

**AGENDA ITEM 9  
REPORT NO. SR/19/18**

**HIGHLAND COUNCIL**

**Committee:** Skye and Raasay Area Committee

**Date:** 3 December 2018

**Report Title:** West Highland and Islands Amended Core Paths Plan, Skye and Raasay Area

**Report By:** Director of Development and Infrastructure

**1 Purpose/Executive Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present a Draft Amended Core Paths Plan for the Skye and Raasay area.

**2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 Members are asked to approve the Skye and Raasay area of the West Highland and Islands Amended Core Path Plan to be published for formal consultation.

### 3 Introduction

- 3.1 The development of the existing Core Paths Plan was part of The Highland Council's duties provided by the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 (LR(S)A 2003). The existing plan was adopted by the full Council in September 2011 after the plan had been through the statutory consultation process and also a Public Local Inquiry (PLI).
- 3.2 The review and amendment of the Core Path Plan is to be undertaken by the local authority when considered appropriate. The review for the West Highlands and Islands area commenced in 2016.
- 3.3 The review aims to consider:
- paths that have been built, or will soon be built, since the first Core Path Plan;
  - routes suggested through public consultation;
  - the recommendations of the Public Local Inquiry report on The Highland Council's first Core Path Plan to include more long distance, strategic routes;
  - where there might otherwise be gaps in the sufficiency of the Core Path network; and
  - the removal of routes or sections of routes that have disappeared, become overgrown and where better alternatives are available.
- 3.4 The list of candidate core paths and changes to core paths ( the Amendments) for Skye and Raasay, (along with those in Lochalsh) has been approved by the Skye and Lochalsh Local Access Forum
- 3.5 The formal consultation period for an amended core paths plan is 12 weeks after which, subject to no outstanding objections, the amended core paths plan can be submitted to The Highland Council Environment, Development and Infrastructure (EDI) Committee for adoption. If any objection is made and not withdrawn, the Plan must not be adopted unless directed by Scottish Ministers, who may call a public local inquiry. The consultation is on the Amendments only, not existing core paths.

### 4. The Amended Core Paths Plan

- 4.1 The West Highland and Islands Amended Core Path Plan is a series of maps showing where Amendments are proposed. The Plan for the Skye and Raasay area is attached to this report as **Appendix 1**. The existing Core Path Plan can be viewed on The Highland Council website at [https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/379/countryside\\_facilities\\_and\\_wildlife/161/outdoor\\_access/4](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/379/countryside_facilities_and_wildlife/161/outdoor_access/4) .  
There are no associated policies or implementation timescales.
- 4.2 The Highland Council has a duty, under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act, to notify owners and occupiers of land where a core path is proposed for the first time.
- 4.3 Any objections received during the formal consultation will, after having been assessed as competent, be addressed directly by officers to try and resolve the reasons for the objection. Any further changes as a result may require further consultation as a Modified Amended Core paths Plan.
- 4.4 After the formal consultation and a period of time to resolve objections, the Amended ( or Modified) Core Paths Plan will be put to the EDI Committee for approval to adopt (where there are no objections), or approval to submit to Scottish Ministers (where there are

outstanding objections).

## **5. Implications**

- 5.1 Resource – Advertisement of the formal consultation, notifying landowners, adoption notice and publication of the amended core paths plan are statutory duties and will incur costs and staff resource to the Council. Further implementation of the core paths plan is discretionary.
- 5.2 Legal - The Highland Council has a statutory duty to produce a core paths plan sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area. The Plan must be reviewed and amended at such times as appropriate, a period of between 5 and 10 years is deemed appropriate.
- 5.3 Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural) - Improvement and promotion of Core Paths increases community connectivity, encourages healthy lifestyles and are available to all users equally.
- 5.4 Climate Change/Carbon Clever - Improvement and promotion of Core Paths can contribute to reduced car usage.
- 5.5 Risk – Risk to The Highland Council is minimal, Scottish Ministers will decide whether to direct the Council to adopt the plan where there are outstanding objections or they may cause a Public Local Inquiry to be called at their cost. The existing Core Paths Plan remains in place and used to promote and protect the public's access rights.
- 5.6 Gaelic - Where installed, signs to direct users to core paths will be bilingual subject to consultation with Community Councils.

Designation: Director of Development and Infrastructure

Date: 21 November 2018

Author: Donald Kennedy, Access Officer, Skye, Lochalsh and West Lochaber

Background Papers: Appendix 1 – Skye and Raasay Draft Amended Core Path Plan

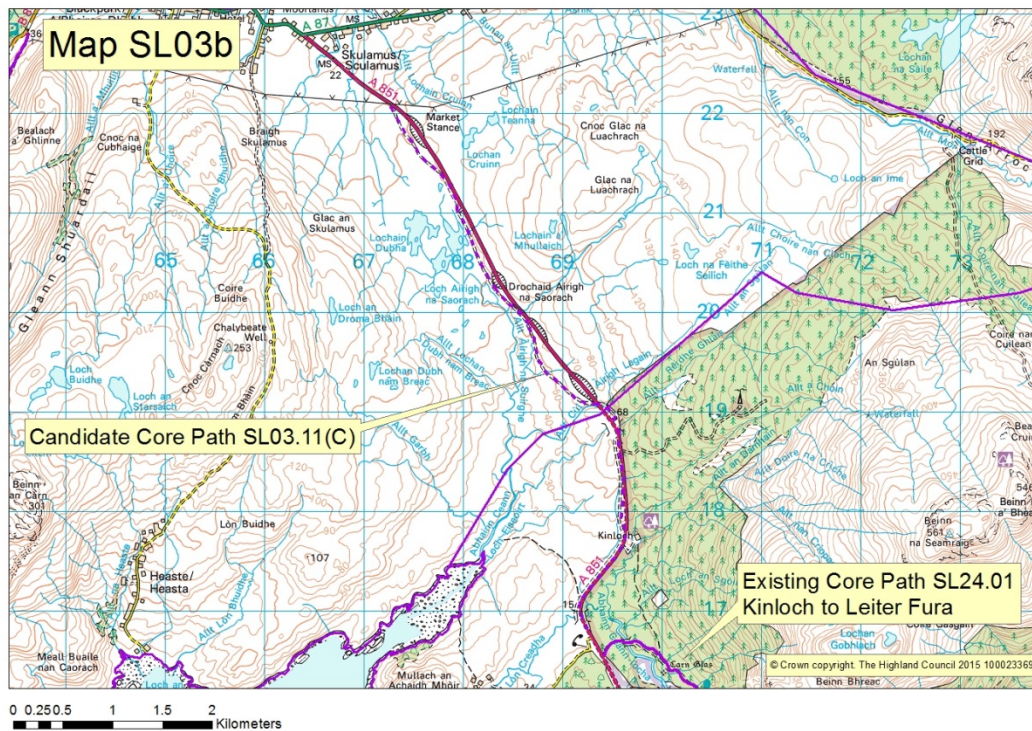
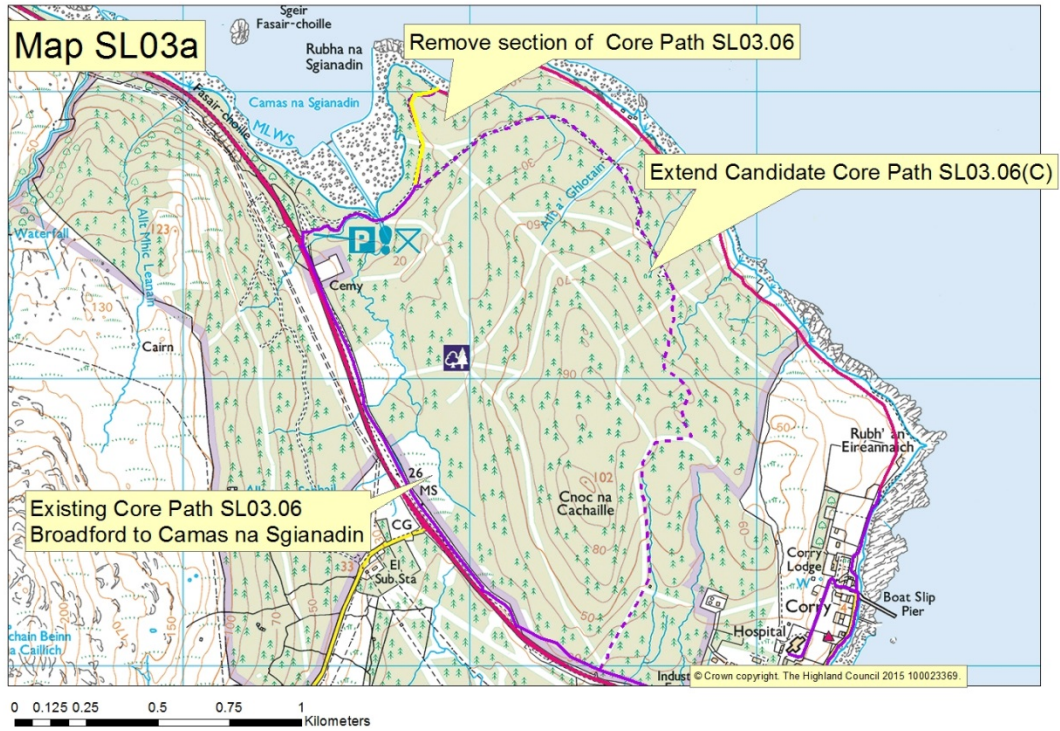
## Appendix 1 Overview of amendments proposed for Skye and Raasay Core Paths Plan

Map ref. no.	Path ref. no. and name	Length	Description	Community Council
SL03a	SL03.06(C) Broadford Forest Circular route	2.5km	Forest track and path	Broadford and Strath
SL03b	SL03.11(C) Sleat Old Road	6.4km	Bitmac surface	
SL03c	SL03.11(C) Suishnish to Borerraig	3.4km	Coastal Path	Broadford and Strath
SL04a	SL04.07(C) Fairy Pools, Glenbrittle	2.1km	Built path	Minginish
SL04b	SL04.03(C) Addition to Glenbrittle Forest network	4km	Forest track	Minginish
SL07a	SL07.04(C) Extend Tayinloan / Fanks Road End to Flashader	1km	Old road/built path	Skeabost
SL07b	SL07.03 (C) Extend Edinbane Link Path	700m	Built path	Skeabost
SL07c	SL07.05(C) Upper Edinbane to Village Centre	0.5km	Beaten earth	Skeabost
SL08	SL08.06(C) Sligachan to Camusunary	13.2km	Upland path	Broadford and Strath/Sconser
SL14	SL14.01(C) Kensaleyre extension	900m	Old road	Skeabost
SL18	SL18.02(C) Kyleakin Forest Network extension	2.8km	Built track and paths	Kyleakin
SL21a	SL21.04(C) Leasgeary extension	170m	Built path/track	Portree
SL21b	SL21.13(C) Pig walk to Portree Forest	1.4km	Built path	Portree
SL22	SL22.12(C) Inver, Raasay	1.4km	Built path/beaten earth	Raasay
SL23a	SL23.01(C) Extension to Skeabost to Carbost Old Road	250m	Bitmac and road side pavement	Skeabost
SL23b	SL23.07(C) Borve Old Road Link	1km	Bitmac/built path	Skeabost
SL24a	SL24.08(C) Armadale Home Farm Forest Walk	1.6km	Track /path	Sleat
SL24b	SL24.09(C) Tormore Forest	2.6km	Track/built path	Sleat
SL25a	SL25.05(C) Grealin to Lealt	750m	Built path	Staffin

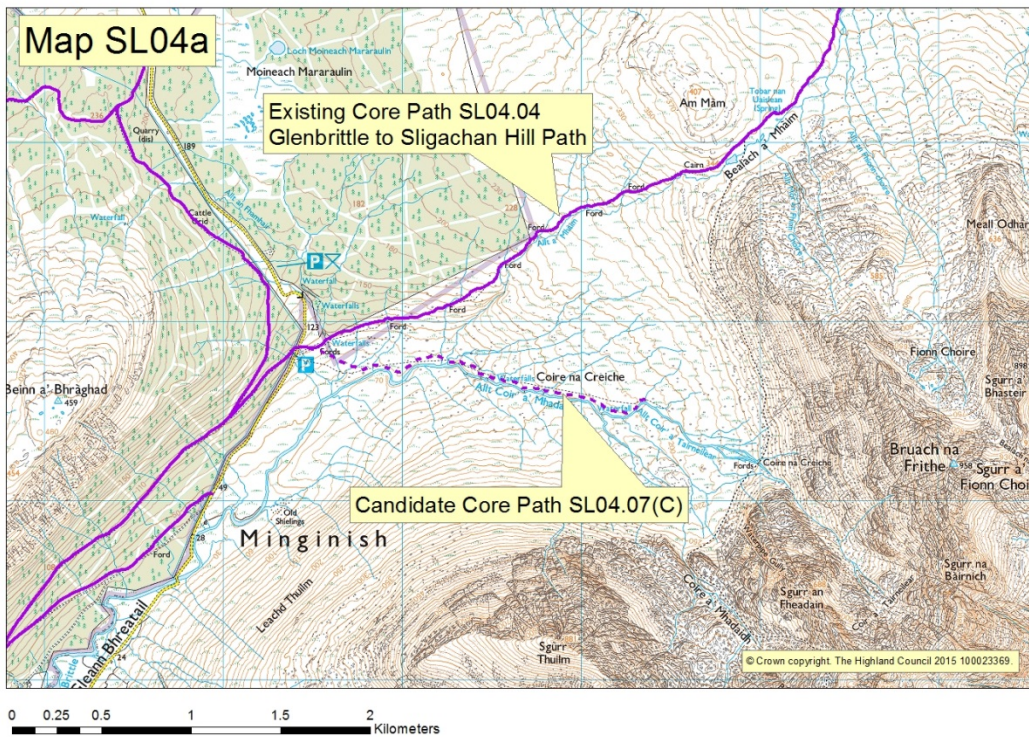


SL25b	SL25.03(C) Extension to Storr Forest Path Network	1.3km	Built path	Staffin/Portree
SL25b	SL25.15(C) Old Man of Storr Hill Paths	1.3km	Built path	Staffin
SL27a	SL27.01(C) Extension to Idrigill Path, Uig	250m	Built path	Uig
SL27b	SL27.06(C) Glen Hinnisdale Forestry	2km	Built tracks and paths	Skeabost

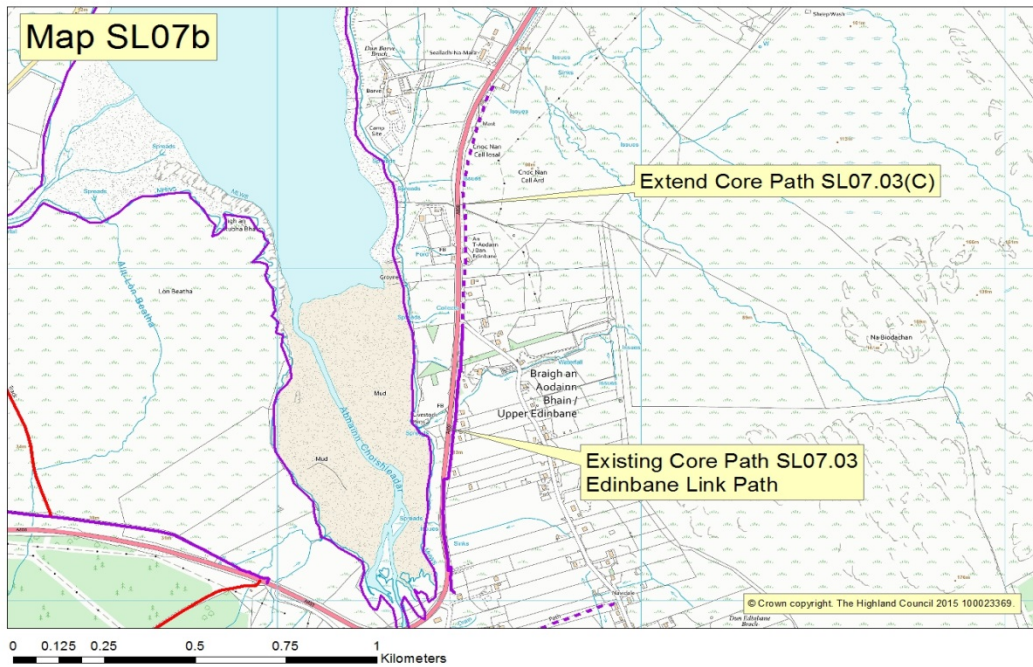
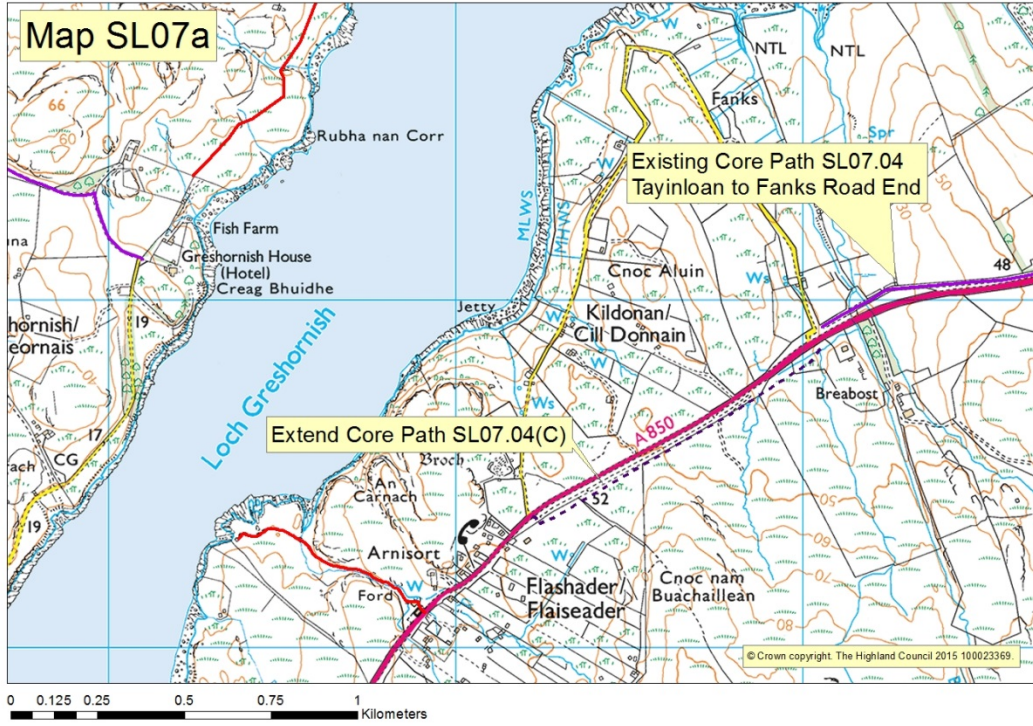
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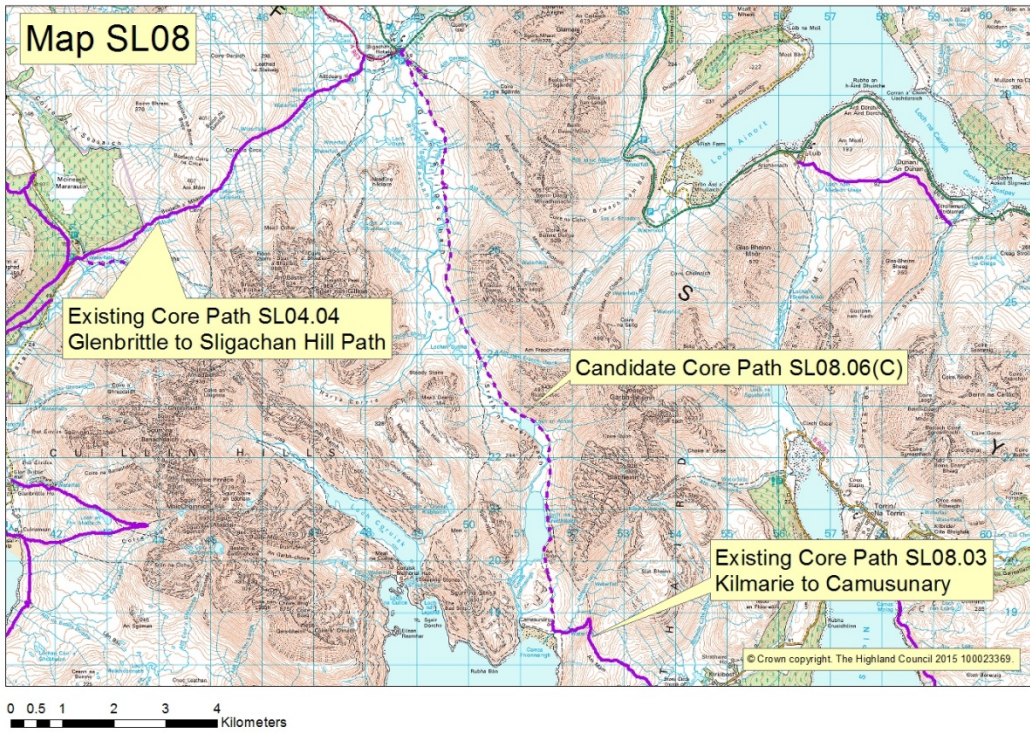
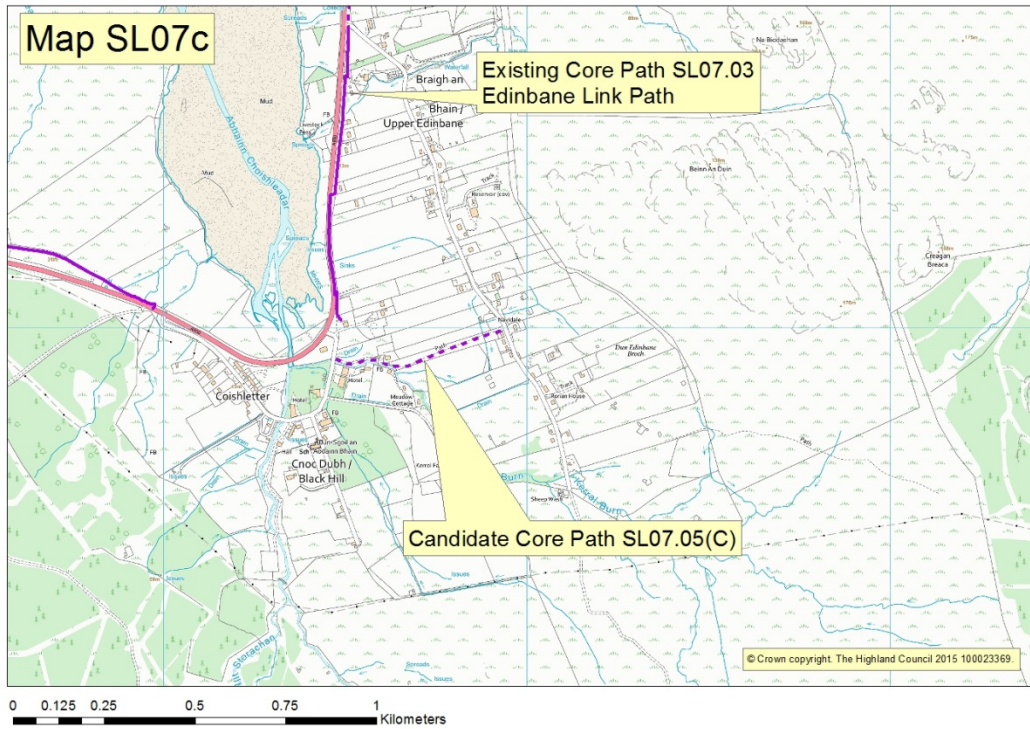




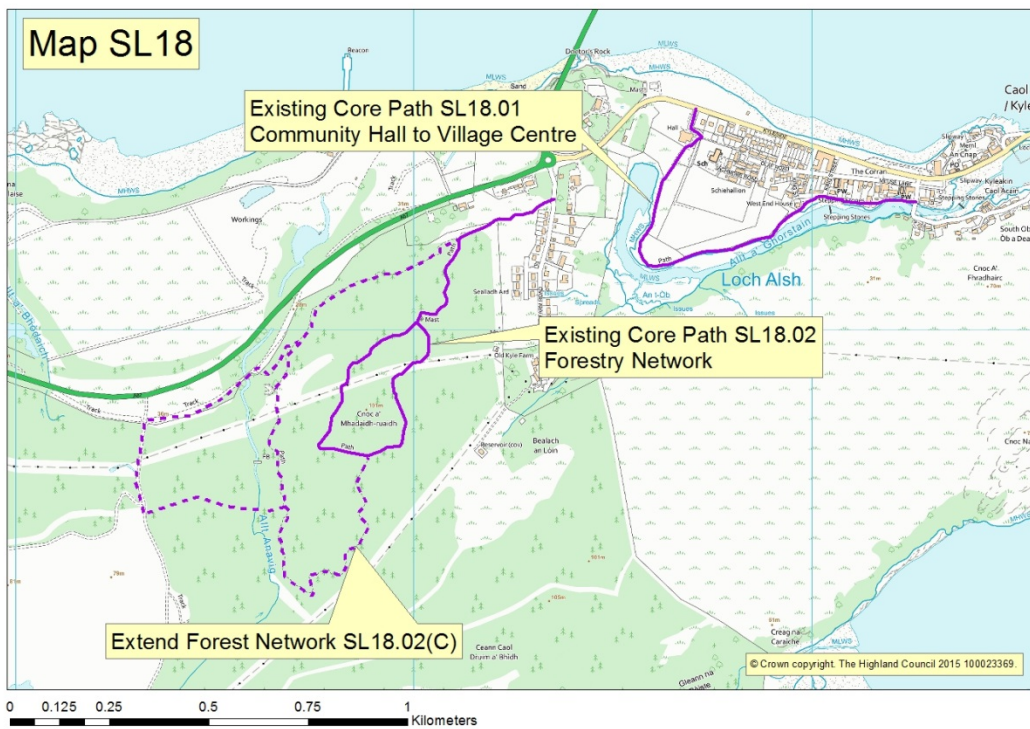
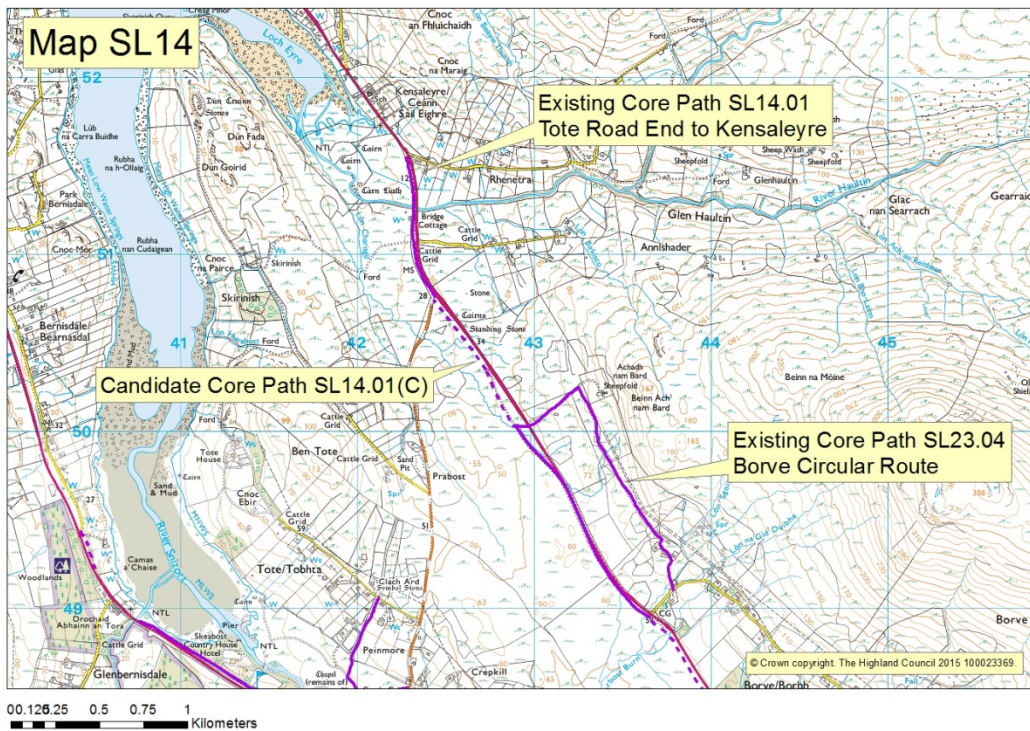




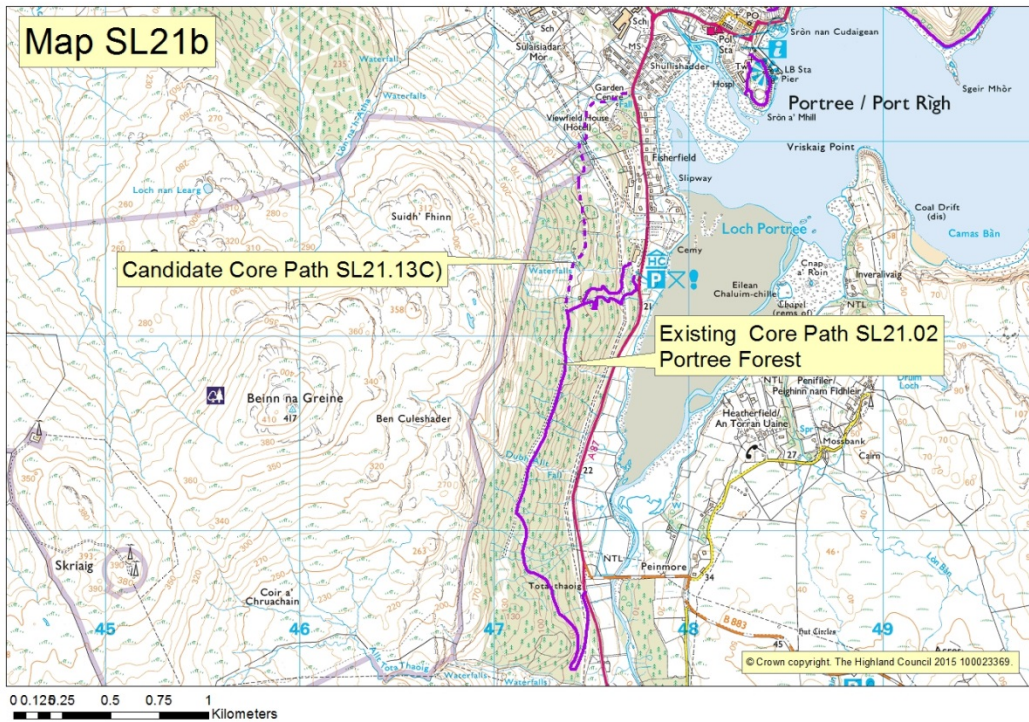
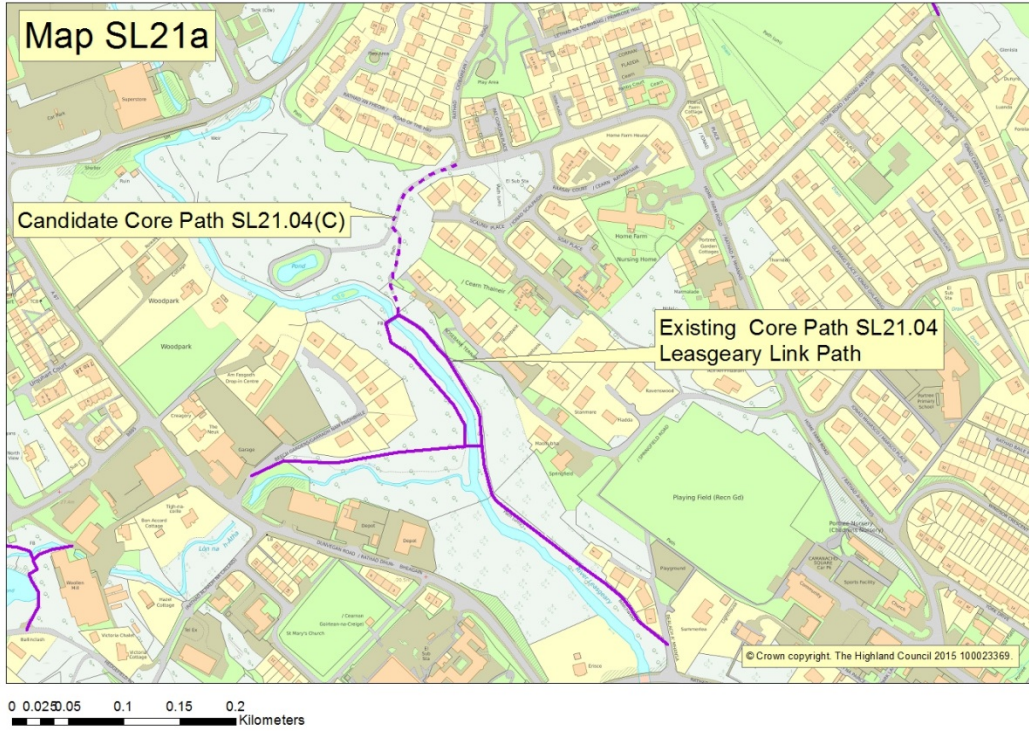




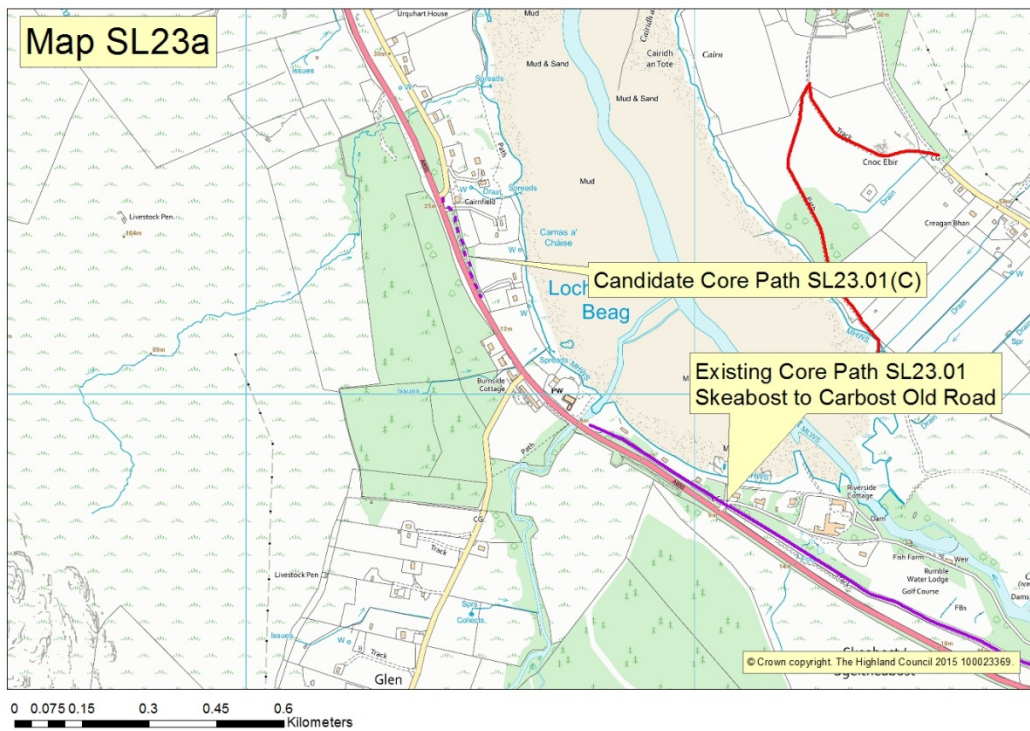
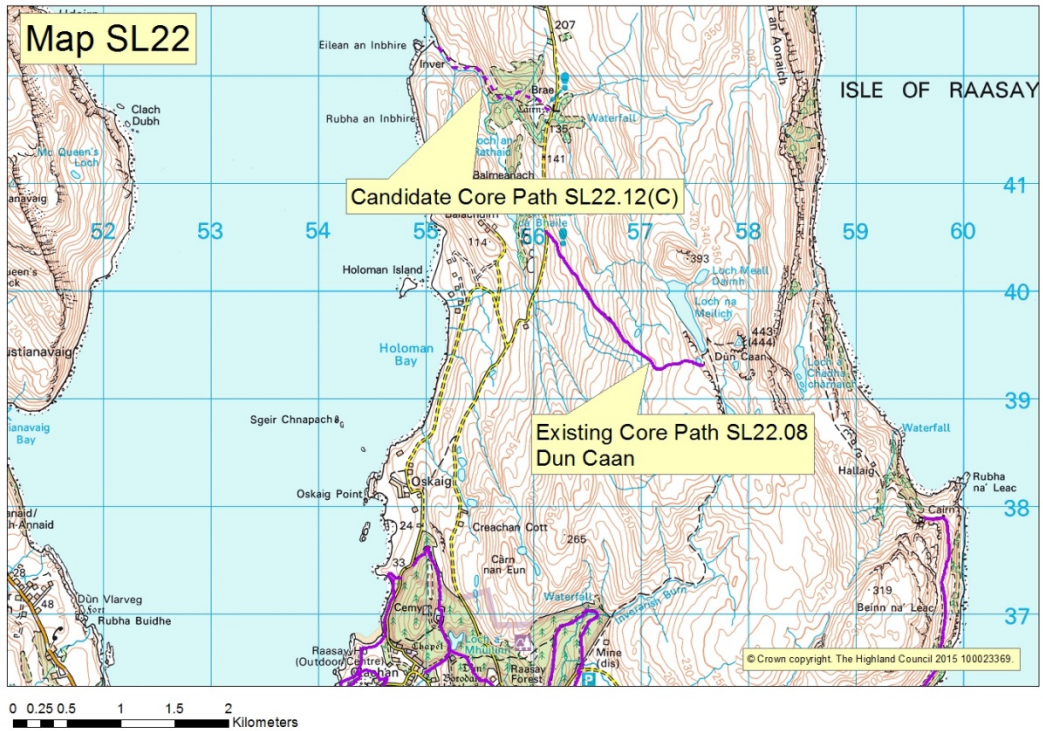




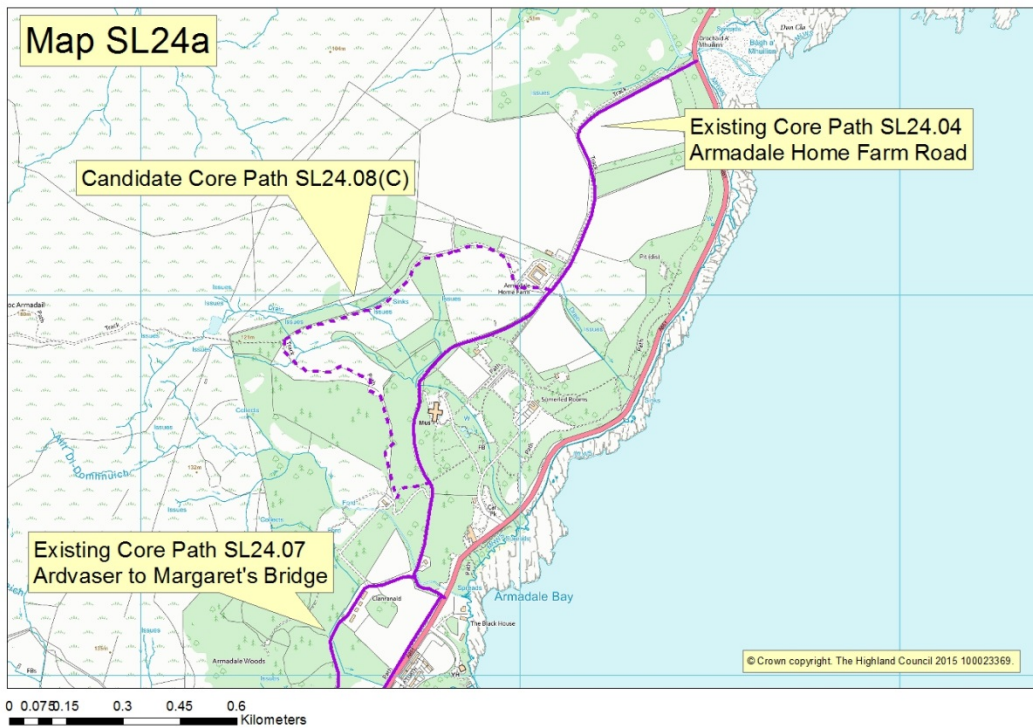
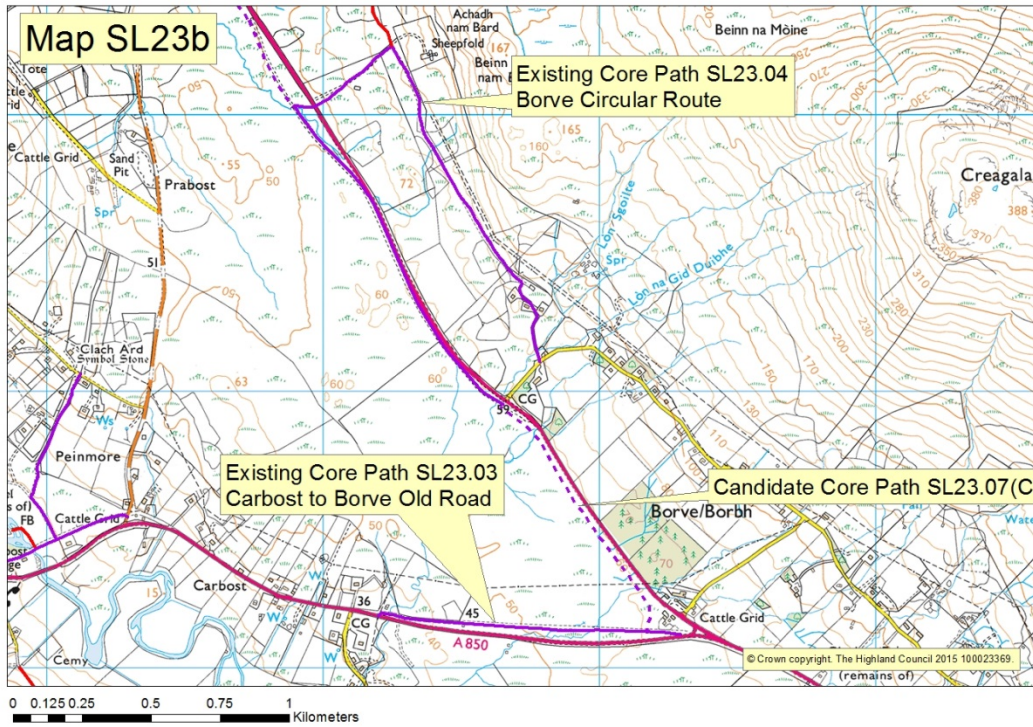


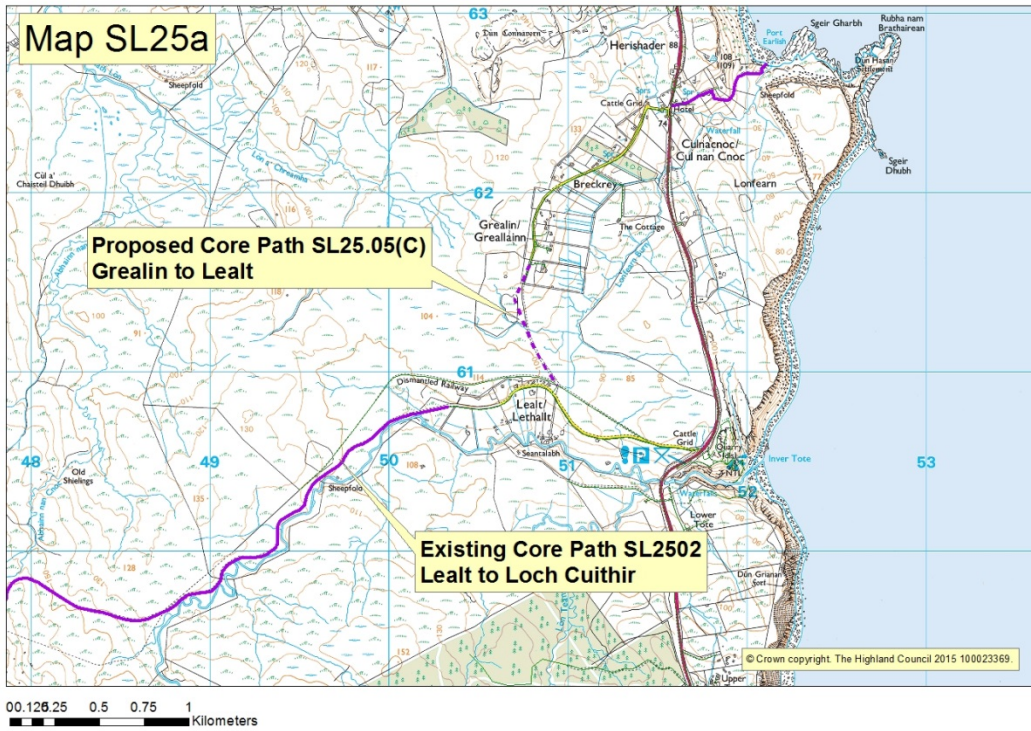
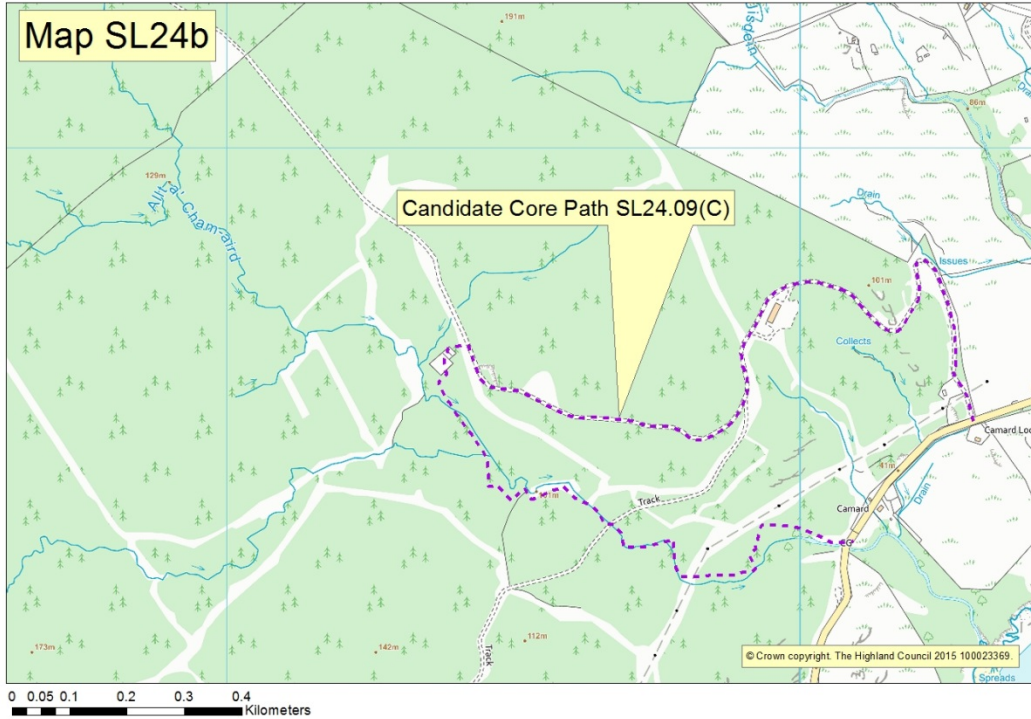




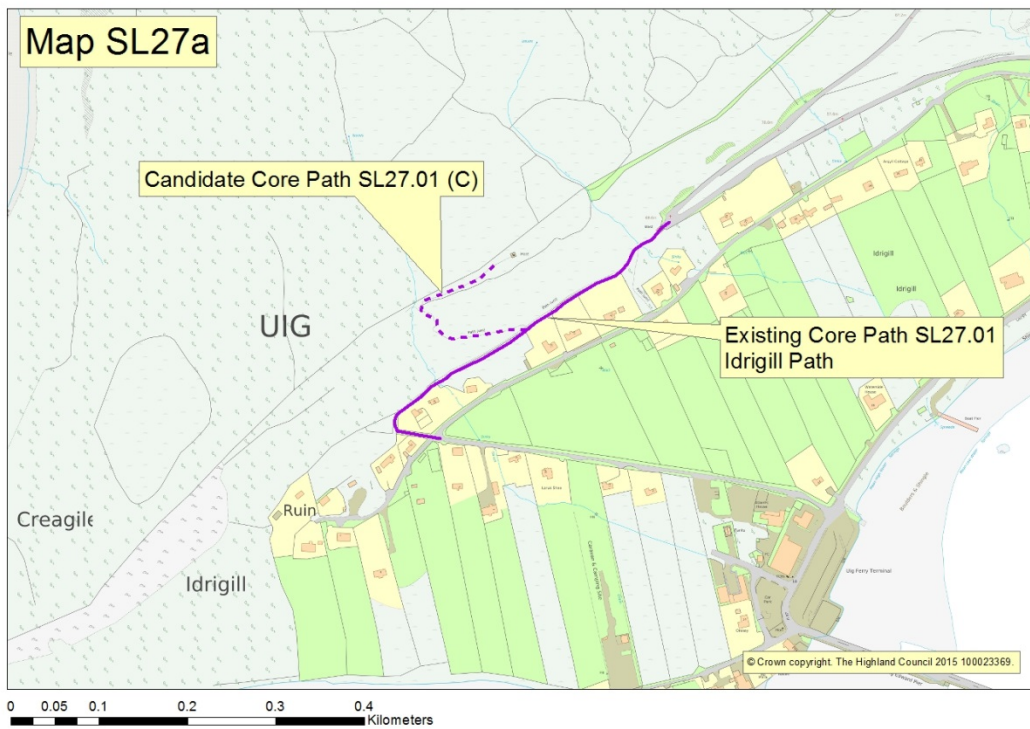
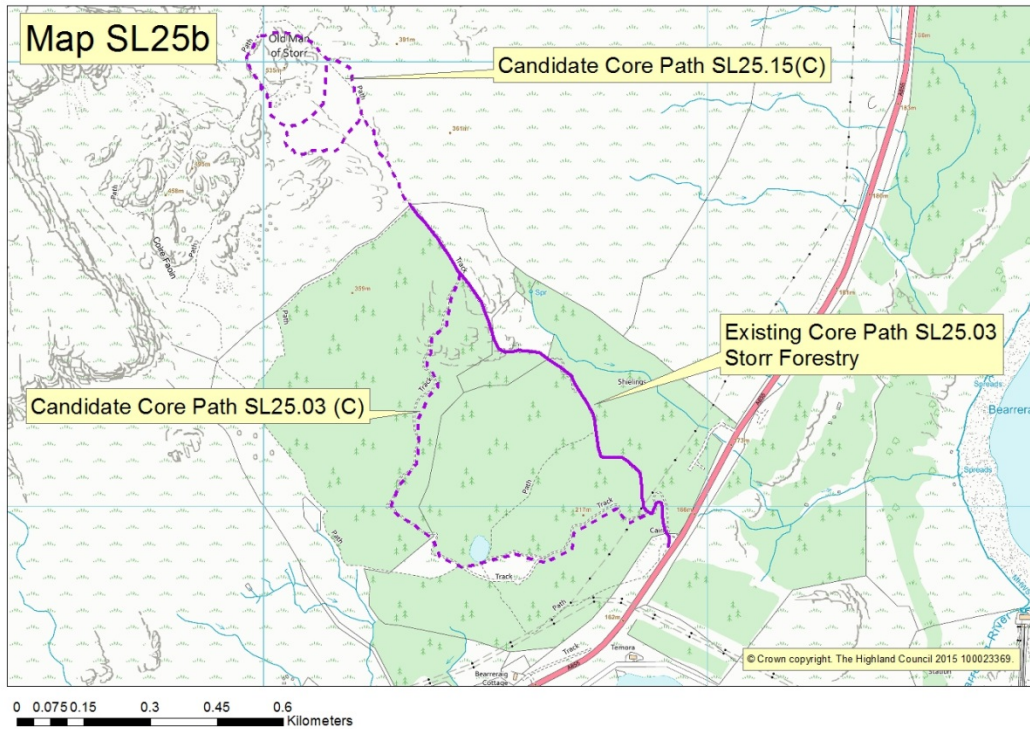


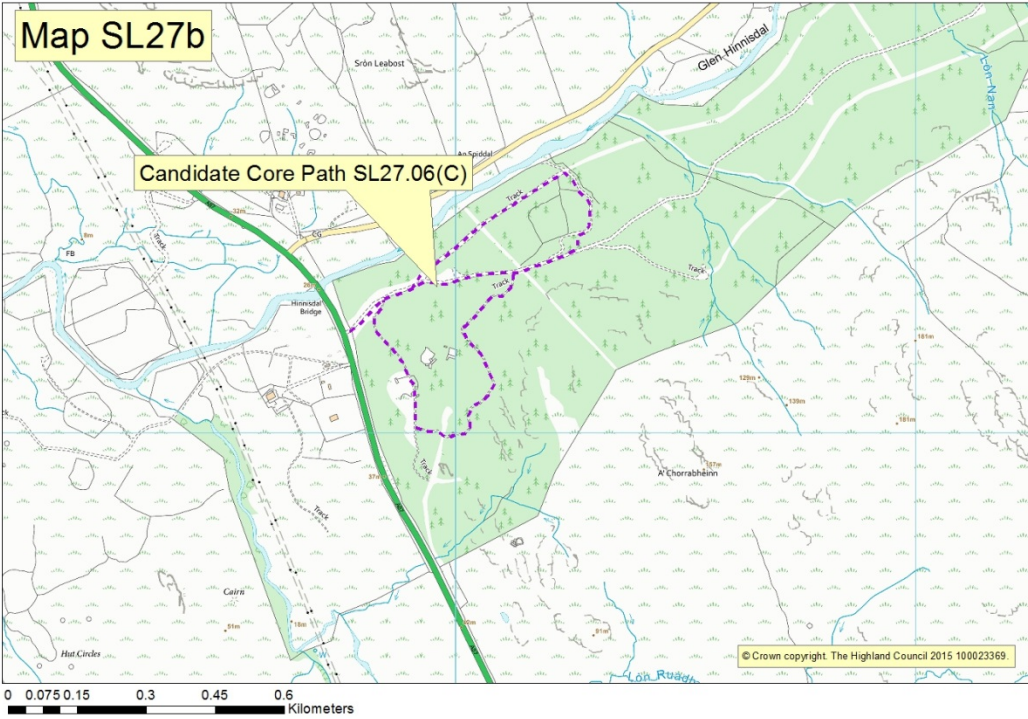












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