeavour without always having to travel significant distances to the central belt of Scotland and beyond to competitions and higher level training. The plans for the RSF are that it will feature a velodrome, specialist gymnastic and athletics facility, indoor tennis, strength and

strength and conditioning facilities as well serving as a large scale conference/competition venue.

One gap, which will remain in this area is a climbing facility of regional significance. There is no doubt therefore that the Marina Walls proposal has the potential to fill this significant gap in the regional sports infrastructure, creating a facility for which we are clear there would be a great deal of demand. Whilst we and our colleagues at Inverness Leisure have experience in operating reasonable quality "community" climbing walls, a facility such as the one you are promoting requires a high degree of specialist operational knowledge, knowledge not easily found within large council/trust run multi-sports structures.

I continue to wish you all the best with the project.

Yours sincerely, Ian

Adam Cruttenden, Manager EICA (Edinburgh International Climbing Arena)

Supporting Note

After the launch of Climb Scotland launch last week we have a fantastic opportunity to engage with young people and introduce them to the exciting sport of climbing. In order for MCoFS and Sport Scotland to achieve this we (operators) need to provide taster sessions which are fun, challenging and leave them hungry to coming back take up the sport. This new initiative is the way we can attract new customers and more importantly identify the future climbing stars for Scotland and GB.

There is also a big need to be able to provide suitable training facilities for the Scotland youth squad members in all areas of the country, . In particular the highlands are crying out for a venue with national status which will allow the North of Scotland Youth Squad a training area which is comparable to venues in the South of the country. If we want to see improvements in the teams performances we need a consistent coaching program delivered by MCoFS approved squad coaches, and training facilities which can provide the same experience in most parts of the country.

Adam Cruttenden

EICA – Manager

Mark Diggins SAIS

As well as providing a world class climbing facility in Scotland's highland capitol Inverness, the Marina Wall has the potential to provide a much needed publicly accessible hub, where information can be sought, education and training can be carried out and collaboration between individuals and agencies can be made on all matters relating to outdoor recreation and activities, enabling greater participation in Scotland's outdoor environment.

Mark Diggins

Technical Commission and Board Member - International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations.

Co-ordinator - Scottish Avalanche Information Service

Nicola Diggins ICUHI

The Marina Wall proposal represents a valid and desirable project on a number of levels.

The Highland and Islands region does not currently contain a facility which offers a suitable training or competition venue for climbers or mountaineers on the performance pathway, which is accessible to those at all stages, be it Foundation, Recreation, Performance and Elite levels. Currently young performance climbers are reliant upon parents to transport them considerable distances to the Central Belt or Aberdeen to compete or to train.

Furthermore, the facility could offer university and Further Education students an insight into the operation and management of a sport (climbing) through the full sport development continuum. The University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) has launched a diet of sports degrees (with more under development) which could enable students to take an active role in the Marina Wall from Sport Management; Health & Fitness: Adventure tourism and Performance Coaching perspectives, as well as provide other facility related career opportunities & vocational pathways within the locality. As a Lecturer in Sport and Outdoor studies at the UHI I could foresee opportunities for research, work and coaching placements, training and sports performance workshops and other vocational fields associated with facility operation.

Nicola Diggins, Lecturer of sport & outdoor studies,
Inverness Collage University of the Highlands and Islands

Mark McGowan GB Paraclimbing Team Coach

"It is great to see the Marina Wall Project leading the way as the first Scottish CIC climbing wall project. As the GB Paraclimbing Team Coach and the organizer of the world's first successful Eiger Paracimb, I am personally excited to see a drive for more social inclusion in climbing from my home country and also really happy that Duncan is at the helm as his personal experience is a perfect fit for such a great much needed resource for further social inclusion in climbing."

In diverse and marginalized groups within today's society you need to be resilient. Rock climbing builds and strengthens resilience as well as increasing individuals confidence in themselves and grows trust and communication with others in a very focused environment that benefits both a person both physically and mentally in a highly positive, exciting and highly social environment."

Mark McGowan GB Paraclimbing Team Coach

Lee Craigie, Cycletherapy Ltd

I write this letter from my position as Cycletherapy founder and project co-ordinator within the proposed community of the proposed Marina Walls development. Cycletherapy, is highly regarded by the Highland Council as a quality service that has offered support and personal development to hundreds of the Highland's most at risk young people.

Cycletherapy are a small team of people from an outdoor education background who have equal experience and training in working with young people therapeutically. These young people are aged between 8 and 16 and are struggling with mainstream education due to their additional social, emotional, behavioural, learning or physical needs. The project supports them to move towards more positive behaviour, while improving their mental and physical health and providing them with a form of transport that offers independence. Most importantly, however, it exposes them to an honest, compassionate relationship model that nurtures and values them.

The focus of work is always on the personal developmental needs of the young person rather than hard skill acquisition. The relationship that is established between young person and worker is the work and the quality of that work is measured by the meaningfulness of that relationship.

Outdoor adventurous activities (climbing, walking, cycling, paddling) have a well-documented evidence base for providing a therapeutic affect on participants (M. Gass 1993; J Miles & S. Priest 1999; JT Neill 2002; CE Autry 2001; D Cason 1994). A facility in Inverness that holds a space within it to assist in the facilitation of these activities and support the development of quality relationships that can be established as a result of participation in them would be very welcome. I foresee what up until now has been a small scale but successful project in the area could grow under these circumstances to include a variety of outdoor adventurous activities and help access more young people in need of such interventions.

Cycletherapy Ltd

Appendix II

Climbing Wall Information: - Confidence is gained for the climbing wall figures from discussions with

- Andrew Denton CEO of CEO - Outdoor Industries Association, and Director of Manchester, Harrogate & Reading indoor climbing walls
- Kevin Howett – National Sports Development Officer MC of S
- Rory Holburn – Director Partner Rock Reef – Owner of Rock Reef Climbing and Funtopia Bournemouth
- Edinburgh Leisure – EICA National Climbing Centre – Ratho
- Ruben Welsh, Owner Alien Rock Edinburgh.
- Derek Lawson, Owner Glasgow Climbing Centre.
- WallTopia - Adventure Facility Concepts & Management Ltd – Investors in 5 Centre’s worldwide
- Nicola Diggins – Outdoor Education at the UHI – University of the Highlands and Islands
- Stephanie Kiel – Climb Inverness
- Steve Mayers – Beacon Climbing Wall, Wales
- Paul Cornforth - King Kong, Keswick

Gym/Fitness Information

- Doug Bell – Owner of Surf Shack Cornwall and UK Director of Johnston Fitness
- Richard MacDonald – ex Manager David Lloyd Edinburgh.
- Jen Henderson – Health and Fitness co-ordinator Fife Council

Restaurant Information

- Rory Holburn – Director Partner Rock Reef – Owner of Rock Reef Climbing and Funtopia Bournemouth
- James Rusk – Owner Hutchesons Glasgow
- Lucy Reid-Scott – Founder – FitFood - Tiso Outdoor Experience Glasgow/Edinburgh/Perth

Business Advice

- Neil Mitchell NML – Tax and Finance,
- Paul Mason – Financing advice, Lomond Advisory
- Peter Duff – Legal and Structures Morrisons LLP

- Gary Gibson – Building and Construction – Colorado Construction Ltd
- Alastair Lawton – Finance and Grants
- John Nicholson – formerly chairman of Grays Group Ltd
- Rory Holburn - Director Partner Rock Reef – Owner of Rock Reef Bournemouth
- Kathleen Wotten – ex - Business Development Manager UHI – University of the Highlands and Islands
- Teodora Mozakova - Mihova Sales Manager Walltopia Ltd
- Daniel Hodgeson, Entreprise Climbing Walls UK Ltd
- FirstPost CIC advisory
- HIE – Highlands and Islands Enterprise – Business Development

Many thanks to the above for your advice and guidance.

Appendix III

– Example Project

TRANSITION EXTREME SPORTS LIMITED – 800m2. Of Climbing Walls

Size of Building 24,000sq feet – 2229m2

Construction File: Client: Transition Extreme – TATA Steel

Architect: Kenny Alexander Architects Ltd

Cladding Contractor: E-Clad Ltd

Corus Panels and Profiles Products

Roofs: Self curved and factory curved R40 insulated roof. Walls for skateboarding building: Horizontal Arcline insulated walls. Walls to climbing wall building: vertical 13.5/3 sinusoidal walls

Colorcoat® Products

Colorcoat HPS200® in Goosewing Grey (roof). Colorcoat HPS200® in Hamlet (walls)



ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE - Resources Management Committee 5 May 2009

CORPORATE DIRECTOR – Gordon McIntosh - Report

	2010 BUDGET	2009 FORECAST
Trading Income	£635,336	£620,643
Advertising and rental income	£ 34,600	£ 55,457
Grants & Sponsorship	£172,905	£125,065

Total Income	£842,841	£801,165
Cost of Sales	£309,625	£295,440
Gross Profit	£533,216	£505,724
Overheads	£394,598	£364,385
EBITDA	£138,618	£141,339
Depreciation	£ 71,369	£ 70,507
Finance Costs	£ 11,012	£ 39,789
RETAINED PROFIT	£ 56,237	£ 31,043

2008 - The new £2.7 million Transition Extreme Sports Centre in Aberdeen, which opened at Easter 2007, provides a multi use, state of the art recreation facility. The centrepiece of the stunning purpose built new centre is an 18,000 ft² indoor skate park, which has been carefully designed for use by skate boarders and BMX bikers, as well as in-line skaters. Alongside the skate park building, a Mountaineering Club of Scotland regionally accredited 6,000 ft² climbing centre provides challenges for the most experienced of climbers in a safe environment suitable for learners of all ages that are new to the sport.

Size of Building 24,000sq feet – 2229m² “now attracting over 100,000 visitors per annum”
<http://www.tatasteelconstruction.com/en/case-studies/sports-and-recreation/transitions>

Activity attendance Transition Extreme Aberdeen 2012 – 110,000

The statistics for the centre tell their own story with almost 3,000 annual members, double the original business plan, some 20,000 day members and in excess of 100,000 total visitors to the centre. Key users of the centre have included:

- 30 + Schools and colleges which have attended regularly as part of the curriculum, activities weeks and after school clubs.
- 80 + community groups, and
- more than 60 corporate organisations for teambuilding, meetings and client events
-

Centre Development Funding and Sponsors

Total Funding Requirement	£2,703,000
Aberdeen City Council	£1,260,000
Bank of Scotland -loan finance	£ 500,000
Robertson – Trust	£ 200,000
Shell UK Limited	£ 100,000
Scottish Enterprise Grampian	£ 300,000
Fundraising events	£ 30,000
Sportscotland (Lottery)	£150,000
Apache North Sea	£ 45,000
The MacRobert Trust	£ 15,000
The Gannochy Trust	£ 15,000
Production Services Network	£ 25,000
First Group	£ 10,000
Aberdeen Safer Comm. Trust	£ 3,000
Talisman Energy	£10,000
Stena Drilling	£5,000
NHS Grampian	£20,500
Other	£15,000

Appendix IV

- The Mountaineering Council of Scotland’s policy document relating to the structure and management of a National Centre or Hub

The Mountaineering Council of Scotland - Climbing Wall Facilities Position Statement [2015-2021] Approved by the MCofS Board, 18 September 2014

Extract-

13.4. Regional Hubs (catering for larger area populations)

The MS strategy for player pathway development requires a network of large “Regional Hubs”.

These should cater for larger populations of dedicated climbers, youth groups, community groups and the general public. These could be part of a larger community complex such as a major leisure centre or a stand-alone commercial project catering only for climbing. They will act as the ‘central hubs’ for progression from School Walls and Small Walls and will need to be able to cater for Scottish National competitions (such as Scottish Schools Competition Finals, the Scottish Youth Climbing Series, the Scottish Youth Climbing Championships and the Scottish Tooling Series as well as national bouldering and Leading competitions) and performance coaching, as well as providing the ‘Next-steps’ to outdoor

participation:

- ☒ Bouldering Wall (segregated area) of a size to cater for a large number of climbers minimum 30m long, 4m high = 120m² area allowing for 90 boulder problems,
- ☒ Roped Wall (segregated area) minimum 50m long, 10m high = 500m² area allowing for 30+ ropes; incorporating both sport route 'bolt protected' climbing and at least one 'Gear Protected' 'Trad' climb with realistic fully functional placements that can be weighted,

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- ☒ Performance Wall (segregated area) minimum 100m² with a range of systems and a warm-up area, ancillary training aids and a range of free weights,
- ☒ Early Years / The Junior Climber facility (preferably a dedicated space) a bouldering style wall with the facility to fix the necessary ancillary equipment,
- ☒ Instructional Wall (preferably a dedicated space) including belay stations, multi-pitch and abseil station,
- ☒ Spectator facilities (integral at early facility design) allowing for spectator viewing of competitions and possibly seating for larger events,
- ☒ Specialist medical support (physiotherapy),
- ☒ Café,
- ☒ Retail outlet,
- ☒ Weight machine gym,
- ☒ Childcare (Crèche etc.).

13.5 MS Regional Hubs Designation

The MCoFS will endorse Regional Hubs at differing levels based on the range and quality of provision of the following three key resources:

1. structural resource (type, style, diversity, scale of wall)
2. staffing resource (quality / experience / qualifications of staff)
3. development Initiatives (provision of activities that contribute to the MCoFS Player Pathway and engagement with MCoFS in delivering them)

These will include the following:

Climbing Facilities:

The designation will be based on a holistic view of the range and scale of the walls and the available routes in relation to what can be delivered.

- ☒ Bouldering area scale and design
- ☒ Roped area scale and design
- ☒ Roped systems: Top-rope, Lead, Auto-belay, Trad', Multi-pitch

☒ Early Years / The Junior Climber area and apparatus

☒ Performance walls: Sport specific physical performance facilities (Fingerboards, System Walls, Campus Boards) and generic physical performance facilities (rings, bars, balls, Ladders, gymnastic ropes etc.)

☒ Route-setting Rolling Programmes

☒ Disabled Climbing facilities

Coaching schemes and clubs:

The designation will be based on any progressive development programmes operated at the wall catering from novice to elite.

☒ NICAS / NIBAS delivery

☒ MCoFS Coaching Workshops

☒ Coached sessions (technique and training)

☒ Junior / youth clubs

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☒ Youth Squad (elite)

☒ Adult training / adult squads

Staffing:

The designation will be based on the wall's progressive staff development programmes.

☒ The standard of Instructional (MTUK Awards) and Coaching expertise (MTUK CAS)

☒ The standards of route setting safety and setters training

☒ Disability climbing experience / awareness

☒ Route-setting quality training (design, child friendly, MCoFS competition specific, Squad training, GB Team training)

Competitions and Events:

The designation will be based on the range of competitions that the centre organises itself and the MCoFS competitions that it can host.

☒ Local competitions programme

☒ National Bouldering Leagues

☒ National Leading Leagues

☒ MCoFS Regional & National Competitions

☒ Independent National Competitions

☒ Events for local groups (schools / ODE / Scouts & GG / DofE / Probation Services / Support Services)

MS Support Criteria:

The designation will be based on the level of partnership working and association between MCofS and the centre.

- ☑ Membership of the MCofS SCWN (& therefore free Associate Membership)
- ☑ Prominent recognition of the MCofS at the wall and through any social media
- ☑ Reference to the MCofS on all documentation (participation statement, registration forms etc.)
- ☑ Display of MCofS information material at the wall
- ☑ The Wall's Kids Club remains affiliated to MCofS
- ☑ Guarantee of a minimum number of days access to MCofS for Regional & National Competitions
- ☑ Hosting MCofS coaching workshops, Youth Squad Academies
- ☑ Staff are endorsed as MCofS Coaches or Route-setters
- ☑ ABC Membership
- ☑ Staff are MCofS Members through the Associate Scheme

13.6 The National Performance Centre (catering for National & International competitions and Professional Coaching)

Scotland requires one "National Centre" as a base for the Scottish Squad. The National Performance Centre is required to cater for international competitions (IFSC), UK based competitions (such as the British Lead Climbing Competition Series [BLCC], British Bouldering Competitions [BBC], the British Final

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- ☑ Lead Competition Wall (a IFSC standard competition wall allowing International standard events: 15m+ height, 10m+ width, offering constantly steep climbing and be able to accommodate a minimum route length of 15m. The wall design requires a minimum of fixed features and a large number of bolt-on hold fixings for easy route setting).
- ☑ Speed Competition Wall (catering for IFSC speed events)
- ☑ Ice Wall (artificial)
- ☑ Performance training facilities (fingerboards, warm-up area, free weights and weight machines; performance coaching specific designed areas).
- ☑ Instructional Wall (catering for National Awards requirements)
- ☑ Spectator facilities (General: catering; childcare (Crèche etc.); retail outlet; for international competitions: access for TV, isolation facilities and self-contained area for bouldering/warm-up with associated toilet facilities, seating for spectators, etc.).
- ☑ Specialist medical support (Physiotherapy).

Appendix V

Building Cost Estimates:- - Sport England Provide Building Cost Estimates for Sports Halls and Centres. The building cost projection is based on these assumptions.

Gross Internal Floor Area GIFA	Sports hall	780m2	1000m2	100m2
Climbing/Community	793	Main Building	Climbing Hall	Café
Building elements	Elemental Cost(£)m2			
Substructure Elemental total	124	124	124	124
Frame	116	116	116	116
Upper floors	5	5	5	5
Roof	118	118	118	118
Stairs	5	5	5	5
External Walls	57	57	57	57
Windows and External Doors	67	67	25	67
Internal doors and windows	25	25		45
Internal Walls and Partitions	99	99	10	150
Elemental Total	491			
Internal Finishes				
Wall finishes	49	65		140
Floor finishes	65	68		130
Ceiling finishes	11	16		40
Elemental Total	125			
Fittings Elemental Total	84			
Services				
Sanitary appliances	15	15	15	70
Disposal installations	Incl. below -			
M&E installations	173	173	140	200
Specialist installations	Excluded -			100
Builders work in connection	10	10	10	15

Elemental total	198			
Building sub-total	1,022			
Preliminaries	111	111	111	111
BASE CONSTRUCTION COST	1,333			
Additional cost allowances				
Contingency	30	30	20	30
Professional fees	72	72	40	72
External works	12	12	12	12
Incoming services	12	12	12	12
Elemental Total	126			
OVERALL ESTIMATED Project Cost - main sports		1200	820	1619
Office Fit		3000		
Kitchen		40000		
Contingency/Variance	300,000			
PROJECT COST Building	£	£979,000	£820,000	£161,900
http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/				

To the best of our knowledge at this stage these figure are a fair estimate, given the scope of this document.

Appendix VII

Positive outcomes from engaging in Adventure and Climbing Sport and the SIMD

Context:- SIMD – Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. 

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland in a consistent way. It allows effective targeting of policies and funding where the aim is to wholly or partly tackle or take account of area concentrations of multiple deprivation.

The SIMD ranks small areas (called datazones) from most deprived (ranked 1) to least deprived (ranked 6,505). People using the SIMD will often focus on the datazones below a certain rank, for example, the 5%, 10%, 15% or 20% most deprived datazones in Scotland.

The most deprived datazone in Highland in the overall SIMD 2012 is S01003860, which is found in the Intermediate Zone of Inverness Merkinch and the Scottish Parliament Constituency of Ross, Skye & Inverness West. It has a rank of 32, meaning that it is amongst the 5% most deprived areas in Scotland.

The Marina Wall site sits in "datazone" Longman, which is ranked 5%-10% most deprived, and within 500m of "datazone" South Kessock 0%-5% most deprived. As part of the CIC's commitment to its community work, focusing initiatives, to engage with these local areas will be a key goal of the CIC surplus fund.

Outcomes

Much is often made of the positive outcomes from outdoors and adventurous activities for those with life challenges of many kinds. However it is important to remember that these outcomes are real and impactful

Our operational advisors Openwide International run a climbing and adventure facility called Rock Reef in Bournemouth. The following is a letter received by them. It is important that Marina Walls CIC's aims are regarded positively in the light of such positive and clear feedback.

From: Geraint Griffiths, Head of Integrated Youth Service and Children and Young People's Services, Bournemouth, City Council. 17th Dec 2014.

To: Ian Goode, Sales Manager, Rock Reef, The Bournemouth Pier

Dear Ian

I thought it appropriate to contact you to highlight the positive outcomes young people from the Integrated Youth Service are gaining from the sessions they are attending at Rock Reef.

We are now half way through a bespoke 8 week booking at Rock Reef, and young people have identified the following to us as a result:

- Increased confidence – overcoming the physical and mental challenges of climbing and caving, for most, these are first time experiences;*
- Tenacity and persistence – repeating attempts when initial ones are not as successful as hoped, until a goal is achieved*
- Setting & meeting personal goals – going further than before, or further than they believed they could, without comparing themselves to others*
- Peer support – specifically, encouraging one another to achieve for the other person's benefit, rather than for their own*
- Working with difference – mixing with others different to themselves, and making this work so that the experience is better for all*
- Health and exercise – seeing the positive impact of regular physical exercise*

- Life impact – some young people are noticing that they have a different outlook since starting.

Our staff team have been impressed with your team, their ability to develop good rapport with sometimes challenging young people, and their initiative and professionalism in making this a great experience. Please pass our thanks to them.

We are extremely grateful for the reduction in costs, which are available to groups such as ourselves, which has opened this opportunity to young people who would not normally be able to afford them and are looking forward to the remaining sessions in this program.

I hope we are able to continue to work together in the future to offer such excellent opportunities for the young people of Bournemouth.

Yours sincerely

Geraint

Wild Adventure Space (UK)

Literature Review by Penny Travlou, OPENspace Research Centre (2006)

"Experience of the outdoors and wilderness has the potential to confer a multitude of benefits on young people's physical development, emotional and mental health and well being and societal development. Mental health and wellbeing benefits from play in natural settings appear to be long-term, realised in the form of emotional stability in young adulthood."

http://www.openspace.eca.ed.ac.uk/pdf/appendixf/OPENspacewebsite_APPENDIX_F_resource_31.pdf

A Review of Research on Outdoor Learning

by Mark Rickinson et al. Field Studies Council, 2004.

This review brought together the findings from 150 studies in the period 1993-2003 and included most kinds of Outdoor Learning.

The impact of outdoor adventure activities

- Strong evidence of the benefits of outdoor adventure education is provided by two meta-analyses of previous research. Looking across a wide range of outcome measures, these studies identify not only positive effects in the short term, but also continued gains in the long term. However, within these broad trends, there can be considerable variation between different kinds of programmes, and different types of outcomes.
- There is substantial research evidence to suggest that outdoor adventure programmes can impact positively on young people's:

- attitudes, beliefs and self-perceptions - examples of outcomes include independence, confidence, self-esteem, locus of control, self-efficacy, personal effectiveness and coping strategies
- interpersonal and social skills - such as social effectiveness, communication skills, group cohesion and teamwork

<http://www.wilderdom.com/research/ReviewResearchOutdoorLearningRickinson2004.html>

Why Adventure? The Role and Value of Outdoor Adventure in young people's personal and social development (UK)

A Review of Research focusing on the more adventurous kinds of outdoor learning, by Jon Barrett and Roger Greenaway commissioned by the Foundation for Outdoor Adventure, 1995.

Main Findings

OUTCOMES

Most empirical studies of outdoor adventure have concentrated on examining behavioural and psychological outcomes. Some of the most thorough outcome research is found in the youth social work field.

Personal Development

- Some kinds of outdoor adventure can cause short-term enhancement of aspects of self-concept (including gains in self-esteem and self-efficacy), and can cause short-term improvements in internalisation of locus of control. These gains appear to be more significant on longer adventure programmes.
- Various developmental benefits are associated with regular physical exercise (such as regular outdoor adventure experiences can provide), e.g.. humour, patience, energy, optimism, self-confidence, self-esteem, self-assurance, emotional stability, improved body-image, etc.
- Direct experience of the natural environment, such as outdoor adventure may offer, can have significant mental and physical health benefits, can enhance self-esteem and self-confidence, and can provide opportunities for spiritual development.

Social Development

Strong anecdotal evidence indicates that outdoor adventure experiences can enhance interpersonal relationships and improve socialisation, and can facilitate group bonding and co-operation.

- Outdoor adventure can help to reduce formality in relationships and develop more human relationships and awareness between young people, and between young people and staff.

<http://reviewing.co.uk/wad.htm>

[Health Benefits of rock climbing](#)

<http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/fitness/Pages/rock-climbing-health-benefits.aspx>

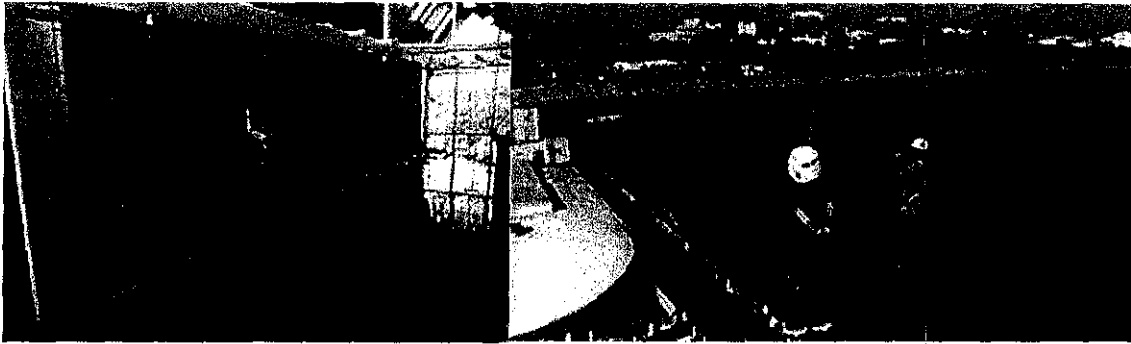
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/08/30/health-benefits-rock-climbing_n_5708847.html

<http://www.healthfitnessrevolution.com/top-10-health-benefits-rock-climbing/>

Appendix VIII

Design references

- Climbing - Arena - Sender One – Santa Ana
- Gym - Sender One – Santa Ana
- Studio - Sender One – Santa Ana
- Gym - Sender One – Santa Ana
- Café - Mud Dock Bristol - <http://goodbristol.com/places/mud-dock/>
- Stumptown <http://stumptowncoffee.com/location/portland/>

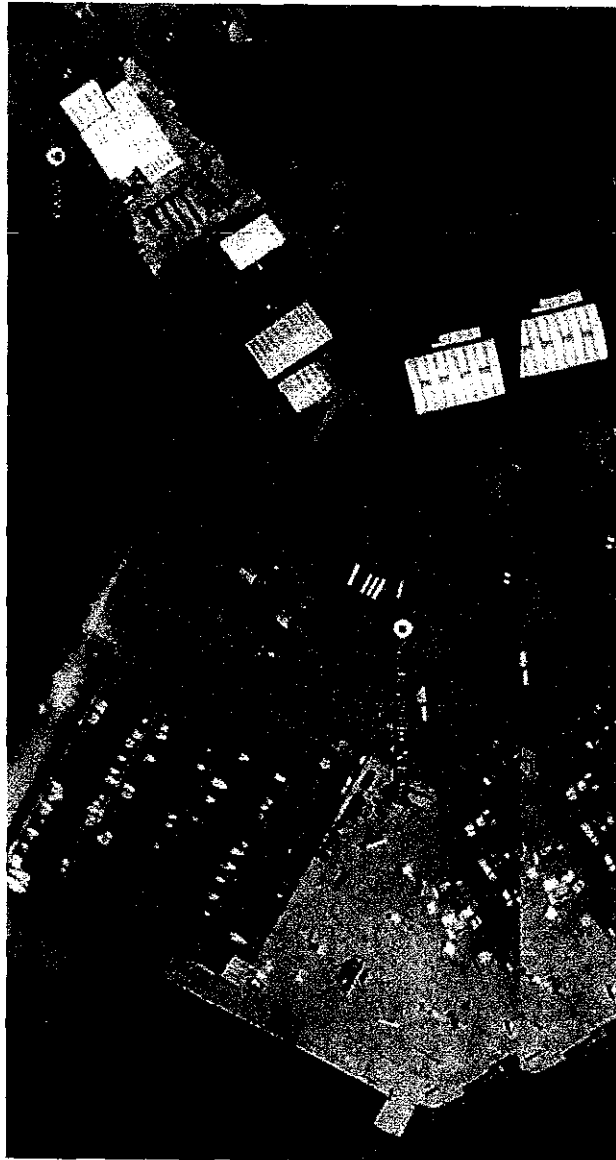


Rock Reef indoor High Line/Ropes Bournemouth with 35 per hour capacity and Pier Zip at Bournemouth

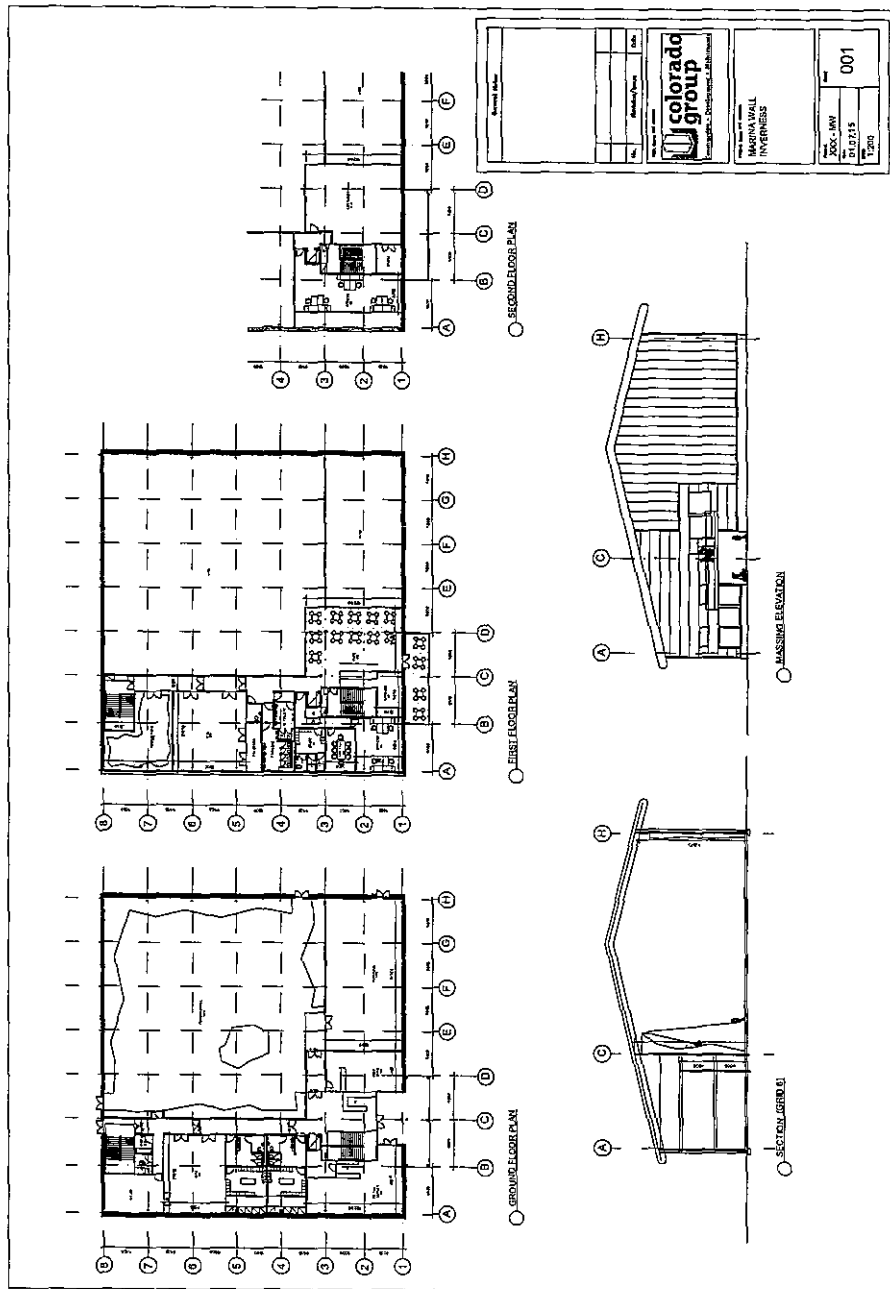


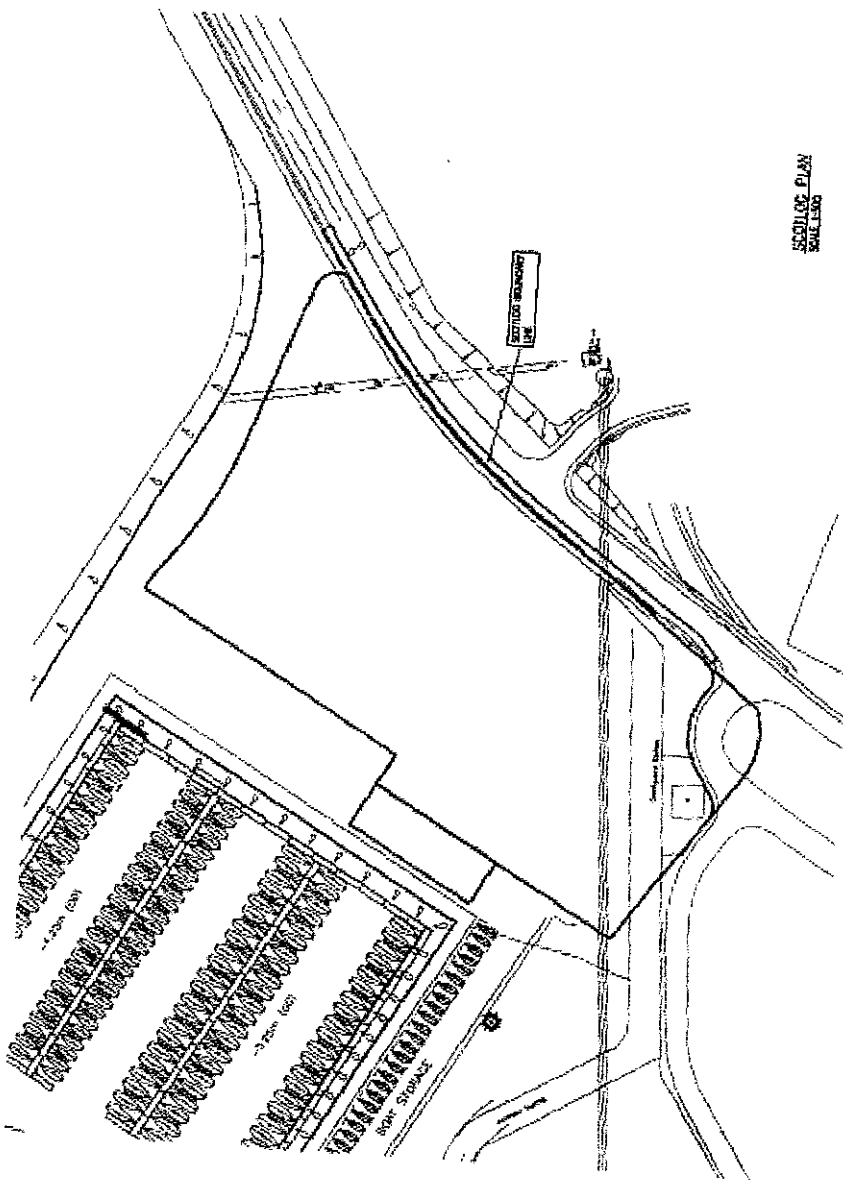
Bristol 2 Café - Ukraine

OP Fitness - UAE



Draft Design by the Colorado Group - Sept 2015. Scotlog Site Plan







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

Name of Organisation:

Flow Photography Festival

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Flow Photography Festival

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

(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Inverness Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

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

Total amount applied for: £ 15,000

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £6,850.00

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

The 4 Festival Directors have been giving time in kind since November 2015	£7,000
Frames allocated by IMAG:	£300.00
Time of staff allocated by IMAG:	£750.00
Total	£8050.00

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

Third Sector (voluntary or community) organisation		Community Council	
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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?

Flow International Photography Festival

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) **September 2017**

End date (month and year) **September 2018**

Location **Focussed on Inverness and collaborating with 2 other centres in Stornoway and Helmsdale. We will also be touring exhibitions and legacy events throughout the year across the Highlands and Islands**

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 have included our detailed proposal as an appendix

Aim: To establish and run an International Photography Festival focussing on the 'North'

The festival will be the first international festival of photography to be held in Inverness and across the Highlands and Islands. It will be a destination festival complementing the range of attractions offered such as the North Coast 500 and the Outlander trails. It will showcase work from photographers living or working in the international 'North'.

Art and Culture is a developing part of the Inverness City portfolio with the inception of the WASP studios at the Midmills Building, the development of the riverside and the re-development of the Castle. A Photography Festival which includes the main 'month event' in September 2017, and the legacy events which will run throughout the period of time between festivals, is an ideal addition to the arts and culture portfolio.

We are requesting funding support for costs including:

1. bringing internationally regarded work to Inverness
2. framing and hanging work
3. production of programme and advertising
4. development of an education pack
5. support of launch event

Importantly we see the festival as having a set of legacy events which will engage school children and community groups. We feel that these are separate although closely related events and have received advice that it may be possible to apply for future funding to support these.

Who will benefit:

This is split into a number of categories (except from attached proposal)

The General Public: Through local engagement with libraries vacant shops and the 'small walls' scheme, we will take photography to people who may not have experienced it as dynamic and powerful medium. Through the education and community curation approach we will equip people with skills which will help them engage with demanding work.

The amateur photography audience – camera clubs and members of local social media platforms who are currently restricted in access to challenging and exiting photography as it is primarily shown in the Central Belt. There are of course good quality shows being toured by local organisations, but these are less frequent than the work available in the South. We offer a level of engagement which will be unprecedented.

Creative Arts Professionals: The Highlands and Islands has a wealth of talent. This Festival will expose that talent to international work and also engage local workers in networks through the Trade Days and the Talks and Workshops.

School and College Students: Our Education Pack will introduce the work of exhibiting artists to a young audience. We will expand the knowledge base which exists and also directly engage with critical practice which will foster a deeper understanding of the capacity of the medium.

The Global Digital Audience: By making use of a range of social media Apps we aim to engage an audience far removed from the geographical location of the festival. Live and Recorded Streaming of events and sessions, as well as feeds to social media, will both broaden and deepen our reach and will maximise the potential of the Festival as a destination event both physically and virtually.

The Tourist: The Highlands and Islands have profited from the 'Outlander' effect in recent years which has brought many visitors – who often have a focus in the natural environment. The Highlands also have the North Coast 500, a recent initiative encouraging visitors away from the dominant centres of population. Capitalising on this the exhibitions will use centres on the North West Coast, Inverewe House, on the North Coast – the Wick heritage Centre and the East Coast – Timespan. The Western Isles will have our collaborative projects with An Lanntair in Stornoway. Engaging the Visitor and encouraging them to move across the landscape is an important element of a dispersed Festival.

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?

Photography is a powerful medium for the communication of complex ideas about equality and diversity.

The theme of the Festival will be 'People and Place' and the work we have already acquired will enable the Council to meet its public sector equality as a number of artists tackle the idea of identity directly. Three artists who have agreed to be part of the Festival and whose work explores people may be considered to have cultural and/or protected characteristics are:

Kieran Dodds - Gingers, <http://kierandodds.com/albums/gingers/>

What's it like being ginger?

Scotland has the highest percentage of ginger people in the world. Recently it was announced that Edinburgh is the world capital of ginger hair with 40% of the population carrying the gene. Only 13% actually have the blessed hair so we are still a small minority and a group that needs documented.

Cue lots of abuse and online trolling. Gingers are common fodder for idiots. Gingers, they tell us, are stupid, ugly or degenerate. It's a recessive gene so by extension we are mutants in the bad sense. Not in the mutant hero, super-powered, X-men style mutants. If we could do that stuff no one would mess with us. All we can do is look great and reflect the sun with our porcelain skin.

Stories tend to be clinical and focus on the genetic basis of the colour, its impending extinction (not true by the way) or the enduring cultural persecution. I want to build on that and make this personal. This story is asking ginger people in Scotland what its like to live with the rarest hair colour on planet earth.

Sigga Ella <https://siggaella.com/projects/first-and-foremost-i-am/>

Portraits of 21 Icelandic people with Downs Syndrome

The reason I did this project was because of this radio interview I heard, where they were discussing the ethical questions we now face, that we can choose who gets to live and who doesn't, as the aim with prenatal diagnosis is to detect birth defects such as Down syndrome and more. Where are we headed? Will people choose not to keep an embryo if they know it has Down syndrome? I had a lovely aunt with Down syndrome, aunt Begga. It is very difficult for me to think about the elimination of Down syndrome and her at the same time."

Sigga Ella portrays these 21 individuals in the same setting; sitting in the same chair, facing the camera, with the backdrop of a colorful flower wallpaper. The lighting is plain and simple and serves well for this purpose. Sigga Ella carefully controls the setting with that in mind, not to draw attention to anything but the subject itself. By doing so, each individual stands out and there is nothing that distracts the viewer from the person. The backdrop is colorful and happy and relates to the diversity and colourfulness of the human race. It shows us that all kinds of flowers can grow and flourish together, and we should also cherish the diversity of humans. Although Sigga Ella controls the setting, she does not control the people but rather lets them show us who they are. Each photograph shows us a person with his or her own special characteristics. Some are smiling, others giggling and hands and feet are placed freely. Sigga Ella obviously does not control them in that manner which brings out their uniqueness as individual human beings. The clothes they are wearing are all different as well and that too draws out the fact that by no means are these people all the same, although they share the same syndrome. "First and foremost I am" is an eyeopener for the beauty and diversity of mankind and makes us wonder if the future without this diversity is desirable.

Trine Søndergaard <http://trinesondergaard.com/work/strude/>

The Strude

is a Danish photography-based visual artist who lives and works in Copenhagen, Denmark. A graduate of Fatamorgana, the Danish School of Art Photography. The exhibition will feature work from her series Strude. A Strude is a mask-like garment worn by women to protect their faces against the elements. Søndergaard attempts to deconstruct the conventions of portraiture and challenge the mechanisms of reading or decoding an image. This work is particularly pertinent at this time, especially in a contemporary Western context, where the controlling power of surveillance and scrutiny are highly present in the polemics of burkha debates and mask bans.

The legacy and educational events will continue to explore the ways in which photographers and photography challenge our understanding of the world.

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

N/A

- 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:

Ken Gowans - Councillor

David Haas – Inverness City Manager

We met to discuss the potential of the festival and explore the possibilities of the events to attract support from the Common Good Fund. Both felt that the aims of the festival

were compatible with the ambitions of the council and that an application should proceed.

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
IMAG – Supply of Frames for Community Exhibition	£300.00
IMAG – Supply of staff time in workshops and curation	£750.00

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 £
	Full details are given in the attached project spreadsheet				
	Total Project Cost £	60,364			
	Total Funding Request £	15,000			

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 £
Creative Scotland	45,324			
Awaiting Decision X				
Totals	45,324			

*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)

In support of our project we have visited a range of Festivals and spoken to the organisers of the Newcastle Photography (<http://newphotofest.com>), the Edinburgh Photography Festival – Retina (<http://www.retinafestival.com>) and St Andrews Photography Festival.

We are now in partnership with Timespan Gallery in Helmsdale and An Lanntair Gallery in Stornoway who are very experienced in the delivery of quality programming.

The organiser of the St Andrews Festival was directly approached by St Andrews BID and the running costs of the Festival were met by them. It was recognised that although St Andrews has an enormous tourist pull with Golf, then Cathedral and the University campus it still needed to diversify to ensure sustainable tourism. Similarly, although Inverness has natural assets in abundance, delivering a thriving arts and culture package is important in sustainable tourism to meet the needs of a range of sectors of both the visitor and local market.

This Festival will be part of a growth in Photography Festivals across the UK and Europe in key cities. As a city which is developing its arts and culture profile this addition would be beneficial as it is accessible and takes advantage of key wall space already available, thus expanding the footfall and tourist spend with little infrastructure change needed.

Other festivals in the area such as the Findhorn Bay Festival achieved a total attendance of 13,395 visitors in 2014 with 16% of the audience coming from out with Scotland.

- 1.12 Is this a new or additional activity or project? – Yes X

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

There is currently a very limited outlet in the Highlands and Islands for Photography although the natural assets such as the landscape is a prime attraction to photographers both amateur and professional. Therefore, building on the reputation we have as a positive and creative place this festival should add cultural and civic capital.

With the development of the WASP studios in the Midmills area of town, this festival and its legacy events will also help connect the city to artists working in the medium and enable photographers to work with a range of communities.

Developing visual literacy and equipping people to engage with photography is a prime aim of the festival.

We are developing links with **Visit Inverness Loch Ness** where we see the potential of a 'small walls' trail being developed which will increase footfall from both visitors and locals alike.

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
Audience Response to questionnaires including: Reason for visit Time spent in City/Length of stay Average Spend in City Accommodation Transport		
Footfall figures and visitor books		
Tripadvisor evaluations		

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

We are planning on this being a biennial – which is a normal pattern for photography festivals. This allows for legacy events to develop naturally.

If yes, what are they? (maximum 20 words)

- 3.3 a) When did your organisation start? Month Nov Year 2015
- b) What geographic areas and/or communities of interest (e.g. Young people, people with disabilities, older people, people from an ethnic minority background) does your organisation cover?

The organisation is very small. A committee of 8 local people.

Gender of Committee: 6 M, 2 F

We are all over 35 yrs of age.

We cover the geographic area of the H&I from Skye to Nairn, but we are representing the whole of the H&I and also making efforts to engage with all groups and sectors

We have established and Eq Opps policy which I have attached.

- c) Is there any restriction on who can join your organisation?
- Yes No If yes, what are they and why do you have them?

Having a membership is not really in our remit. But we are very happy to work with all comers and we would like to develop a volunteer network which would service the Festival and offer work experience to a range of people with diverse needs.

- d) How many people are on your governing body or management committee? 8
- e) Are there Highland Council Elected Members or Officers or Community Councillors on or attending your Management Committee or Board? (please note that this will not affect your application)
- Yes No

If yes, please provide names:

Highland Council Elected	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member,
--------------------------	---

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:



Inverness Museum & Art Gallery
Castle Wynd
Inverness
IV2 3EB

10th February 2017

To Whom it May Concern

Inverness Museum & Art Gallery is happy to write in support of the Flow Photography Festival. We are committed to bringing a varied programme of quality art to communities in the Highlands through our touring circuit of galleries in the north. Photography as part of a critical cultural debate is currently under-represented in our galleries and we applaud Flow's mission to reclaim professional photography from the massive output of trivia from tablets and mobile phones and to critically engage with important and often uncomfortable social issues.

IMAG is already working on a community project as part of the Festival and which will be on display in the Community Gallery. We programme the big art galleries up to 2 years ahead and unfortunately they are not available at the time of the festival. However, should space become available in one of the art galleries at the time we would be happy to offer it.

We are interested in collaborating on touring work in the intervening two years between festivals, in our smaller northern galleries. We have 2 galleries in the North Highlands so the remit fits with our geographic objectives. We are particularly interested in the bringing together of photographers from Northern countries and partnering with other organisations to provide a critical mass of cutting edge photography from the North.

I have no hesitation in recommending the Flow Festival to you for funding support and am confident that it will add value to the cultural life of Inverness and the Highlands.

Cathy Shankland

Cathy Shankland
Exhibitions Officer
High Life Highland

Eden Court
Bishop's Road
Inverness
IV3 5SA

T: 01463 239841
admin@eden-court.co.uk
www.eden-court.co.uk

BOX OFFICE 01463 234 234



Friday 20th January 2017

To whom it may concern,

Funding Application for the Flow Photography Exhibition

I am writing in support of the funding application to Creative Scotland for the 'Flow' photography exhibition.

The exhibition will run for one month, using all our gallery space. Visitors to the theatre will see a high quality photography exhibition featuring award winning photographers from Norway, Finland, Iceland, Denmark, Canada and Scotland. There will be significant community engagement through a series of workshops, providing the opportunity for local photographers to be taught by artists with an international reputation.

The creative team has a wide range of experience and I am confident in their management and delivery of this project.

We are therefore pleased to support 'Flow' and look forward to working with the team in the planning of this exhibition.

If you require any further details, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Marr'.

Colin Marr
Chief Executive

Please Support Eden Court

A registered Scottish charity no. SC008237
Eden Court Highlands (trading as Eden Court) is
a company registered in Scotland no. SC063216
Registered office: Bishop's Road, Inverness IV3 5SA



Timespan
Helmsdale Heritage Society
Dunrobin Street, Helmsdale
Sutherland, KW8 6JX

T 01431 821327
F 01431 821058
enquiries@timespan.org.uk
www.timespan.org.uk



FLOW Photography Festival Support

Timespan is a keen supporter of the FLOW team and their development of the first photography festival linking organisations and audiences across the Highland and Islands. At Timespan, we are strong advocates for contemporary art and the value that it can bring to our region, enriching the cultural life of our communities, encouraging visitors and improving the local economy.

The programme in development is ambitious and critically engaged. It has a strong vision which celebrates and strengthens the creative infrastructure across the Highlands, whilst being distinctly international in its outlook. There is variety in the programming which will attract diverse audiences, but throughout there is a focus on quality and the festival would see the work of highly-regarded photographers from across the North brought to the Highlands.

This joined up approach to programming, and focus on bringing new audiences to contemporary photography is something that we are really happy to support and participate in. We believe it will increase the reach of our own activities planned for this period – a photographic exhibition of the work of Norwegian artist Tonje Bøe Birkeland and site-specific event-based commission by the artist Nicky Bird which takes our own photographic archive as its starting point – and the reach of others taking part. We also believe that the festival will create a growing audience for such work, who have gained interest and understanding of contemporary photography through their engagement with the festival's activities.

We hope that funding can be provided to support this work, and look forward to our participation in the festival later this year.

Yours Sincerely,

Frances Davis
Curator, Timespan

FÒCAS

Fòcas Scotland
72 Lancefield Quay
Glasgow
G3 8JF
08/02/2017

www.fòcas-scotland.com
info@focas-scotland.com

To whom it may concern,

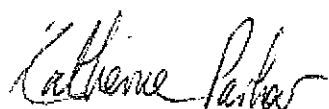
Fòcas Scotland creates international exchanges for Scotland's best emerging photographers. We are supported by the British Council and Creative Scotland. One of our founding principles is to tour our exhibitions and events in communities across Scotland – from the Outer Hebrides to the Border towns.

Flow Photo Fest plays a vital part in this. It offers a welcome infrastructure that facilitates us in bringing high quality cultural output to the Highlands and Islands. Through Flow, Inverness has become accessible and attractive as a cultural city with strong outward facing links, where we can stage international exhibitions knowing that we will draw a strong audience base.

For this reason, we have committed wholeheartedly to partner with Flow Photo Fest in 2018, presenting with them our project Fòcas India, commissioned by the British Council to explore the cultural perspectives of Indian and Scottish photographers. This project is scheduled to tour top venues in Scotland and India; in Scotland, Flow has helped us access the highest potential audience numbers outside the central belt.

I hope that this valuable initiative gains your support.

Yours faithfully,



Dr. Katherine Parhar
Programme Director
Fòcas Scotland CIC

visit Inverness loch ness

9th February 2017

To whom it may concern,

Letter of support for the inaugural Flow Photography Festival

I am writing in support of an application being made to the Inverness Common Good Fund by the organisers of the inaugural Flow Photography Festival. VisitInvernessLochNess believe that this festival will be of interest to visitors, particularly because the festival will feature photographers from a number of countries and not only Scotland.

We do hope though that although the festival is centred in Inverness, the work of photographers will also be displayed at venues around Loch Ness thus providing an added reason for visitors to stop and spend more time and money in rural communities.

Yours sincerely

Graeme Ambrose

Chief Executive
VisitInvernessLochNess

Visit Inverness Loch Ness Ltd

Registered address: Highland Accountancy Practice, Suite 1A, Willow House, Stoneyfield Business Park, Inverness IV2 7PA

SC No: SC474489, VAT no: 185 0842 94

CENTRE FOR NORDIC STUDIES



16 January 2017

To whom it may concern

FLOW Photography Festival

As Programme Leader for the Culture and Heritage Degree at the University of the Highlands & Islands, I am happy to work in collaboration with the FLOW Photography festival.

We feel it will make a valuable contribution to arts and culture in the North and the connection with higher education is one we are very much looking forward to.

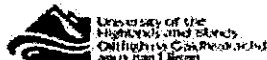
Yours sincerely

Lynn Campbell
 Programme Leader
 BA (Hons) Culture & Heritage
 BA (Hons) Culture & Heritage joint degrees

Kiln Corner, Kirkwall, Orkney, KW15 1QX. Tel: 01856 569300 Fax: 01856 879784

NAFC Marine Centre UHI, Port Arthur, Scalloway, Shetland, ZE1 0UN. Tel: 01595 772000 Fax: 01595 772001

www.nordic.uhi.ac.uk



University of the
Highlands and Islands
Orkney College



University of the
Highlands and Islands
Shetland College

The Highland Council

Inverness Common Good Fund Grants Sub-Committee

30 January 2017

Inverness BID

Report by Inverness City Area Manager

Agenda Item	7
Report No	GSC 02/17

Summary

This report invites Members to consider applications from Inverness BID.

1. Background

1.1 Inverness BID have submitted five applications for funding from the Inverness Common Good Fund.

1. Operation Respect Easter/Summer 2017 see Appendix 1
2. Inverness Community Safety Partnership 2017 see Appendix 2
3. Inverness Gull Project 2017 see Appendix 3
4. Inverness Street Festival 2017 see Appendix 4
5. Coach Ambassador 2017 see Appendix 5

1.2 Appendix 6 contains up to date accounts and bank statements.

1.3 A total of £43,540 is being applied for as detailed in Appendix 7. This includes projected costs for Operation Respect Festive 2017. A detailed report on this is to be provided later in the year which will include funding for the Street Pastors. The application towards the Floral Displays 2017 which was considered at the City of Inverness Area Committee on 1 December 2016.

2. Partnership working

2.1 The Partnership with BID is now well established. A specific cost centre to fund Partnership Projects was created. In financial year 2016/17 the agreed budget for "Partnership Working – BID" is £106k.

2.2 In February 2016 the anticipated percentage contribution for the five projects (including the Floral Decorations) in Paragraph 1.1 from the Common Good Fund was 55% (reduced from 81% for all previous projects). The percentage contribution for the actual costs for all projects including the Operation Respect Festive 2016 is 55%. The percentage contribution being requested from for 2016/17 is reduced to 53%.

2.3 The 2017/18 application seeks total funds of £103.7k compared with expenditure of £106.2k last year. Comparative costs per project are set out in Appendix 8.

2.4 BID is increasing its contribution to these projects in 2017/18 by £6k (over

10%). BID's contribution to the Floral Displays Summer project represents 6% of their total levy income.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 The cost to the Partnership Working Budget will be £103,689.

Recommendation

The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the applications from Inverness BID as detailed in the Appendices to this report and to make a recommendation to the Area Committee either to accept or refuse the applications for funding.

Signature: David Haas
Designation: City Area Manager
Date: 23 January 2017

Background Papers:



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

Name of Organisation:

Inverness BID Limited

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Operation Respect - Task Team Easter & Summer 2017

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

Inverness Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

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

Total amount applied for: £5790

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £ None.....

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		Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number		Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number SC339914....	✓
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?

Operation Respect - Task Team Easter & Summer 2017

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 ... 14th April 2017

End date Saturday 2nd September 2017

Location... Inverness City Centre.

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 Operation Respect – City Centre Programme has operated in the Easter, Summer and Winter holiday periods for the past 7 years. The project meets the objectives of the Single Outcome Agreement in that it acts to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

It has demonstrated the benefits and value of a crime prevention and public reassurance scheme at these peak times of City Centre activity by residents & visitors alike.

Integral to the success of these programmes has been the operation of a Security Task Team on the city centre streets.

The value of the Task Team is demonstrated by the results recorded by the Task Team in the Easter and Summer 2016 holidays when they dealt with a total of 401 incidents. The majority of these were either reported via the Shop Safe Radio system or from the Task Team through their pro-active patrols.

These incidents have covered criminal activity, anti-social behaviour, preventative actions as well as generally assisting the public.

The project is supported by Police Scotland who acknowledge that the Task Team is an integral part of Operation Respect. The aim is to reduce street violence, disorder, anti-social behaviour and the Task Team are invaluable with their local knowledge.

With tourism being such a major industry for Inverness & the Highlands such a programme in the Spring/ Summer of 2017 offers both positive benefits for the visitors to the area as well as underpinning this vital economic sector in the Easter & Summer holiday periods when Inverness attracts the peak number of visitors.

The operating period would again be focused on both the 2 week Easter holiday break and the longer Summer holiday period of July, August and September

The total cost of this year's scheme is £11,580

In previous years this has been met 50% by the Inverness Common Good Fund and 50% by BID and thus support is requested of £5,790

The balance of £5,790 would be contributed by Inverness BID Limited from the levy collected from the city centre businesses.

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 N/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?

N/A

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

N/A

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:

Advice has been sought from David Haas, the City Manager

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	Security Task Team	£10,780			£10,780
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	Clothing	£400			£400
	Sundry	£400			£400
Total Project Cost £		£11,580			£11,580
Total Funding Request £		£5,790			£5,790

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 £
Inverness BID Limited	£5,790			£5,790
Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Totals	£5,790			£5,790

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

- 3.3 a) When did your organisation start? Month...April.....Year 2008.....
- b) What geographic areas and/or communities of interest (e.g. Young people, people with disabilities, older people, people from an ethnic minority background) does your organisation cover?

Inverness BID Limited (a not-for-profit company) was established in 2008 to assist the marketing and economic development of the city centre area.

Businesses in the city centre/BID area pay an extra 1% on their business rateable value to BID to help fund programmes of activity which are focused on generating economic vibrancy for the city. This investment compliments that of the Highland Council and the other city centre stakeholders to the benefit of the users and the economy of the city centre.

- c) Is there any restriction on who can join your organisation?
 Yes No If yes, what are they and why do you have them?

Under statute Inverness BID Limited (a not for profit company) restricts its membership to those businesses based in Inverness city centre who pay BID levy or who apply for voluntary membership.

- d) How many people are on your governing body or management committee? ...16...
- e) Are there Highland Council Elected Members or Officers or Community Councillors on or attending your Management Committee or Board? *(please note that this will not affect your application)*

Yes No

If yes, please provide names:

Highland Council Elected Members	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official / advisory, other
Cllr Helen Carmichael	Director

Community Councillors	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other

Council Officers	Role i.e. Office Bearer, Voting Member, Ex-official, other

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: See Appendix A
Year 2:
Year 3:

b) How much funding do/did you receive?

Year 1: See Appendix A
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: 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 – Common Good Funds

Name of Organisation:

Inverness BID Limited

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Inverness Community Safety Partnership

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

(Please provide closing date details where applicable)

Inverness Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

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

Total amount applied for: £9,000.

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £ NONE.....

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		Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number		Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number SC339914....	✓
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?

Inverness Community Safety Partnership

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)... 1st April 2017.....

End date (month and year)... 31st March 2018.....

Location... City of 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.

Project Details

The Scottish Government funded the work of the original Crime Reduction Partnership for an initial 3-year basis. The Highland Council then asked BID's predecessor, Inverness City Centre Management (ICCM) to take over this role and duties with support funding from the Inverness Common Good Fund.

With the dissolution of ICCM in December 2008, BID was asked to take over this role with funding & support from Inverness Common Good fund. That funding was at a reduced level compared with that given by ICGF to ICCM.

This application follows the creation of the ICSP pursuant to a decision taken by the Inverness City Committee (ICC) in April 2010.

As part of its core activity, BID has taken responsibility for the provision of administrative support and programming of the Inverness Community Safety Partnership (ICSP) which co-ordinates community safety initiatives in the wider Inverness area. It is also responsible for a number of community safety projects specific to the BID area.

As explained since 2010 the Inverness Community Safety Partnership has taken over an expanded roll for community safety in the wider Inverness. ICSP partners include representatives from;

- Police Scotland
- Highland Council

- Inverness BID
- The Voluntary Sector
- Highlands & Islands Fire and Rescue Service
- NHS Highland
- Crimestoppers
- Inverness Drug & Alcohol Forum
- Street Pastors
- Inverness Prison

ICSP appoints a Chair and Vice-Chair from its partners on an annual basis. The current Chair is Chief Inspector Ian Graham of Police Scotland

The activity and programmes of ICSP is co-ordinated and implemented by Inverness BID through its Community Safety Manager who has very significant experience in community safety having previously spent 30 years working at a senior level with Northern Constabulary.

As part of its remit, ICSP is responsible for;

- Acting on behalf of ICSP, Inverness BID will be responsible for delivery/co-ordination of a wide range of community safety programmes for residents and visitors including Operation Respect - a jointly funded programme with the Scottish Government, Highland Council, Northern Constabulary, BID and other stakeholders including the Street Pastors, Stagecoach, NHS.
- Oversight of Community Safety initiatives that may be undertaken by any of the partner agencies within the boundaries of the geographical remit of the Inverness Partnership, being the 7 City Wards.
- co-ordination of the activity of the partners of the Inverness Partnership in relation to all Community Safety / Business Crime initiatives;
- formulation and review of objectives for Community Safety / Business Crime initiatives on an annual basis;
- Where practicable to assist with the delivery of Community Safety initiatives;
- co-ordinate good practice and make best use of funding opportunities;
- deliver an annual report to the Inverness City Committee on the activities of the Crime Reduction Partnership and its proposals for the forthcoming year; and
- the management of media engagement in all supported activity.

Inverness BID will also service the business community through a number of Community Safety Initiatives. Safeinverness (now managed by BID as a project) operates as a Business Crime Reduction Partnership, sharing information between its members in the Inverness Business Community

Best Bar None works with the vital night time economy and encourages excellence in training and performance in the licensed trade.

Financial Details

In its role as servicing agent for the ISPC, BID is responsible for the staffing/ overhead costs of the designated Community Safety Manager and will be contributing to the programme budget for ICSP of £20,000 making a total cost of the project of £29k

Benefit of Project

The Inverness Community Safety Partnership will be responsible for the delivery of community safety projects for the benefit to residents, visitors and businesses in Inverness. It seeks through its programmes to reduce crime and the fear of crime in conjunction with working with its partner agencies.

In addition to the above ICSP has been invited by the Scottish Business Resilience Centre to work with them on a pilot project to achieve their new City Excellence Award. This will involve participation by all the partners which will be co-ordinated by BID.

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?

There are no barriers to groups benefiting from this Project.

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

N/A

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:

Advice has been sought from David Haas, Inverness City Manager

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	Employment Costs	£19,000			£19,000
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	Programme Costs	£10,000			£10,000
Total Project Cost £		£29,000			£29,000
Total Funding Request £		£9,000			£9,000

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 £
Inverness BID Limited - Confirmed	£20,000			£20,000
Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Totals	£20,000			£20,000

*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:

- 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 need for this Project was recognised by the Inverness City Committee in 2010 and its role continues to be supported by the member organisations.

The Project has received funding from the Common Good Fund as follows:

2016/17	£10,000
2015/16	£12,000
2014/15	£14,000
2013/14	£14,000

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?

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

Jointly funded by Inverness Common Good Fund & BID

- 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
Achievement of business objectives as set down by ICSP – Response from member agencies – Interaction with public		

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

The Inverness Community Safety Partnership helps the Council achieve its goals and objectives in community safety for residents and visitors alike



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

Name of Organisation:

Inverness BID Limited

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Inverness Gull Project

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

Inverness Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

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

Total amount applied for: £12,000

Estimated cost of funding in kind applied for: £ None.....

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		Community Council	
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number		Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number SC339914....	✓
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?

Inverness Gull 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)..... 1st April 2017.....

End date (month and year)..... 31st July 2017.....

Location..... City of 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.

Background and Project Update

In response to concerns expressed by the public, councillors and businesses at the number of gulls in the Inverness area and the mess and disturbance they were causing, in late 2011 Scottish Natural Heritage were asked for advice on what could be done to reduce the problems. There followed a joint report from the Policy and Advice Manager of Scottish Natural Heritage with the Inverness City Manager to the Inverness City Committee on 13th February 2012 on the options for managing urban herring gulls in Inverness.

The report noted the continuing significant increase of the gull population since the last census and stressed that without intervention the number of breeding gulls were projected by SNH to grow by 7% per annum. It concluded that the problems that the gull population were causing could best be managed by direct intervention to the breeding cycle by nest & egg removal as licensed by the Scottish Government.

In approving the report the committee agree to:

- 1) delegate power to the City Manager, in consultation with the Members of the Donations Working Group, to formulate a course of action based on the actions recommended by (the) report which will include a programme of nest and egg removal within the BID area;
- 2) a budget of up to £30,000 for the pilot (project in) 2012 Summer to be drawn from the large grants budget of the Common Good Fund

Inverness BID had undertaken the original review of other gull management schemes including liaising with the successful project in Dumfries. BID were asked to deliver the project of egg and nest removal in both Inverness city centre and the Longman and as part of that intervention programme a total of 661 nests and nearly 1400 eggs were

removed in the May-July 2012 breeding period.

In his review of the 2012 programme SNH Advisor Andy Douse supported the success of the work undertaken and concluded that "it is thus essential that the programme of control work is maintained if management of the city centre gull problem is to be effective".

Mr Douse went on to say that the project had established that access to the majority of nesting roofs was possible and this means that the programme is likely to be viable and effective in controlling the gull population in the long term.

Although a budget of £40k (ICGF £30k & BID £10k) was set aside for the 2012 Gull Project based on the costs of the similar project in Dumfries, the total costs incurred were limited to £18k which was funded in the agreed proportions.

Programmes in the Summers of 2013, 2014, 2015 & 2016

Following receipt of annual applications, the Donations Working Group have supported the continuation of the programme with contributions of:

2013: ICGF £15k
 BID £5k
 TOTAL £20k

2014: ICGF £12k
 BID £4k
 TOTAL £16k

2015: ICGF £12k
 BID £4k
 TOTAL £16k

2016: ICGF £12k
 BID £6k
 TOTAL £18k

Over the years the project has been extended to include additional properties in Carsegate as well as the city centre and the Longman.

A total of 8379 eggs have been removed over the 5 years of the project.

To put this in context, from the modelling that SNH has recently carried out the 2433 eggs that were removed in 2016 prevented between 659-1095 gulls being fledged i.e. reared to an age at which they can fly.

Based on a survival rate of 65% of gulls achieving breeding age (normally their 4th year) from being fledged, the 2016 egg removal programme has thus stopped from between 428 - 712 gulls joining the breeding pool.

To put these figures into further perspective if the gulls prevented in 2016 had reached breeding age, then SNH project that over their expected 8 year breeding life they would have produced between 3,650 and 6,464 fledged chicks.

Proposed Summer 2017 Programme

As stated It has always been accepted that to control and seek to reverse the growth in the gull population over so many years, intervention in the gull breeding cycle by continuously removing nests and eggs would need to be undertaken for the long term.

The SNH Scientific Adviser believes that it is essential that action is taken annually to reduce the problems caused by gulls and that failure to do so will mean that the population will revert to increasing by 7% per annum.

The first 5 years of the programme has reversed the trend of an annual increase in the gull numbers.

It is estimated that £18k per annum should again be sufficient to cover the programme for the Summer of 2017.

BID proposes that this cost be met with £6k being met from the BID levy paid by the city centre businesses with the Common Good Fund being asked to contribute the balance of £12k.

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?

N/A

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

N/A

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:

Advice has been sought from David Haas, Inverness City Manager

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	Egg & Nest Removal Programme	£16,500			£16,500
	Advisor	£1,000			£1,000
	Sundry	£500			£500
Total Project Cost £		£18,000			£18,000
Total Funding Request £		£12,000			£12,000

- 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 £
Inverness BID Limited - Confirmed	£6,000			£6,000
Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Totals	£6,000			£6,000

*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:
- 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 report to Inverness City Committee from the Inverness City Manager and the Policy and Advice Manager, Scottish Natural Heritage on 13th February 2012 established the needs and benefits of this 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?

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

The project received part funding from Inverness Common Good Fund in the Summers of 2012 to 2016 as well from BID.

- 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
Through the level of eggs and nests removed.		

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

The report by Scottish Natural Heritage established that it would be necessary for a number of years to intervene in the gull breeding cycle by egg and nest removal to reverse the increase in the existing population and then reduce numbers.

BID has committed budget to the project for future years and it is proposed that a future application for funding be made to ICGF



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

Name of Organisation:

Inverness Business Improvement District

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Inverness Street Festival 2017

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

Inverness Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

£5,000 or under Under £10,000

Total amount applied for: £7.000

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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Council	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registered Charity If yes – Registration number	<input type="checkbox"/>	Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number SC339914.....	<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?

Inverness Street Festival 2017

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)... 12th October 2017.....

End date (month and year)... 14th October 2017.....

Location..... City of 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.

Inverness BID Limited

Inverness BID Limited (a not for profit company) was established in 2008 to assist the marketing and development of Inverness City Centre.

Project Details

The Eighth Inverness Street Festival will be held in Inverness city centre from Thursday 12th to Saturday 14th October 2017.

As in previous years the event is scheduled for the October school holidays period.

The Festival will again be organised Inverness BID who has agreed to contribute the sum of £12,000 from the BID Levy collected from the city centre businesses towards the overall event cost plus make available the staff to plan, stage and co-ordinate the Festival (not charged to the Project budget).

Eastgate Shopping Centre has agreed to continue to support the event with sponsorship of £8,000.

The Inverness Common Good Fund is requested to again support the festival as they did in 2016 with a contribution of £7,000.

Performers will again be programmed over the 3 days in the same venue as previous years - Inverness High Street, Victorian Market and Eastgate Centre.

As the festival, has developed it has attracted increasing public and media interest with last year's event being featured in all of the local media outlets.

The benefit of this ever-increasing marketing and profile was demonstrated by the 2016 customer survey which showed that 92% of those interviewed had come specifically to the city centre to see the festival.

The festival has built up an excellent reputation with the artists in this field who have all enjoyed working in the city and the welcome they have received from the public. As the festival is outside the traditional street entertainment period it has been possible to attract top quality performers from within the limited event budget.

The Inverness Street Festival has now developed as an attraction to visitors and residents alike and research shows that it brings people to the area.

It compliments the programme of events run by the Highland Council and it part of creating a vibrant feel to the city centre.

Since the Festival first started to receive funding support from Inverness Common Good Fund in 2013 this has been used to establish a community performance project with Eden Court as well as increasing the event marketing and strengthening overall level of the performers.

Eden Court has been delighted with the chance to programme and profile their outreach performers alongside professional artists at the festival. In 2016 the group performed as "Chefs A'roming" and the public reaction to their "show" was again very positive.

Eden Court have agreed to run a similar community project should similar funding again be available from the ICGF. The balance of the Common Good Fund contribution would again be used to improve the marketing for the event and for programme content.

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?

The Festival is open to all and there are no barriers to any group benefiting from this Project

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:

Advice has been sought from David Haas, Inverness City Manager

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 or Activity	Breakdown of Total Costs	Year 1	Year 2*	Year 3*	Total
Staff	Event Stewards	£1,500			£1,500
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	Marketing	£6,000			£6,000
	Entertainment Programme	£15,000			£15,000
	Community Project	£2,500			£2,500
	Staging	£2,000			£2,000
Total Project Cost		£27,000			£27,000
Other Funding relating to this project (including own resources and income) Continue on separate sheet if required	Eastgate Shopping Centre - Sponsorship	£8,000			£8,000
	Inverness BID	£12,000			£12,000
Total Funding Request The Highland Council	How much is being applied for within this application?				
	Inverness Common Good Fund	£7,000			£7,000

- 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 £
Eastgate Shopping Centre - CONFIRMED Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	£8,000			£8,000
Inverness BID - CONFIRMED Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	£12,000			£12,000
Totals	£20,000			£20,000

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



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

Name of Organisation:

Inverness Business Improvement District

Name of Project or Activity Requiring Support:

Coach Ambassador 2017

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

Inverness Common Good Fund

Is the amount you are applying for:

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

Total amount applied for: £9,750

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

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		Company Limited by Guarantee If yes – Company Number SC339914	✓
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?

Coach Ambassador 2017

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) October 2017

Location: Inverness City Centre

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 joint Report of the Director of Community Services and the Inverness City Manager to the City of Inverness Area Committee on 28th January 2016 on "Developing Inverness as a Coach Friendly City" reported on the success of the use of Ardross Street as a Coach/Drop Off/Pick up point during 2015 and the important role played of the Coach Ambassador to:

"Act as liaison between residents and businesses on Ardross Street with the Coach Operators to ensure that any concerns are addressed timeously and effectively."

"Welcome people to the city, provide directions, answer questions visitors may have and encourage our guests to visit the many points of interest in the city centre."

The Coach Ambassador role was provided by Inverness BID at the request of the Highland Council initially fully funded by the Inverness Common Good Fund.

Given the success of the 2016 arrangements which welcomed more than 1900+ visitor coaches, with 93.64% of visitors surveyed saying the service was excellent, it is again proposed that BID provides a Coach Ambassador service daily (i.e Monday to Sunday) between April and October.

As in 2016 providing cover on a 7-day basis would require employment for more than 1 person particularly given the need for 2 people to be available when coaches from large cruise liners come to Inverness. This staff is budgeted together with a further provision for maps, clothing, communications and other sundry items to total £16,500 which is comparable with 2016 costings.

On 4th October 2016 Inverness was awarded Coach Friendly status by The Confederation of Passenger Transport UK (CPT) in recognition of the commitment made by Inverness to meet the needs of coaches, their drivers and their passengers to the city 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

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?

There are no barriers to any group benefitting from the project

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

N/A

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:

Advice has been sought from David Haas, The City Manager

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		£14,500			£14,500
Other Costs e.g. property costs, transport, equipment, insurance, marketing	Maps, Clothing, Communications etc	£2,000			£2,000
Total Project Cost £		£16,500			£16,500
Total Funding Request £		£9,750			£9,750

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 £
Inverness BID Limited - confirmed	£6,750			£6,750
Successful <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Successful <input type="checkbox"/> Unsuccessful <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting Decision <input type="checkbox"/>				
Totals	£6,750			£6,750

*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:
- 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)

Requested by Highland Council Officers and demonstrated by response from local businesses and Coach users Proposed in Report to City of Inverness Area Committee

- 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?

Part funded with Grant of £17k in 2015 and £11,250 in 2016

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
Positive feedback from local businesses, coach passengers and coach companies		

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

BID feels that there will be a future need for these services and will look to jointly fund with Inverness Common Good Fund.

Inverness BID Limited
Profit and Loss Account
for the year ended 31 March 2016

	Notes	2016 £	2015 £
Turnover		382,696	353,789
Administrative expenses		(382,417)	(355,095)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Operating profit/(loss)	3	279	(1,306)
Interest receivable		113	77
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Profit/(loss) on ordinary activities before taxation		392	(1,229)
Tax on profit/(loss) on ordinary activities	4	(23)	(68)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Profit/(loss) for the financial year		<u>369</u>	<u>(1,297)</u>

Inverness BID Limited
Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2016

	Notes	2016 £	2015 £
Current assets			
Debtors	6	6,366	3,411
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>39,957</u>	<u>28,558</u>
		46,323	31,969
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
	7	(16,791)	(7,806)
Net current assets		<u>29,532</u>	<u>24,163</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		29,532	24,163
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year			
	8	(30,000)	(25,000)
Net liabilities		<u>(468)</u>	<u>(837)</u>
Capital and reserves			
Profit and loss account	9	(468)	(837)
Members' funds		<u>(468)</u>	<u>(837)</u>

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

Members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Peter Strachan
 Director

Approved by the board on 24 October 2016

Inverness BID Applications

		Amount Requested	Total Project Costs	%
1	Operation Respect Easter/Summer 2017	£5,790.00	£11,580.00	50.00%
2	Inverness Community Safety Partnership 2017	£9,000.00	£29,000.00	31.03%
3	Inverness Gull Project 2017	£12,000.00	£18,000.00	66.67%
4	Floral Displays 2017 *	£54,800.00	£84,000.00	65.24%
5	Inverness Street Festival 2017	£7,000.00	£27,000.00	25.93%
6	Coach Ambassador 2017	£9,750.00	£16,500.00	59.09%
		£98,340.00	£186,080.00	

* The application for Floral Displays 2017 was approved in principle at the City of Inverness Area Committee on 1st December 2016 subject to the Budget for 2017/18 being in place.

Inverness Common Good Fund Applications 2017/18 - (with 2016/17 as comparison)								
PROJECT FUNDING FROM INVERNESS COMMON GOOD FUND					11.1.17			
	Project Cost	ICGF	BID	Other	Project Cost	ICGF	BID	Other
	2017/18				2016/17			
Easter/Summer 2017 Task Team	£11,580	£5,790	£5,790		£11,580	£5,790	£5,790	
ICSP year to 31.3.18	£29,000	£9,000	£20,000		£30,000	£10,000	£20,000	
Gull Project 2017	£18,000	£12,000	£6,000		£16,000	£12,000	£4,000	
Floral Displays Summer 2017	£84,000	£54,800	£15,330	£13,870	£84,000	£54,800	£15,330	£13,860
Inverness Street Festival 2017	£27,000	£7,000	£12,000	£8,000	£26,000	£7,000	£11,000	£8,000
Coach Ambassador 2017	£16,500	£9,750	£6,750		£15,000	£11,250	£3,750	
Operation Respect Festive 2017	£10,698	£5,349	£5,349		£10,698	£5,349	£5,349	
	£196,778	£103,689	£71,219	£21,870	£193,278	£106,189	£65,219	£21,860
	101.81%	53%	36%	11%		55%	34%	11%