

The Highland Council

Agenda Item	7
Report No	SR/12/24

Committee: Isle of Skye and Raasay

Date: 3 June 2024

Report Title: Community Regeneration Fund – Assessment of Applications

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 Community Regeneration Funding (CRF) is an umbrella term used for several funds that are available for community groups and organisations to access in Highland. This includes funding streams such as the Highland Coastal Communities Fund and the Place Based Investment Programme, both of which are derived from Scottish Government, to support economic regeneration and sustainable development. Area Committees are awarded devolved allocations according to an approved formulae, and decision making on which projects should receive funding sits with elected Members.

Within Isle of Skye & Raasay, the following funds are available for distribution during 2023/24:-

- Highland Coastal Communities Fund (capital/revenue);
- Place Based Investment Programme (capital); and
- UK Shared Prosperity (separate capital and revenue allocations)

Total funding available - £500,572.83 (this is a mix of capital and revenue from the individual funding programmes above).

1.2 Broad eligibility criteria for the fund is as follows:

All projects are expected to be able to meet at least one of the following priorities:-

- economic recovery;
- community resilience;
- mitigating the impact of the climate/ecological emergency; or
- addressing the challenges of rural depopulation

Projects should be able to demonstrate that they are:-

- sustainable/viable;
- providing value for money;
- providing additionality; and
- able to evidence positive impacts and wide community benefit

1.3 The summary position at Isle of Skye and Raasay Committee on 3 June 2024 is as follows:-

- Funds awarded to date: £63,072.16 at Isle of Skye & Raasay Committee on 26 June 2023; and £393,921.37 at Isle of Skye & Raasay Committee on 12 February 2024;
- Funding underspends returned from previous funding rounds £120,362.24;
- Balance of funding remaining – £163,941.54;
- Number of applications for consideration – 3; and
- Total value of grant requests - £52,952.81

1.4 To aid Members in their decision making, the following appendices are provided to this report:-

- **Appendix 1** - Project Application Forms; and
- **Appendix 2** - Technical Assessments - RAG Summary Spreadsheet

RAG status on key criteria is based on the application form and supplementary information provided during the application process. All applications presented are technically eligible – if any criteria are marked as red this does not indicate an eligibility concern but reflects the quality of information provided or outstanding requirements that will require technical conditions to be applied to any award of funding.

2 Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:

- Consider** the applications presented and agree whether to approve, defer or reject the application. An approval of funding should detail the amount approved and outline any conditions of funding that Members wish to attach to the approval over and above the required technical conditions. A deferral would allow an applicant to resubmit the current application at a future date with updated information or for the project to be approved subject to further funding becoming available. A rejection would mean that the application will not proceed and any future application to the fund should be brought forward initially as a new expression of interest;
- Agree** the approved CRF grant award for each application up to the value of the available area allocation; and
- Agree** to ringfence up to the balance of remaining funding for a project to repair the River Rha Foot Bridge, in Uig, subject to a full application being brought to a future committee meeting for consideration.

3 Implications

3.1 **Resource** – Isle of Skye and Raasay has a remaining balance of £163,941.54 from the 2023/24 CRF allocation. Applications under consideration total £52,952.81 therefore there are no resource implications in approving the funding award as requested.

- 3.2 **Legal** - When managing external funding it is imperative that the risks to The Highland Council are assessed/mitigated and any back-to-back grant award letters with third parties, and financial claims management protect The Highland Council financial and reputational interests.
- 3.3 **Community (Equality, Poverty, Rural and Island)** - The focus of the funding is economic recovery, regeneration and community resilience. Consideration on issues relating to equalities, poverty and rurality are dealt with on an individual basis for applications and covered in the technical assessments of projects.
- 3.4 **Climate Change / Carbon Clever** - Mitigation of the climate/ecological emergency is a specific aim of the CRF funds. All applicants are required to evidence environmental sustainability as referenced in the technical assessments.
- 3.5 **Risk** - A balanced approach to risk is necessary when disbursing grant funds as sometimes it is necessary if a community led project is to proceed, to forward grant payment. Factors such as past knowledge of and project experience of the grant recipient, release of funds related to invoices/works completion certificates etc are considered in such assessments.
- 3.6 **Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)** – No risks arising directly from this report. Risks within projects are identified and managed on a project-by-project basis by the applicant organisation.
- 3.7 **Gaelic** - Consideration given within individual project applications in line with the Council's policy.

Designation: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

Date: 15 May 2024

Author: Fiona Cameron, CRF Programme Manager
Marie-Anne Gray, CRF Project Officer

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix 1 – Project application forms
Appendix 2 – Project technical assessments – RAG Summary spreadsheet

Community Regeneration Funding (CRF) Application Form (v3 Oct 2023)

Key considerations

Please refer to the [Application Guidance](#) (link below) and [Fair Work First Summary Guidance](#) when completing the application form as there are important supplementary information you need to be aware of. Answer the questions concisely, describing clearly and directly what the project you are seeking funding for is delivering, and the outputs it hopes to achieve. Do not exceed the word limit given as the CRF Team and decision-making group have many applications to assess.

To ensure you have the best opportunity to score well during the assessment, please refer to the [Assessment Criteria Matrix](#) (link below) when completing the application form.

A Fair Work First statement must be provided with the application form - this is applicable for all applicants including those who do not employ staff and/or only work with volunteers.

Supporting documentation must be submitted with the application form (see section 8.2).

Projects must not incur expenditure before the project has been approved.

Please complete the [CRF Monitoring and Evaluation Framework](#) detailed from page 10 at the end of this form.

When detailing your project budget, ensure that costs are based on recent quotations or price comparisons. Accuracy is crucial, given the current challenges posed by market inflation. We seek well-developed and robust projects that can commence within three months of approval and be completed and claimed within 12 months.

Double click the icons to download:



CRF Assessment
Criteria Matrix.pdf



CRF application
Guidance (v3 Oct 23).1

SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

1.1	Project reference number	CRF2346
1.2	Organisation	Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations (SLCVO)
1.3	Project title	Empower Skye and Lochalsh Programme
1.4	Project summary you wish to be funded (max 100 words)	<p>This is a transformative three-year programme through which we will empower communities, enhance partnerships, and prioritise holistic wellbeing.</p> <p>Central to this is SLCVOs management of the Skye and Raasay Future Plan, ensuring inclusive representation and participation from local communities. Simultaneously, we will establish a Third Sector Health, Wellbeing, Welfare and Social Care</p>

		<p>Consortium, aimed at fortifying third sector relationships and fostering a healthier, more resilient community.</p> <p>Through these initiatives, we aspire to strengthen communities, elevate health, wellbeing and welfare outcomes, and forge enduring connections that enrich the lives of families, children, and individuals throughout Skye and Lochalsh.</p>	
1.5	Project costs	Total project cost	£49,767.57
		Match funding	£19,000
		CRF grant requested	£30,767.57
1.6	Start date (<i>from 1st March 2024 unless specified when you're invited to submit a full application</i>)	10/06/2024	
1.7	End date (<i>by 1st March 2025</i>)	31/05/2025	
1.8	Please confirm you have read and understood the CRF privacy notice	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
1.9	Please choose ONE main strategic objective the project will meet (see Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for definitions at the end of this form)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Increasing community resilience
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Tackling poverty and inequality
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Addressing causes of rural depopulation
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Helping economic recovery and sustaining growth
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Tackling the climate emergency and working towards net zero

SECTION 2: CONTACT AND ORGANISATION DETAILS

2.1	Organisation	Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations (SLCVO)	
2.2	Address and postcode	Tigh Lisigarry, Bridge Road, Portree, Isle of Skye IV51 9UP	
2.3	Main contact name		
2.4	Position in the organisation	Chief Officer	
2.5	Contact number		
2.6	Email address		
2.7	Website address	www.slcvo.org.uk	
2.8	Organisation type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Company limited by guarantee
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Constituted group
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Public body
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Charity

		<input type="checkbox"/>	SCIO
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify):
2.9	Organisation registered number	A Charity Registered in Scotland SC013885 Company Limited by Guarantee SC0177372	
2.10	Is the organisation VAT registered?	<p>By confirming this, you are declaring the organisation VAT status as per HMRC. If this changes at any time during the project, you <u>must</u> notify the CRF Team as this may affect the offer of grant.</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
2.11	If the organisation is VAT registered, please provide the number.		
2.12	Is the VAT related to the project being reclaimed from HMRC?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whole
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Partial
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
2.13	Provide details of VAT exemptions.		

SECTION 3: PROJECT DETAILS

3.1	Please confirm the location of the project including post code.	Skye and Lochalsh IV40, IV41, IV42, IV43, IV44, IV45, IV46, IV47, IV48, IV49, IV51, IV52, IV53, IV55, IV56	
3.2	Are you applying on behalf of a partnership project?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3.3	Is there a partnership agreement in place?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3.4	Is your organisation the lead applicant?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3.5	Do you own the land or asset?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
3.6	Are you leasing the land or asset?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3.7	If ownership or lease agreements are not in place, please provide details if applied and/or the arrangements to obtain these and by when.		
3.8	Does the project require planning permission or other statutory regulatory consents?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3.9	If consents are required, please provide details if applied and/or the arrangements to obtain these and by when.		

SECTION 4: THE PROJECT PROPOSAL

4.1 List the main activities to deliver the project including timescales. Projects must be completed and fully claimed by 1st March 2025.

Activity name	Achieve by (date)
Establish programme resources and governance	30/06/2024
Form the Skye and Lochalsh HWWS Consortium steering group	31/07/2024
Establish strategies and protocols to improve SARF management	31/08/2024
Establish a process for sharing information to third sector groups	31/08/2024
Expand understanding of consortium members governance and activities	30/09/2024
Conduct desk top research and community engagement for health, wellbeing, welfare and social care needs	31/10/2024
Map third sector provision in Skye and Lochalsh	31/12/2024
Review the existing SARF delivery program	31/12/2024
Identify SARF outcomes necessitating further attention and incorporate new initiatives/projects	31/12/2024
Map health, wellbeing, welfare and social care needs to the objectives and outcomes of key strategic plans	31/12/2024
Develop a Skye and Lochalsh Third Sector Profile	31/03/2025
Develop a Skye and Lochalsh Health, Wellbeing, Welfare and Social Care Plan	31/03/2025
Engage with SARF and Lochalsh Collaborates boards to integrate/match consortium actions/project into their plans	31/03/2025
Work with the public sector and other bodies to identify funding and commissioning options	31/03/2025
Establish a Skye and Lochalsh Health, Wellbeing, Welfare and Social Care Plan Delivery Programme	30/06/2025

4.2 Please describe the project, explaining how it will achieve at least one of the funds' strategic objectives selected in 1.7, and which outputs it hopes to achieve as listed in the CRF Monitoring and Evaluation Framework at the end of this form.

The Empower Skye and Lochalsh Programme aims to increase community resilience, improve third sector sustainable growth, and improve outcomes for all members of the community.

The programme comprises of two projects.

- **Project 1 – SLCVO Management of the Skye and Raasay Future (SARF) Plan** This project establishes SLCVO as the supporting body for the SARF Board for three years. It will help to improve outcomes for everyone across the area by supporting the board to manage and advance the SARF Delivery Programme.
- **Project 2 – Skye and Lochalsh Health, Wellbeing, Welfare and Social Care (HWWS) Consortium.** This project supports the development of a third sector health, wellbeing, welfare and social care consortium, which will enhance co-production, improve outcomes for families, children and individuals, reinforce community resilience and support sustainable growth.

Programme Outcomes

- **Community Empowerment and Participation:** The management of the SARF Plan by SLCVO will provide opportunities for equitable representation and participation from communities and third sector organisations, fostering community empowerment and ownership of the SARF Delivery Programme.
- **Community Resilience:** The establishment of a Skye and Lochalsh HWWS Consortium will strengthen partnerships between the third and public sector, enhance third sector collaboration and improve outcomes for families, children, and individuals in Skye and Lochalsh.
- **Holistic Service Provision:** the HWWS Consortium will build and deliver third sector services and activities, addressing the diverse health, wellbeing, and welfare needs of the communities in Skye and Lochalsh.
- **Capacity Building and Sustainable Growth:** The Empower Skye and Lochalsh Programme will support organisational capacity and sustainable development in the third sector. Ensuring that groups have the necessary skills, resources, and support to deliver effective services and projects, ultimately improving outcomes for beneficiaries.
- **Innovation and Knowledge Sharing:** By facilitating the exchange of expertise, knowledge, and experiences the Empower Skye and Lochalsh Programme fosters innovation and promotes continuous learning.

The programme will run for three years. In year 1 SLCVO will:

- Establish strategies and protocols to improve SARF management, including:
 - A schedule for managing SARF meetings, delivery programme reviews and engagement activities.
 - An engagement and communication strategy focusing on the third sector and local communities
 - A monitoring and feedback process for organisations delivering initiatives detailed in the SARF Deliver Programme
- Review the existing SARF Delivery Program, identifying outcomes in need of additional focus, removing finished or outdated projects, and investigating potential new initiatives to supplement and bolster SARF objectives
- Form a Skye and Lochalsh HWWS Consortium steering group to:
 - Establish and build relationships between third sector groups
 - Develop a Terms of Reference
 - Establish a cohesive third sector voice in strategic health & social care and community planning
 - Work with the public sector and other bodies to identify and improve funding and commissioning options
 - Review formal consortium structures with a view to establishing in years 2/3
 - Provide development guidance for the programme in Years 2 & 3
- Carry out desk top research and community engagement to establish community need in relation to health, wellbeing, welfare and social care.
- Map the third sector in Skye and Lochalsh to establish a baseline for current provision and create a third sector area profile.
- Ascertain how health, wellbeing, welfare and social care needs align with the objectives and outcomes of national, regional and local plans, including community-led action/place plans SARF and Lochalsh Collaborates.
- Connect third sector organisations to the broader community planning landscape, ensuring awareness of relevant legislation and policy impact.
- Develop a Skye and Lochalsh Health, Wellbeing, Welfare and Social Care Plan that will define the shared values, ambitions, and priorities of the consortium, and support the design and delivery of services where the third sector has the greatest potential to contribute.

- Work with consortium members to gain in-depth understanding of each group, ensuring their governance and cultures are considered when developing a formal consortium.
- Develop/identify a process for sharing information to third sector groups about funding opportunities, capacity development, training and skills opportunities, community planning, good practice and new initiatives.
- Facilitate SARF and Skye and Lochalsh HHWS Consortium meetings, including tasks such as managing mailing lists, preparing agendas, hosting sessions, recording minutes, and distributing relevant documentation to stakeholders.

In years 2 and 3 SLCVO will:

- Facilitate SARF and Skye and Lochalsh HHWS Consortium meetings,
- Ensure effective management and execution of the SARF strategies and protocols
- Support the Skye and Lochalsh HHWS Consortium to manage and implement their plan

Programme Management and Delivery

The Programme will be managed by SLCVOs Chief Officer who is accountable to SLCVOs board of Directors representing third-sector organisations from across Skye and Lochalsh, including community interest companies, development trusts, health and wellbeing service providers, community councils, and community facilities.

To support year 1 activities there will be a new part-time position ‘Research and Engagement Officer’ for 12 months (70%FTE fully funded via this programme) and 55% FTE of an existing Senior Development Officer role (15% funded through SLCVOs unrestricted reserves and 30% funded via this programme)

4.3 How will the project benefit local communities or the local economy?

The Empower Skye and Lochalsh Programme serves as a vital resource for all participants and sectors engaged in community planning across Skye and Lochalsh, providing a centralised point of contact, knowledge and information through SLCVO.

This initiative facilitates several key benefits for the third sector and local communities:

- **Enhanced Understanding:** By fostering collaboration and networking opportunities, the programme facilitates a shared and comprehensive understanding of the diverse activities delivered by the third sector and communities in Skye and Lochalsh. This insight enables stakeholders to better address community needs and priorities.
- **Improved Collaboration:** The programme expands opportunities for collaboration, networking, and co-production among stakeholders, creating synergies that enhance the effectiveness of community initiatives and projects.
- **Updated Evidence:** Through ongoing research and engagement efforts, the programme ensures that current evidence of need for health, wellbeing, welfare and social care is updated and accessible, informing strategic decision-making and resource allocation.
- **Alignment of Initiatives:** By connecting outcomes and delivery initiatives from key community plans such as SARF, Lochalsh Collaborates, and SLWR Community Partnership, the programme promotes alignment and coherence in community development efforts, maximising impact and efficiency.

SLCVO's management of SARF directly benefits the local community by ensuring the effective delivery and advancement of the plan. This includes maintaining shared values, ambitions, and priorities, outlining current and future actions and investments, and serving as an investment

portfolio for Skye and Raasay. Additionally, the project supports the SARF Board in maintaining oversight, maximising investment advantages, and revitalising relationships among stakeholders for dynamic and coordinated project delivery.

The Skye and Lochalsh Health, Wellbeing, and Social Care Consortium offers significant benefits to the local third sector. By advocating for consortium members' interests in strategic planning activities, the consortium ensures the third sector's influence and impact on policy development. Moreover, it enhances understanding of the third sector's potential contributions and facilitates capacity building by sharing expertise, knowledge, and experiences. This empowers third sector organisations to effectively research, design, and deliver projects, ultimately improving outcomes for beneficiaries.

4.4 What local need or opportunity will the project address and has this been recognised in a local plan?

Need and Opportunity

Community development is generally centered around place based plans and solutions. In Skye and Lochalsh there are two Area Plans

- Skye and Raasay Future Plan led by the Highland Council
- Lochalsh Community Action Plan 2022 led by Kyle and Lochalsh Community Trust.

Alongside these, development trusts have community based plans and thematic initiatives advocate on their members behalf including:

- Skye Connect who represent businesses and individuals with interests in Skye's tourism
- Skye Climate Action, a collaborative network established to address the Climate Emergency.
- Skye NHS SOS, a campaigning group for improved clinical services in the area

Health, wellbeing, welfare and social care third sector groups do not have a thematic network to advocate on their behalf and many work across the boundaries of area and community based plans, moreover:

- The majority rely on short-term funding, leading to the creation of short-lived projects and an underlying sense of competition, resulting in most groups operating in isolation.
- Funders require substantial evidence of need, favoring services/projects developed through co-production and partnerships.
- Public sector commission and funding is moving towards a place based structure, using Area Place Plans to determine funding priorities.

The Empower Skye and Lochalsh Programme will establish a new thematic network, the Skye and Lochalsh HWWS Consortium, that will support third sector groups by:

- Advocating on their behalf
- Leveraging funding and capacity development opportunities
- Engaging with communities to better understand needs
- Working with and public sector commissioners and other funders to ensure Skye and Lochalsh HWWS Consortium objectives, outcomes and solutions are part of area place based plans and funding.

Planning

SARF's objective 'Organising Ourselves' aims to establish a cohesive and inclusive partnership among various groups and organisations. Similarly, the Lochalsh Community Action Plan aims to foster collaboration between public agencies and local organisations to address key priorities.

This program will:

- Assist the SARF Board in overseeing and promoting SARFs Delivery Programme, fostering active community involvement and cooperation to achieve common goals for the area's future.
- Support the Lochalsh Collaboration to facilitate co-production and collaboration efforts.

The program also supports SARF's objectives of 'Strengthening Communities and Health and Education', as well as Lochalsh Collaboration outcomes 'Nurturing the next generation and Caring for more vulnerable community members' by:

- Cultivating partnerships to facilitate effective collaboration.
- Building third sector capacity to enhance resilience and improve outcomes for families, children, and individuals
- Establishing robust community networks to inform service design and delivery.

4.5 How do you know there is local support for the project? How can you evidence this?

The Empower Skye and Lochalsh Programme has been developed over a number of years through SLCVO:

- Supporting third sector groups as the Highland Third Sector Interface (HTSI) Rural Delivery Partner.
- Participating in local planning initiatives (SARF Board, Skye, Lochalsh and Wester Ross Community Partnership, Lochalsh Collaboration and Sir Lewis Ritchie Implementation Steering Group).
- Carrying out programme feasibility inquiries during the last six months.

Skye and Lochalsh Health, Wellbeing, Welfare and Social Care (HWWS) Consortium.

SLCVO's third sector review of the Highland Health and Social Care Partnership, Adult Services Strategic Plan 2024 - 2027 in September 2023, (37 organisations) identified an increasing reliance on community-led support, the need for greater third sector collaboration, and sustainability issues due to short-term funding options. Through further 1:1 discussions with groups, a solution of a formal consortium that could bring together the third sector, co-produce with the public sector and improve person centred services was developed.

In March 2024, SLCVO hosted a community-led co-production visioning session, facilitated by Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC) as part of their support package for the programme. It was attended by Counselling Care Skye and Lochalsh, Skye and Lochalsh Young Carers, Viewfield Garden Collective, Kyleakin Connections, Rag Tag and Textile, Skye and Lochalsh Mental Health Association, Alzheimer's Scotland and Kyle and Lochalsh Community Trust, The session considered what a good co-produced health and social care system in Skye and Lochalsh would look like in 5 years' time and how this can be achieved. The session endorsed SLCVO to take the consortium forward developing:

- Co-production opportunities in health, wellbeing welfare and social care services based on strong (locally-generated) evidence of need.
- A connected approach to funding with shared knowledge of, and access to, local and national funding sources.
- Succession planning in third sector groups to ensure continuing robust governance of local services.
- Community/voluntary sector influence over wider service provision through a trusting relationship with the public sector.

SLCVO Management of the Skye and Raasay Future (SARF). Plan

To achieve the objectives of the SARF Plan, it needs to be managed and driven forward by an organisation capable of supporting the SARF board. SLCVO were approached by a member of the SARF board to look at how we could support this. We met with a sub-group of the Board in March 2024 to discuss our proposal which has been agreed.

4.6 How will the project be supported/maintained/sustained after CRF funding?

Ensuring the long-term sustainability of the programme beyond Community Regeneration Funding is essential for its continued success and impact. Several strategies will be implemented to support, maintain, and sustain the programme:

- **Funding Sources:** In Years 2 and 3, funding to facilitate SARF and Skye and Lochalsh HWWS Consortium meetings will be from SLCVO's HTSI Grant (assuming a continuation of the HTSI grant) and unrestricted reserves if necessary. We will also seek new grant opportunities for activities that support the Skye and Lochalsh HWWS Consortium to manage and implement their plan.
- **Partnerships and Collaborations:** We will continue to cultivate partnerships and collaborations with other organisations, public agencies, community groups, and stakeholders to leverage collective resources, expertise, and networks, thus sharing responsibilities to sustain programme activities and initiatives.
- **Capacity Building:** By investing in capacity building efforts for programme staff, consortium members and SARF delivery groups, we will enhance the programmes resilience and effectiveness. By equipping programme staff and consortium members with the necessary tools and knowledge, we can adapt to changing circumstances and navigate challenges more effectively.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Implementing robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms allows us to track progress, measure outcomes, and assess the impact of the programme. By collecting data and evidence on programme performance, we can identify areas of success, address challenges, and make informed decisions to optimise resource allocation and improve effectiveness.
- **Institutionalisation of Best Practices:** Institutionalising best practices and lessons learned from the programme ensures that valuable knowledge and experiences are integrated into organisational policies, procedures, and practices. By embedding these practices into routine operations, we can maintain quality standards, efficiency, and effectiveness over time.
- **Adaptability and Flexibility:** Remaining adaptable and flexible in response to changing circumstances, needs, and priorities is crucial for sustaining the programmes relevance and impact. By continuously monitoring the external environment, engaging stakeholders, and adjusting strategies accordingly, we can stay responsive and resilient in the face of evolving challenges and opportunities.
- **Community Engagement:** Through ongoing community engagement initiatives, and involvement in project planning and implementation, residents become invested in its success and are more likely to support and sustain it over the long term.

By implementing these strategies in a coordinated and proactive manner, we can support, maintain, and sustain the programmes impact and legacy beyond the initial CRF funding period, ensuring its continued contribution to community renewal and development.

4.7	What will be the lasting benefits and legacy?
<p>The Empower Skye and Lochalsh Programme is poised to yield lasting benefits and leave a significant legacy in the community. Over its three-year duration, the programme aims to fortify community resilience, foster sustainable growth within the third sector, and enhance outcomes for all community members.</p> <p>Comprising two projects, the programme is designed for enduring impact. The first project, supports the Skye and Raasay Future (SARF) Plan, enhancing community outcomes by providing strategic support for SARF's delivery. The second project, the Skye and Lochalsh Health, Wellbeing, Welfare, and Social Care (HWWS) Consortium, facilitates collaborative efforts to improve outcomes for families, children, and individuals while reinforcing community resilience and sustainable growth.</p> <p>The programme's outcomes are far-reaching and impactful. Community empowerment and participation are prioritised, ensuring equitable representation and fostering ownership of SARF's Delivery Programme. The establishment of the HWWS Consortium strengthens partnerships, enhances collaboration, and addresses diverse community needs. Joint third sector service provision ensures that community health, wellbeing, and welfare needs are comprehensively met, while capacity building efforts support sustainable development within the sector. Additionally, the programme promotes innovation and knowledge sharing, fostering continuous learning and improvement.</p> <p>In its first year, the programme will lay the groundwork for success. Protocols for SARF management will be established, existing delivery programme projects will be reviewed, and the HWWS Consortium will be formed, laying the foundation for collaboration and strategic planning. Community engagement and research will inform the development of a comprehensive plan to address community needs, aligning with national, regional, and local objectives.</p> <p>In subsequent years, SLCVO will continue to facilitate meetings, support programme execution, and ensure effective management of strategies and protocols. With accountability to SLCVO's board of Directors, the programme will be managed by experienced leadership, supported by dedicated staff including a Research and Engagement Officer and a Senior Development Officer.</p> <p>By nurturing partnerships, fostering community engagement, and prioritising sustainability, the Empower Skye and Lochalsh Programme will leave a lasting legacy, empowering communities and improving outcomes.</p>	
4.8	Describe how you intend to mitigate negative environmental impacts that may arise in delivering the project. It may be that the project specifically seeks to address climate change issues or implement net zero ambitions/solutions.
<p>To mitigate negative environmental impacts during programme delivery, we will follow sustainable practices throughout the programme lifecycle. This commitment entails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telecommuting and Remote Work: Encouraging telecommuting and remote work options to reduce the need for commuting and office space, thereby lowering carbon emissions associated with transportation and energy use in facilities. 	

- **Eco-friendly Materials:** Prioritising the use of environmentally friendly materials in office supplies, equipment, and infrastructure. This includes sourcing recycled or sustainably sourced paper, furniture made from renewable materials, and non-toxic cleaning products.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Implementing energy-saving measures such as installing LED lighting, utilizing energy-efficient appliances, and optimizing heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems to minimize energy consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Waste Reduction:** Implementing waste reduction strategies such as paperless workflows, recycling programs for paper, plastic, glass, and electronic waste, and composting organic waste. Additionally, we will encourage employees to minimize single-use plastics and adopt reusable alternatives.
- **Environmental Training and Awareness:** Providing employees with resources to raise awareness about environmental issues and promote sustainable practices in the workplace..

By integrating these sustainable practices into our programme, we aim to minimize negative environmental impacts, conserve natural resources, and contribute to a more sustainable future.

4.9 In developing the project, explain how you have considered equalities issues and taken groups with protected characteristics into account in the development/delivery of the project. How will you ensure that no one is excluded or disadvantaged from benefitting from the project? Will the project target specific groups for example?

Although not directly working with individuals, through the Programme SLCVO will work with groups that support individuals with protected characteristic, and some members of the programme may require additional support to participate in activities. To ensure we take into account groups with protected characteristics we will observe the following practices throughout the programme lifecycle:

- **Accessibility Measures:** Throughout programme implementation, we will prioritise accessibility by ensuring that all programme-related information, resources, and services are easily accessible to individuals with disabilities. This includes providing alternative formats for communication, ensuring physical accessibility in facilities, and accommodating diverse needs in event planning and participation.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** We will engage with diverse stakeholders, including representatives from marginalised communities and advocacy groups, to gather insights and feedback on how the programme might affect different populations. This collaborative approach allows us to tailor our strategies to better meet the needs of all stakeholders, ensuring inclusivity and equity in decision-making processes.
- **Inclusive Planning:** By understanding the specific needs and challenges faced by third sector groups and the people they support, we will incorporate relevant considerations into programme planning.
- **Mitigation Strategies:** Wherever possible, we integrated specific mitigation strategies to address inequalities and promote social inclusion. This might involve targeted outreach and engagement efforts, affirmative action measures to ensure representation and participation, and dedicated resources to support marginalised groups in accessing programme opportunities.
- **Training and Awareness:** We provided awareness-raising initiatives for programme staff and partners to foster a culture of equality, diversity, and inclusion. This includes promoting understanding of different perspectives, challenging biases and stereotypes, and cultivating empathy and respect for diverse experiences and identities.

By systematically considering equalities issues and actively involving groups with protected characteristics in the development and delivery of the programme, we strive to create a more inclusive and equitable outcome that benefits all members of the community.

4.10 All applicants are required to provide a statement how the organisation is committed to advancing the [Fair Work First Policy](#) including the 'Real Living Wage' and 'Effective Workers Voice' criteria. The statement should be agreed jointly by the employer and an appropriate workplace representative or a trade union representative if one is in place.

This statement is applicable to all groups and organisations even if you do not employ staff and/or only work with volunteers. Projects cannot progress without a signed statement - refer to the [Fair Work First guidance](#) for more information. Complete the following Fair Work First Statement and Declaration form and submit with the application. Double click the icon to download.



<p>Have you provided a Fair Work First statement in a separate document with this application? Please ensure it is signed by an appropriate workplace representative.</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Can you confirm if you have the Living Wage Accreditation and/or planning to be certified.</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applied <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Is the Fair Work First statement on your organisation website?</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Do not have a website <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>How many people do you employ or how many volunteers do you have?</p>	<p>Employ 2 Volunteers via befriending project 18</p>
<p>Do you currently pay the Real Living Wage hourly rate?</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>As part of your procurement assessment process, do you ensure that traders/suppliers pay the Real Living Wage hourly rate?</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>How do you provide channels for Effective Voice in the workplace for staff and/or volunteers?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Line Management Relationship <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staff /Engagement Surveys <input type="checkbox"/> Suggestions Schemes <input type="checkbox"/> Intranet/Online Platforms <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staff Forums / Networks <input type="checkbox"/> Trade Union Recognition/Collective Bargaining</p>

SECTION 5: PROJECT BUDGET

5.1 Main project expenditure – costs should be as accurate and current as possible from recent quotations or price comparisons. Please refer to the guidance note on eligible expenditure and only complete the overheads and management fees summary where you would like to claim more than 10% of costs.



CRF overheads and management fees sur

Budget Heading	Detailed costs	Revenue/Capital	Amount
Programme Staff costs	55% FTE Senior Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1001 hours @ £19.38 per hour £19,399.38 70% FTE Research and Engagement Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1274 hours @ £14.28 per hour £18,192.72 National Insurance for both roles @13.8% = £5,187.71 Pension for both roles @ 3% = £1,127.76		£ 43,907.57
Programme activity costs	SARF community engagement events 6 sessions HWSC Collaboration third sector and community engagement activities 12 sessions		3,780
Programme overheads	Includes: Insurance, Utilities, Telephone and internet, Promotion and postage, Travel & subsistence, Licences and subscriptions, Rates and water, Fire Safety, Payroll fees 130 days @ 16.00 a day £2,080		2,080
Total revenue expenditure			£49,767.57
Total capital expenditure			£
TOTAL PROJECT COST year 1			£49,767.57
Is VAT included in these costs?			Yes x No
VAT included in these costs?			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Additional notes about Year 2 and 3 costs – not funded by CRF

Budget Heading	Detailed costs	Revenue/Capital	Amount
Programme Staff costs	Year 2 not funded by CFR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARF and Skye and Lochalsh HWWS Consortium Management 15% FTE Senior Officer 6,668 Year 3 not funded by CFR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARF and Skye and Lochalsh HWWS Consortium Management 15% FTE Senior Officer 7,002 		13,607
Programme overheads	Years 2 & 3 not funded by CFR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARF and Skye and Lochalsh HWWS Consortium Management 80 days @ 16.00 a day 1,280 		1,280
Total revenue expenditure years 2 and 3 not funded via CRF			£14,887

5.2	Reasonableness of cost - please explain how you have obtained project costs listed in 5.1. These should be from recent price comparisons or quotations but if you have not been able to achieve this, explain how costs were developed.	<p>In the first year, staff costs are calculated based on the salaries for 2024/25. For the subsequent years, staff costs consider a potential 5% increase, reflecting the pay raise from the previous year.</p> <p>Program activity costs for the first year are determined by venue hire [REDACTED] priced at £135 for half a day (estimated for 18 sessions, totalling £2,430) and session refreshments/lunch [REDACTED] at £7.50 per person (accommodating 10 individuals per session, totalling £1,350).</p> <p>Over the span of years 1 to 3, overheads and management fees have been calculated using the expenses incurred over the past three years by SLCVO.</p>
5.3	Please explain how your project will achieve value for money.	<p>The Programme aims to achieve value for money through several key strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efficient Resource Allocation: We carefully allocate resources to ensure they are used effectively and efficiently. This involves prioritising tasks, optimising workflows, and minimising waste. Cost-Effective Solutions: We seek out cost-effective solutions that meet programme requirements without unnecessary spending such as leveraging existing resources and

		<p>research (e.g. Whole Family Wellbeing Programme and NHS Highland area Profiles).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Monitoring: We continuously monitor project performance to identify areas for improvement and ensure that resources are being used effectively. This allows us to make adjustments as needed to optimize value for money. • Stakeholder Engagement: We actively engage with stakeholders to understand their needs and priorities, ensuring that resources are allocated in a way that maximises value for all parties involved.
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SECTION 6 – MATCH FUNDING			
6.1 Match funding details – All projects must start within three months of approval.			
Name of funder	Confirmed	Date confirmed or expected	Amount £
SLCVO unrestricted reserves	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	April 2024	6,500
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	May 2024	12,500
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Total match funding			£19,000
CRF requested			£30,767.57
Total project cost			£49,767.57
32,542 6.2	Will the project involve “in kind” support?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
6.3	If yes, please detail.	The Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC) has committed to providing 12 months free support to help SLCVO to establish the Third Sector Health, Wellbeing, Welfare and Social Care Consortium	

<p>6.4</p>	<p>Please explain why public funding is required to deliver the project.</p>	<p>Public funding is required to deliver the programme for several reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Delivery: The programme provides support to the public sector to achieve their strategic outcomes including the Highland Council Delivery Plan 2024 – 2027, Highland Outcome Improvement Plan (HOIP) 2017-2027, NHS Together We Care Strategy, Highland Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan for Adult Services 2024-2027, Children’s Services Plans 2023 -2026 • Public Good: It generates benefits that extend beyond the applying organisation, SLCVO, it will help health, wellbeing, welfare and social care third sector groups to be better informed, sustainable and resilient to deliver projects thereby providing direct benefits to society as a whole,. • Long-term Investment: The programme, particularly the consortium project, will require long-term Investments beyond the first 12 months of funding. Public funding gives a foundation from which SLCVO and consortium members can attract long-term funding to enhance outcomes for all community members. • Social Equity: The programme will develop/support new services and projects that will benefit marginalised and underserved communities of the area, enhancing social equity by promoting equality and inclusivity.
<p>6.5</p>	<p>Please explain what the remaining bank balances are for in your accounts.</p>	<p>As of the 31st March 2024 SLCVO bank balance = £180,082.07 of this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £85,000 are designated contingency funds (note 12 in 2022/23 accounts) this covers: 6 months operating costs, staff redundancies and operational change/closure. • £22,000 est. are restricted funds for the Befrienders service for 2024/2025.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaving an estimated £73,082.07 of unrestricted funds <p>Note: estimated figures are based on SLCVO financial records for 2023/2024 which are to be reviewed by external account when producing year-end statutory accounts. We do not anticipate too much change.</p>
6.6	Please explain why unrestricted funding in your annual accounts cannot be used to deliver the project and/or used as match funding.	<p>SLCVOs finance policy allows for unrestricted reserves to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working capital that protects the continuity of our core work Risks such as unforeseen expenditure and building maintenance Funding for unexpected opportunities <p>For the 2024/25 period guaranteed unrestricted income is £57,000 from the HTSI Contract, giving an estimated total of £130,082.</p> <p>Working capital for the continuity of SLCVO core work for 2224/25 is estimated at £72,500. Building maintenance (exterior and interior painting) £5,000. Year 1 programme staff costs £6,500.</p> <p>Leaving a surplus of £46,082. for 2025/26 which will be required for continuity of our core work (£15,000est) and possible year 2 & 3 programme funding.</p>

SECTION 7 – INCOME GENERATION		
7.1	Will the project generate income?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No x
7.2	If yes, how will the income benefit the organisation? Will it be re-invested to help with the sustainability of the project – if so, how? A copy of a business plan and/or budget forecast must be provided with the application.	
7.3	How will you ensure that local organisations/businesses are not disadvantaged because of the project? Are they supportive of the project?	
7.4	Have you considered taking out a loan for the project?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No x
7.5	If not, please state why?	

7.6	Have you previously received public funding?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
7.7	If yes, please provide details of awards for the last 3 fiscal years and if any were awarded under Public Subsidy.			
	Funding	Date	Amount £	Public Subsidy?
	NHS Highland Third Sector Funding – Befrienders Service	06/04/2022	£10,421	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	NHS Highland Third Sector Funding – Befrienders Service	05/10/22	£10,421	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	NHS Highland Third Sector Funding – Befrienders Service	20/04/23	£10,421	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	NHS Highland Third Sector Funding – Befrienders Service	27/09/23	£10,421	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Highland Coastal Communities Fund - Befrienders Service	16/03/2023	£20,000	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Click or tap to enter a date.	£	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION 8 – SIGNATURE AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

8.1	Main applicant, chairperson or equivalent – the person signing this application has the authority within the organisation to apply for grant funding.	
<i>I declare that the information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I have read the guidance notes and understand and accept the terms and conditions noted within them.</i>		
<i>The data provided in the application (and claim) forms are subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004.</i>		
Signature:		Date:
Print:		01

8.2	You must enclose the following supporting documents (where applicable) with the application. If they are not available, please state why.	Yes / No / Not applicable
1	CRF Monitoring & Evaluation framework (page 9 below)	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
2	Bank statement – please provide a full bank statement with the organisation address. It must be the latest statement at the time of application submission.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
3	Annual financial accounts – latest available.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

4	Constitution or articles and memorandum.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
5	Committee Members or Directors List.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
6	Policies – relevant organisational policies applicable to the project such as child protection, health and safety, equal opportunities, Fair Work First policy.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
7	Valid organisation insurance policy.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
8	Evidence of need and demand i.e. letters of support, community consultation reports, photos, feasibility study	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
9	Confirmation of match funding letters	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
10	Permissions – i.e. planning, building warrants, marine licences	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Business plan (income generation projects only)	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
12	Job descriptions (for CRF funded posts)	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
13	Evidence of control/ownership of asset – i.e. lease, title deeds	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	Partnership agreement	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reason for missing documentation: Match funding Waiting for formal confirmation about UK Shared Prosperity Fund from Highland Council Community Development Manager (West and Mid Highland) and Head of Community Support, Contact and Engagement		

Completed forms and supporting documentation should be emailed to communityregenerationfund@highland.gov.uk quoting your unique project reference number. Please ensure you have labelled the supporting documents as per 8.2 of the guidance note:

The application form should follow the naming convention example:
CRF0123 – (Name of organisation) final application form

Supporting documentation should be labelled as: **document type followed with the title** – for example:

- Match funding – The Highland Council
- Match funding – National Lottery
- Insurance – Zurich 2022/23 annual policy
- Organisational policy – health and safety
- Organisational policy – Fair Work First statement
- Permissions – Planning granted July 2022
- Permissions – Building warrant granted Aug 2022
- Bank statement – Bank of Scotland Nov 2022
- Letter of support – name of Councillor
- Letter of support – community council/group
- Letter of support – name of local business

CRF Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

CRF number: 2346

Organisation: Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations

Project Title: Empower Skye and Lochalsh Programme

This monitoring and evaluation framework has been developed to ensure that all requirements for the individual funds we manage are captured under the CRF programme **themes** of People, Place, Economy, and Environment.

People	The provision of services or space that support people in your area.
Place	The infrastructure and facilities in your area and how they support the communities within it.
Economy	The economic wellbeing of your area and the people within it.
Environment	The natural surroundings of your area and how this affects and is affected by local and global factors

The aim of this form is to provide an initial framework, to highlight the most relevant data that will be reported against at the end of the project, so that we can assess how well your project will benefit Highland communities. When completing this section, please ensure that you only select one main strategic objective and the most appropriate outputs your project will deliver. Some outputs may overlap with other strategic objectives to the main one your project will deliver. Also, please ensure you delete as appropriate the options under status column i.e. new/supported/safeguarded.

The 5 main **strategic objectives** under the 4 themes are:

- 1. Increasing community resilience
- 2. Tackling poverty & inequality
- 3. Addressing causes of rural depopulation
- 4. Helping economic recovery & sustaining growth
- 5. Tacking the climate emergency & working towards net zero

Increasing community resilience (People) Any projects that help communities to provide sustainable growth for their area and support for all members of the community, therefore enabling stronger resilience to external pressures (tourism pressure, lack of employment, etc.)		
Project outputs	Status (delete as appropriate)	Quantity
Activities for young people	new/supported/safeguarded	
Wellbeing support initiative	new/supported/safeguarded	
Spaces for people	new/enhanced	
Initiatives that enable communities to stay socially connected	new/supported	

Community-led projects supporting community ownership or management of assets, services, or activities	new/supported	
<p>Other - Please describe other outputs your project will meet that are not listed above:</p> <p>The programme comprises of two projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project 1 – SLCVO Management of the Skye and Raasay Future (SARF) Plan This project establishes SLCVO as the supporting body for the SARF Board for three years, it will help to improve outcomes for everyone across the area by supporting the board to manage and advance the SARF Delivery Programme NEW • Project 2 – Skye and Lochalsh Health, Wellbeing, Welfare and Social Care (HWWS) Consortium. This project supports the development of a third sector health, wellbeing, welfare and social care consortium, which will enhance co-production, improve outcomes for families, children, and individuals, reinforce community resilience and support sustainable growth NEW 		

<p>Tackling poverty and inequality (People) Any initiatives or projects that address inequalities in the community and help address the causes of poverty.</p>		
Project outputs		Quantity
Support for cost-of-living crisis		
Support to gain/sustain employment		
Support for Social Enterprises		
Initiatives that help sustain household incomes		
Advice services – new/supported/safeguarded (delete as appropriate)		
<p>Other - Please describe other outputs your project will meet that are not listed above:</p>		

<p>Addressing causes of rural depopulation (Place) Any projects that will specifically allow rural communities to thrive and create opportunities to retain/attract younger generations.</p>		
Project outputs	Status (delete as appropriate)	Quantity
Historical/cultural assets	new/supported/safeguarded	
Affordable housing projects	new/supported	
Feasibility studies/development phases	new/supported	
Community/public transport schemes	new/supported/safeguarded	
Recreational areas	new/improved	
Sports facilities	new/improved	
Local amenities	new/supported/safeguarded	
Local infrastructure	new/improved	
<p>Other - Please describe other outputs your project will meet that are not listed above:</p>		

Helping economic recovery & sustaining growth (Economy)

Any initiatives/projects that will have an economic impact on the local communities providing long term and sustainable financial wellbeing to the area.

Project outputs	Quantity
Jobs created/safeguarded (FTE)	
Tourism infrastructure - new/supported/safeguarded (delete as appropriate)	
Training courses delivered/learning days of people receiving training	
Town center improvements	
Initiatives to improve access to local services	
Other - Please describe other outputs your project will meet that are not listed above:	

Tackling climate emergency and working towards net zero (Environment)

Any initiatives/projects that will address climate change issues, increase community resilience and/or support communities to move towards decarbonization and achieve net zero

Project outputs	Status (delete as appropriate)	Quantity
Environmental awareness initiatives	new/supported/enhanced	
Initiatives contributing to a low-carbon economy	new/supported/enhanced	
Waste, recycling and circular economy initiatives	new/supported/enhanced	
Community renewable energy schemes	new/supported/enhanced	
Community assets to become more energy efficient	new/supported/enhanced	
EV charging points installed	new/supported/enhanced	
Active travel routes	new/supported/enhanced	
Community food growing initiatives	new/supported/enhanced	
Community green space	new/enhanced/safeguarded	
Biodiversity conservation initiatives	new/enhanced/safeguarded	
Marine conservation initiatives	new/enhanced/safeguarded	
Other - Please describe other outputs your project will meet that are not listed above:		



Community Regeneration Funding (CRF) Application Form (v3 Oct 2023)

Key considerations

Please refer to the [Application Guidance](#) (link below) and [Fair Work First Summary Guidance](#) when completing the application form as there are important supplementary information you need to be aware of. Answer the questions concisely, describing clearly and directly what the project you are seeking funding for is delivering, and the outputs it hopes to achieve. Do not exceed the word limit given as the CRF Team and decision-making group have many applications to assess.

To ensure you have the best opportunity to score well during the assessment, please refer to the [Assessment Criteria Matrix](#) (link below) when completing the application form.

A Fair Work First statement must be provided with the application form - this is applicable for all applicants including those who do not employ staff and/or only work with volunteers.

Supporting documentation must be submitted with the application form (see section 8.2).

Projects must not incur expenditure before the project has been approved.

Please complete the [CRF Monitoring and Evaluation Framework](#) detailed from page 10 at the end of this form.

When detailing your project budget, ensure that costs are based on recent quotations or price comparisons. Accuracy is crucial, given the current challenges posed by market inflation. We seek well-developed and robust projects that can commence within three months of approval and be completed and claimed within 12 months.

Double click the icons to download:



CRF Assessment
Criteria Matrix.pdf



CRF application
Guidance (v3 Oct 23).pdf

SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

1.1	Project reference number	CRF2348
1.2	Organisation	Skeabost Memorial Hall Association
1.3	Project title	Re-roofing Skeabost Memorial Hall
1.4	Project summary you wish to be funded (max 100 words)	Skeabost Memorial Hall is a Registered War Memorial and also provides a social centre for nine widespread but sparsely populated communities in northern Skye – accommodating several social groups and providing a popular venue for social and entertainment events. It is the local polling station and can be connected to a generator and become an emergency refuge.

		Although the Hall is well maintained, we have recently had professional opinion that our roof has passed its expected lifespan and is beginning to deteriorate and crumble. It needs to be replaced before serious damage caused by major water ingress occurs.	
1.5	Project costs	Total project cost	£22,451.24
		Match funding	£15,266
		CRF grant requested	£7,185.24
1.6	Start date (<i>from 1st March 2024 unless specified when you're invited to submit a full application</i>)	01/08/2024	
1.7	End date (<i>by 1st March 2025</i>)	30/09/2024	
1.8	Please confirm you have read and understood the CRF privacy notice	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
1.9	Please choose ONE main strategic objective the project will meet (see Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for definitions at the end of this form)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Increasing community resilience
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Tackling poverty and inequality
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Addressing causes of rural depopulation
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Helping economic recovery and sustaining growth
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Tackling the climate emergency and working towards net zero

SECTION 2: CONTACT AND ORGANISATION DETAILS

2.1	Organisation	Skeabost Memorial Hall Association	
2.2	Address and postcode	Skeabost Memorial Hall, Skeabost Bridge, Isle of Skye, IV51 9NP	
2.3	Main contact name		
2.4	Position in the organisation	Member	
2.5	Contact number		
2.6	Email address		
2.7	Website address	Facebook page (Skeabost Memorial Hall)	
2.8	Organisation type	<input type="checkbox"/>	Company limited by guarantee
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Constituted group
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Public body
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Charity
		<input type="checkbox"/>	SCIO
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify):
2.9	Organisation registered number	SC007175	

2.10	Is the organisation VAT registered?	By confirming this, you are declaring the organisation VAT status as per HMRC. If this changes at any time during the project, you must notify the CRF Team as this may affect the offer of grant.	
		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.11	If the organisation is VAT registered, please provide the number.		
2.12	Is the VAT related to the project being reclaimed from HMRC?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whole
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Partial
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
2.13	Provide details of VAT exemptions.		

SECTION 3: PROJECT DETAILS

3.1	Please confirm the location of the project including post code.	Skeabost Memorial Hall, Skeabost Bridge, Isle of Skye, IV51 9NP	
3.2	Are you applying on behalf of a partnership project?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.3	Is there a partnership agreement in place?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.4	Is your organisation the lead applicant?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.5	Do you own the land or asset?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.6	Are you leasing the land or asset?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.7	If ownership or lease agreements are not in place, please provide details if applied and/or the arrangements to obtain these and by when.		
3.8	Does the project require planning permission or other statutory regulatory consents?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.9	If consents are required, please provide details if applied and/or the arrangements to obtain these and by when.		

SECTION 4: THE PROJECT PROPOSAL

4.1	List the main activities to deliver the project including timescales. Projects must be completed and fully claimed by 1 st March 2025.

Activity name	Achieve by (date)
Replacement of existing roof covering (strip off existing tiles and felt, replace any rotten timbers, reply and felt trusses and add new tiles).	30/09/2024
	Click or tap to enter a date.
	Click or tap to enter a date.
	Click or tap to enter a date.
	Click or tap to enter a date.
	Click or tap to enter a date.

4.2 Please describe the project, explaining how it will achieve at least one of the funds' strategic objectives selected in 1.7, and which outputs it hopes to achieve as listed in the CRF Monitoring and Evaluation Framework at the end of this form.

Word limit 850
 Replacement of the hall roof will primarily increase community resilience by safeguarding a popular, well-used community facility. Skeabost Memorial Hall provides a social centre for nine widespread but sparsely populated communities in northern Skye. It currently plays host to several social groups such as Bowling, Scottish Dancing, Craft, Pilates, Stroke Victim Support, U3A, Wind-band etc. who meet in the hall regularly plus frequent one-off events. It is a popular venue for birthday parties, ceilidhs and other social events like funerals. It is a regular venue for SEALL, a group that stages professional music concerts in small halls. These events are always “sell-outs”, providing quality entertainment where there is very little elsewhere locally. It is the local polling station for all elections. It is part of the Scottish Emergency Arrangements and can be connected to a generator and become an emergency refuge providing food, drink and shelter in emergency situations. The hall is also the location of an emergency defibrillator which is available to the public.

4.3 How will the project benefit local communities or the local economy?

Word limit 400
 The Hall is self-financing for day-to-day expenditure through renting out its facilities and through fundraising. The difference the project will make is to preserve the Hall for present and future generations. It will benefit all Hall users and the community by continuing to provide a welcoming social centre which is vital to overcoming social isolation particularly amongst vulnerable groups in our remote, rural community.

4.4 What local need or opportunity will the project address and has this been recognised in a local plan?

Word limit 400
 The Skye and Raasay Future Plan recognises the need for strong and resilient communities and this funding will enable the hall association to secure the hall and ensure it can continue to provide an important social hub for the Skeabost & District community. We are a social centre for a large area providing a facility for people to gather. The nearest town (Portree) is some 15 miles away from parts of our area. Our catchment area covers around 200 km2 and nine crofting townships. Our area of Skye is currently ranked among the 10% most deprived areas in Scotland in terms of

geographic access to services according to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2020. We are the 60th most deprived data zone in this regard (access to services) out of 6,976 zones throughout Scotland. We have an aging and, therefore, vulnerable population, which makes the retention and continued viability of the hall all the more essential as a hub which can prevent social isolation. The area future plan also highlights the need for sustaining Gaelic culture and language as a key aspect of supporting a sustainable community on Skye. The hall regularly plays host to traditional music events and workshops – including music tuition sessions for young people funded by Feisean nan Gaidheal.

4.5 How do you know there is local support for the project? How can you evidence this?

Word limit 400

We have already organised some fundraising events towards the roof replacement costs and these have been well attended and, thanks to support from the local community (including hall user group members) we have already secured over £5,000 towards the project costs.

4.6 How will the project be supported/maintained/sustained after CRF funding?

Word limit 500

As mentioned earlier in this application, The Hall is self-financing for day-to-day expenditure through renting out its facilities and through fundraising. The difference the project will make is to preserve the Hall for present and future generations. The works being undertaken should protect the main fabric of the building for another 50 years. Regularly checks and maintenance work will continue to be overseen by the hall's management committee.

4.7 What will be the lasting benefits and legacy?

Word limit 500

As well as ensuring the continued viability of an important social hub, the maintenance of the hall is important in preserving an important historical monument. Skeabost Memorial Hall is a Registered War Memorial (WM Ref- 57248/ID No 216384), one of very few such memorials in Scotland.

4.8 Describe how you intend to mitigate negative environmental impacts that may arise in delivering the project. It may be that the project specifically seeks to address climate change issues or implement net zero ambitions/solutions.

Word limit 500

The new roof should ensure that the hall is better insulated and therefore more energy-efficient to operate.

4.9 In developing the project, explain how you have considered equalities issues and taken groups with protected characteristics into account in the development/delivery

of the project. How will you ensure that no one is excluded or disadvantaged from benefitting from the project? Will the project target specific groups for example?

Word limit 500

This project will benefit all Hall users and the community by continuing to provide a welcoming social centre which is vital to overcoming social isolation particularly amongst vulnerable groups in our remote, rural community.

4.10 All applicants are required to provide a statement how the organisation is committed to advancing the [Fair Work First Policy](#) including the 'Real Living Wage' and 'Effective Workers Voice' criteria. The statement should be agreed jointly by the employer and an appropriate workplace representative or a trade union representative if one is in place.

This statement is applicable to all groups and organisations even if you do not employ staff and/or only work with volunteers. Projects cannot progress without a signed statement - refer to the [Fair Work First guidance](#) for more information. Complete the following Fair Work First Statement and Declaration form and submit with the application. Double click the icon to download.


FWF statement and
declaration template.c

Have you provided a Fair Work First statement in a separate document with this application? Please ensure it is signed by an appropriate workplace representative.

Yes No

Can you confirm if you have the Living Wage Accreditation and/or planning to be certified.

Yes No Applied

Is the Fair Work First statement on your organisation website?

Yes No Do not have a website

How many people do you employ or how many volunteers do you have?

Approx 10 volunteers.

Do you currently pay the Real Living Wage hourly rate?

Yes No NA

As part of your procurement assessment process, do you ensure that traders/suppliers pay the Real Living Wage hourly rate?

Yes No

How do you provide channels for Effective Voice in the workplace for staff and/or volunteers?

- Line Management Relationship
- Staff /Engagement Surveys
- Suggestions Schemes
- Intranet/Online Platforms
- Staff Forums / Networks
- Trade Union Recognition/Collective Bargaining

SECTION 5: PROJECT BUDGET

5.1 Main project expenditure – costs should be as accurate and current as possible from recent quotations or price comparisons. Please refer to the guidance note on eligible expenditure and only complete the overheads and management fees summary where you would like to claim more than 10% of costs.



CRF overheads and
management fees sun

Budget Heading	Detailed costs	Revenue/Capital	Amount
Roof replacement	materials/scaffolding/waste disposal/labour	Capital	22,451.24
Total revenue expenditure			£0
Total capital expenditure			£22,451.24
TOTAL PROJECT COST			£22,451.24
Is VAT included in these costs?			Yes

VAT included in these costs?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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5.2	<p>Reasonableness of cost - please explain how you have obtained project costs listed in 5.1. These should be from recent price comparisons or quotations but if you have not been able to achieve this, explain how costs were developed.</p>	<p>Three local contractors submitted quotes for the work required.</p>
5.3	<p>Please explain how your project will achieve value for money.</p>	<p>We will ensure that we accept the quote that is best value.</p>

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SECTION 6 – MATCH FUNDING

6.1 Match funding details – All projects must start within three months of approval.

Name of funder	Confirmed	Date confirmed or expected	Amount £
Awards for All	Yes	April 2024	9,466
Skeabost Memorial Hall Assoc.	Yes	April 2024	5,800
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Total match funding			£15,266
CRF requested			£7,185.24
Total project cost			£22,451.24

6.2	Will the project involve “in kind” support?	No
6.3	If yes, please detail.	
6.4	Please explain why public funding is required to deliver the project.	We need to secure funding in a timely manner to avoid any further increase to builders’ quotes.
6.5	Please explain what the remaining bank balances are for in your accounts.	Reserves are for ongoing running costs and any unexpected repairs / expenses.
6.6	Please explain why unrestricted funding in your annual accounts cannot be used to deliver the project and/or used as match funding.	We have already ringfenced £5,800 of our funds for this project.

SECTION 7 – INCOME GENERATION

7.1	Will the project generate income?	No
7.2	If yes, how will the income benefit the organisation? Will it be re-invested to help with the sustainability of the project – if so,	(No additional income will be generated, but it will secure existing income streams.)

	how? A copy of a business plan and/or budget forecast must be provided with the application.	
7.3	How will you ensure that local organisations/businesses are not disadvantaged because of the project? Are they supportive of the project?	n/a
7.4	Have you considered taking out a loan for the project?	No
7.5	If not, please state why?	Limited reserves to spend on loan interest.
7.6	Have you previously received public funding?	No
7.7	If yes, please provide details of awards for the last 3 fiscal years and if any were awarded under Public Subsidy.	

Funding	Date	Amount £	Public Subsidy?
	Click or tap to enter a date.	£	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Click or tap to enter a date.	£	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Click or tap to enter a date.	£	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Click or tap to enter a date.	£	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION 8 – SIGNATURE AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

8.1	Main applicant, chairperson or equivalent – the person signing this application has the authority within the organisation to apply for grant funding.
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I declare that the information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I have read the guidance notes and understand and accept the terms and conditions noted within them.

The data provided in the application (and claim) forms are subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

Signature:

Date:

29/04/2024

Print:

8.2	You must enclose the following supporting documents (where applicable) with the application. If they are not available, please state why.	Yes / No / Not applicable
1	CRF Monitoring & Evaluation framework (page 9 below)	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

2	Bank statement – please provide a full bank statement with the organisation address. It must be the latest statement at the time of application submission.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
3	Annual financial accounts – latest available.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
4	Constitution or articles and memorandum.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
5	Committee Members or Directors List.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
6	Policies – relevant organisational policies applicable to the project such as child protection, health and safety, equal opportunities, Fair Work First policy.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
7	Valid organisation insurance policy.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
8	Evidence of need and demand i.e. letters of support, community consultation reports, photos, feasibility study	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	Confirmation of match funding letters	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/>
10	Permissions – i.e. planning, building warrants, marine licences	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Business plan (income generation projects only)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	Job descriptions (for CRF funded posts)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13	Evidence of control/ownership of asset – i.e. lease, title deeds	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	Partnership agreement	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reason for missing documentation:		

Completed forms and supporting documentation should be emailed to communityregenerationfund@highland.gov.uk quoting your unique project reference number. Please ensure you have labelled the supporting documents as per 8.2 of the guidance note:

The application form should follow the naming convention example:
CRF0123 – (Name of organisation) final application form

Supporting documentation should be labelled as: **document type followed with the title** – for example:

- Match funding – The Highland Council
- Match funding – National Lottery
- Insurance – Zurich 2022/23 annual policy
- Organisational policy – health and safety
- Organisational policy – Fair Work First statement
- Permissions – Planning granted July 2022
- Permissions – Building warrant granted Aug 2022
- Bank statement – Bank of Scotland Nov 2022
- Letter of support – name of Councillor
- Letter of support – community council/group
- Letter of support – name of local business

CRF Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

CRF number: n/a

Organisation: Skeabost Memorial Hall Association

Project Title: Re-roofing Skeabost Memorial Hall

This monitoring and evaluation framework has been developed to ensure that all requirements for the individual funds we manage are captured under the CRF programme **themes** of People, Place, Economy, and Environment.

People	The provision of services or space that support people in your area.
Place	The infrastructure and facilities in your area and how they support the communities within it.
Economy	The economic wellbeing of your area and the people within it.
Environment	The natural surroundings of your area and how this affects and is affected by local and global factors

The aim of this form is to provide an initial framework, to highlight the most relevant data that will be reported against at the end of the project, so that we can assess how well your project will benefit Highland communities. When completing this section, please ensure that you only select one main strategic objective and the most appropriate outputs your project will deliver. Some outputs may overlap with other strategic objectives to the main one your project will deliver. Also, please ensure you delete as appropriate the options under status column i.e. new/supported/safeguarded.

The 5 main **strategic objectives** under the 4 themes are:

1. Increasing community resilience
2. Tackling poverty & inequality
3. Addressing causes of rural depopulation
4. Helping economic recovery & sustaining growth
5. Tacking the climate emergency & working towards net zero

Increasing community resilience (People)		
Any projects that help communities to provide sustainable growth for their area and support for all members of the community, therefore enabling stronger resilience to external pressures (tourism pressure, lack of employment, etc.)		
Project outputs	Status (delete as appropriate)	Quantity
Activities for young people	safeguarded	1
Wellbeing support initiative	safeguarded	1

Spaces for people	enhanced	1
Initiatives that enable communities to stay socially connected	supported	1
Community-led projects supporting community ownership or management of assets, services, or activities	supported	1
Other - Please describe other outputs your project will meet that are not listed above:		

Tackling poverty and inequality (People) Any initiatives or projects that address inequalities in the community and help address the causes of poverty.		
Project outputs		Quantity
Support for cost-of-living crisis		
Support to gain/sustain employment		
Support for Social Enterprises		
Initiatives that help sustain household incomes		
Advice services –safeguarded		1
Other - Please describe other outputs your project will meet that are not listed above:		

Addressing causes of rural depopulation (Place) Any projects that will specifically allow rural communities to thrive and create opportunities to retain/attract younger generations.		
Project outputs	Status (delete as appropriate)	Quantity
Historical/cultural assets	safeguarded	1
Affordable housing projects	new/supported	
Feasibility studies/development phases	new/supported	
Community/public transport schemes	new/supported/safeguarded	
Recreational areas	new/improved	
Sports facilities	new/improved	
Local amenities	safeguarded	1
Local infrastructure	new/improved	
Other - Please describe other outputs your project will meet that are not listed above:		

Helping economic recovery & sustaining growth (Economy) Any initiatives/projects that will have an economic impact on the local communities providing long term and sustainable financial wellbeing to the area.		
Project outputs		Quantity
Jobs created/safeguarded (FTE)		

Tourism infrastructure - new/supported/safeguarded (delete as appropriate)	
Training courses delivered/learning days of people receiving training	
Town center improvements	
Initiatives to improve access to local services	1
Other - Please describe other outputs your project will meet that are not listed above:	

Tackling climate emergency and working towards net zero (Environment)
Any initiatives/projects that will address climate change issues, increase community resilience and/or support communities to move towards decarbonization and achieve net zero

Project outputs	Status (delete as appropriate)	Quantity
Environmental awareness initiatives	new/supported/enhanced	
Initiatives contributing to a low-carbon economy	new/supported/enhanced	
Waste, recycling and circular economy initiatives	new/supported/enhanced	
Community renewable energy schemes	new/supported/enhanced	
Community assets to become more energy efficient	enhanced	1
EV charging points installed	new/supported/enhanced	
Active travel routes	new/supported/enhanced	
Community food growing initiatives	new/supported/enhanced	
Community green space	new/enhanced/safeguarded	
Biodiversity conservation initiatives	new/enhanced/safeguarded	
Marine conservation initiatives	new/enhanced/safeguarded	
Other - Please describe other outputs your project will meet that are not listed above:		



Community Regeneration Funding (CRF) Application Form

Please refer to the **Guidance Notes** to complete the application form.
Supporting documentation must be submitted with the application (see section 8.2).
Projects must not incur expenditure until they have been advised in writing by the CRF Team.

SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

1.1 Project reference number	CRF2349	
1.2 Organisation	Skye Connect	
1.3 Project title	Tourism Strategy Project Manager (Consultant)	
1.4 Project costs	Total cost of project	£35,000 – year 1
	Match funding	£20,000 – year 1
	Grant requested	£15,000 – year 1
1.5 Start date	July '24	
1.6 End date*	June '25	

**Projects are expected to be completed and claimed fully by 31st March 2024*

1.7 Which of the following themes will the project meet? Please choose ONE theme.	
People	
Place	
Economy	<p>Given the integrated nature of these themes, our project presents a “Good Growth” approach to regional development. The project is designed to support and connect with the themes of People, Place, and Environment.. This holistic integration ensures that our economic initiatives drive benefits across all aspects of community and regional development. However, if we are to select a primary theme that best represents the core impact of our initiative, it would be the "Economy." This choice reflects our focus on significantly enhancing the economic landscape of Skye and Raasay, which</p>

	is pivotal for the long-term resilience and prosperity of the region. Through a sustainable tourism strategy, we aim to not only boost economic activity but also ensure that this uplift supports and is supported by advancements in community engagement, infrastructure development, and environmental stewardship. The concept of "Good Growth," as it relates to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), encapsulates the idea of promoting growth that is not only economically sound but also socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable. This is the type of economic growth and impact the strategy will be designed to encourage.
Environment	

1.8 Privacy Notice
Please confirm you have read and understood the Community Regeneration Funding privacy notice: Privacy Notice
YES - I can confirm I have read and understood the privacy notice

SECTION 2: CONTACT DETAILS

2.1 Main contact name	
Contact number	
Alternative contact number	
2.2 Position	Executive Chair SkyeConnect
2.3 Address	Skye Connect (Registered) Unit 3 Broom Pl. Portree Isle of Skye
Postcode	IV51 9H
2.4 Email address	
2.5 Website address	www.skye-connect.com

SECTION 3: ORGANISATION DETAILS

3.1 Organisation type	Please indicate (x)	Organisation number
Company limited by guarantee	SkYeConnect CIC	401007
Constituted group		
Public body		

Charity		
SCIO		
Other (please specify)		

3.2 Are you applying on behalf of a partnership and is your organisation the lead applicant? <i>Please provide partnership agreement with the application.</i>	YES – the partnership is SARF (Skye & Raasay Futures)
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3.3 Is the organisation VAT registered? By ticking this, you are declaring the organisation VAT status as per HMRC. If this changes at any time during the project, you <u>must</u> notify the CRF Team as this may affect the offer of grant.	NO
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3.4 If the organisation is VAT registered, please quote number.	
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3.5 Is the VAT related to the project being reclaimed from HMRC? <i>Provide relevant details i.e. details of exemptions.</i>	Whole	Partial	None

Details: N/A

3.6 Project delivery team	
Name	Job title/area of work
Tourism Strategy Project Manager	Tourism Strategy Project Manager (Consultant)
Skye Connect Board Members	Various as needed
Gary Curley	Executive Chair
Simon Cousins	Comms and PR Director

SECTION 4: PROJECT DETAILS

*Please refer to the **Guidance Notes** to complete this section. It provides important information, definitions, and examples to ensure you answer each section correctly.*

4.1 Project location - Please include postcode. Skye & Raasay

4.2 Do you own the land/building or have a lease agreement in place? Please provide evidence of ownership/lease with the application. If not in place, what are the arrangements to obtain this and by when? n/a
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4.3 The Project

(a) Please summarise the project, explaining how it will achieve the funds' themes as noted in 1.7, and list which outcomes it hopes to achieve.

Key Issues

The ratio of visitors to Skye residents on an annual basis is in the region of 1:62.5 – based on a resident population of 12,000 and annual visitor numbers of 750,000. This means that for every resident on Skye, there are 62.5 visitors each year, which is exceptionally high. By comparison, Edinburgh has 4.45 visitors for every resident. Iceland has approx. 5.9. Andorra has approx. 34 visitors for every resident. Islands such as the Faroes and Isle of Man have ratios of 1:2 and 1:4 respectively. A sustainable tourism strategy and destination plan that includes Infrastructure to support the sustainability of the visitor economy (annual value £260 million) is crucial. The coordination of existing community and visitor economy infrastructural development together with the preparation of a long-term tourism strategy designed to tackle the growing pressures on infrastructure, community, environment, and the tourism economy will be a key piece of work in Skye and Raasay becoming a leader in 21st-century tourism by prioritising sustainable growth, resilience building, and community enhancement.

Proposal

The recently approved CRF funding (CRF2176) to support Sustainable Transport & Infrastructure Improvements through the Community Regeneration fund, while being linked with these categories and based on 3 completed feasibility/options appraisal strategies, would be enhanced if project management capacity is developed to produce a long term (10 years) Visitor Economy sustainable tourism strategy. The strategy will be developed through a collaborative multi-stakeholder "Team Skye" approach, ensuring a united front involving key stakeholders from the community and local businesses plus key organisations such as tourism bodies, Highland Council, HIE, SARF, transport service providers and opinion leaders. The strategy will include a focus on infrastructure related to the visitor economy and the benefits to the local community will include economic opportunities throughout Skye & Raasay, carbon reduction for visitors and locals alike together with a diversified integrated transport network. Development phases for the work have been identified (attached). In addition to developing a long term strategy the Project officer will develop / implement a number of existing projects that are either shovel ready + waiting for implementation (Voluntary Visitor Giving) or involve the development of a tested prototype (MySkyeTime App – Visitor Management tool).

The infrastructure relevant to the strategy, required to support the visitor economy, minimise disruption to local residents and reduce carbon emissions falls into 3 broad categories coupled with an overarching coordination function:

1. Physical Infrastructure – Roads, car parks, Travel hubs, Affordable Housing etc
2. Digital infrastructure to support Visitor management initiatives based on IoT (Internet of Things) technology
3. Visitor Management and environmental services – A Ranger service with revenue funding for the service together with capital funding for footpaths, trails, and environmental protection projects.

Outputs

1. An established Coordination system / function for infrastructure and visitor management services.
2. A Long term (10 years) Tourism Strategy based on :
 1. **Research & Analysis** (3 months): In-depth study of current tourism impacts and potential.

2. **Community Engagement and Consultation** (4 months): Collaborative discussions with local, regional & national stakeholders, utilising multiple channels for participation such as in-person meetings, digital workshops, online surveys, and visitor feedback mechanisms.
3. **Draft Strategy Development** (5 months): Formulating a preliminary sustainable tourism framework and strategy.
4. **Review and Refinement** (2 months): Revising the draft based on feedback and insights.
5. **Finalisation and Approval** (1 month): Securing agreement on the final strategy.
6. **Implementation Planning** (3 months): Preparing for effective strategy execution, with a comprehensive Action Plan outlining responsibilities and timelines.

The strategy project will complement the work of the Sustainable Transport and Infrastructure Development Officer and provide a synergistic and holistic approach, enabling key work to be identified through the lens of tourism and its associated impacts. This will enable the provision of a fully coordinated and costed infrastructure programme with identifiable individual projects that will be “shovel ready” and enable THC and the local community to respond to punctual funding opportunities.

Outcomes

The integrated strategy aims to make Skye and Raasay leaders in sustainable tourism, with a robust infrastructure that supports the visitor economy, enhances community well-being, and preserves the environment. This approach not only addresses the immediate challenges but also lays a foundation for long-term sustainability and resilience.

(b) How will the project benefit local communities or the local economy?

The project will be based on 3 principles:

- **Inclusion:** Ensuring the strategy benefits all community members.
- **Innovation** Leveraging new ideas for sustainable tourism, resilience, and community enhancement.
- **Collaboration:** Working together with public, private and third sector stakeholders.

(c) What need or opportunity will the project address? How do you know there is local support for the project?

SkyeConnect’s inaugural; public meeting in Jan ‘2018 attracted 60 representatives of local communities and businesses who brainstormed a portfolio of projects, the SARF consultation process (carried out by Design Scotland and THC planning service) built on this to include wider perspectives covering culture environment and community. The resulting project list held by THC includes in excess of 80 different initiatives requiring coordination, funding, research and practical implementation.

(d) List the main activities to deliver the project including timescales – this will be the project delivery plan. * A Please note there will be crossover in activity delivery timescales. All activity will be delivered within year 1. Approximate timescales for each activity and planned delivery dates below.

Activity name	Achieve by (date)
Development of project timeline and delivery plan	Completed August 2024 (1 month)

Development of long term Visitor Economy strategy based on:	
Research & Analysis: In-depth study of current tourism impacts and potential.	Completed October 2024 (3 months)
Community Engagement and Consultation : Collaborative discussions with local, regional & national stakeholders, utilising multiple channels for participation such as in-person meetings, digital workshops, online surveys, and visitor feedback mechanisms.	Completed November 2024 (4 months)
Draft Strategy Development: Formulating a preliminary sustainable tourism framework and strategy.	Completed March 2025 (5 months)
Review and Refinement: Revising the draft based on feedback and insights	Completed May 2025 (2 months)
Finalisation and Approval : Securing agreement on the final strategy.	Completed June 2025 (1 month)
Implementation Planning: Preparing for effective strategy execution, with a comprehensive Action Plan outlining responsibilities and timelines.	Completed June 2025 (3 months)
Strategy Launch and Promotion	Completed June (2025)
Monitoring and evaluation	June onwards
Delivery of the strategy	June onwards

(e) In developing the project, please detail how you have considered the following:

Environmental impact

Our project has been meticulously designed with the environment in mind. Initial phases of our strategy involve detailed research to understand the current dynamics affecting Skye's unique ecosystem. This includes evaluating tourism patterns, community interactions, and existing pressures on local infrastructure and the environment. By conducting thorough surveys and assessments, we aim to pinpoint areas where our project can reduce negative impacts and enhance environmental sustainability.

Sustainability Practices: A core component of our project revolves around implementing sustainability practices. These practices are not merely compliant with existing regulations but are intended to set new benchmarks for our area. Our strategy will align with UN Sustainable Development Goals and Scotland's Outlook 2030, ensuring that our actions contribute positively to both local and global environmental targets.

Community Engagement and Inclusivity: Engagement with the local community and stakeholders forms a significant part of our approach, ensuring that the strategy developed is not only inclusive but also supportive of long-term environmental stewardship. Through workshops and consultations, we will gather insights and feedback that help us shape initiatives that are environmentally sound and culturally sensitive.

Project Significance: This project is vital for the environment as it aims to transform Skye into a model of sustainable tourism. By balancing growth with ecological and social responsibility, the project promotes 'Good Growth', defined by the UN as tourism that positively addresses environmental impacts alongside economic and social impacts. The ultimate goal is to ensure that Skye thrives as a sustainable community, benefiting from and contributing to its tourism industry in a way that respects and preserves its natural heritage.

Equalities impact

Our project is committed to promoting equality and inclusiveness, directly aligning with Scotland's strategic goals and legislative requirements under the Equality Act 2010. The design and implementation of our project will consider the diverse needs of various demographic groups, including those based on age, gender, disability, and race. We have incorporated strategies to ensure that the project benefits not only the community at large but also addresses the specific needs of disadvantaged and underrepresented groups.

Engagement and Consultation: To develop an inclusive project, we will implement extensive community engagement and consultation processes. These include workshops, surveys, and stakeholder meetings that ensure diverse community voices are heard and integrated into the project planning. Our approach will prioritise inclusivity and the identification of specific needs and barriers faced by various groups and areas.

Advancing Equal Opportunities: Our project strategies are designed to advance equal opportunities and mitigate any potential adverse impacts on equality groups. We will focus on creating opportunities that promote fair employment practices, accessibility, and the elimination of socio-economic barriers. The development and refinement of our project will be informed by ongoing assessments of equalities impact, ensuring that our actions do not inadvertently discriminate and that they actively promote equality.

Supporting Disadvantaged Areas and Groups: The project places special emphasis on supporting disadvantaged areas and groups by enhancing economic opportunities and accessibility. This is in line with the Fairer Scotland Duty, which aims to reduce inequalities caused by socio-economic disadvantage. By implementing targeted initiatives, our project will help ensure that economic benefits are fairly distributed, supporting the Scottish Government's vision for a fairer, wealthier, and greener economy.

Monitoring and Continuous Improvement: We are committed to continuously monitoring the impact of our project on different groups and adjusting our strategies as needed. This includes regular reviews and updates to our equalities impact assessments, ensuring alignment with Scotland's broader equalities framework and the evolving needs of the community.

(f) How will the project be supported after CRF funding and what will be the lasting benefits/legacy?

The legacy will be a long term sustainable tourism strategy for the local visitor economy that will inform future infrastructure coordination and a portfolio of "shovel ready" projects to make Skye and Raasay leaders in sustainable tourism, with a robust infrastructure that supports the visitor economy, enhances community well-being, and preserves the environment.

(g) Please outline how the project fits with other relevant local plans and strategies.

- **Strengthening Community Ties:** Our project directly complements the Highland Council's strategic goals by fostering community engagement and resilience, aligning with the Strategic Tourism Infrastructure Development Plan's emphasis on collaborative regional development. This initiative corresponds with the Scottish Government's Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, aiming to enhance community participation and outcomes across the Highlands.
- **Emphasising Environmental Sustainability:** The project supports environmental sustainability, mirroring SARF's and the Highland Council's objectives under the Strategic Tourism Infrastructure Development Plan to mitigate the environmental impacts of tourism. This includes alignment with Scotland's climate action goals and complements the focus on sustainable transportation and reduced carbon footprint within Skye and Raasay.

- **Enhancing Economic Resilience:** Our project enhances economic resilience by diversifying economic opportunities and promoting sustainable tourism, in line with the Strategic Plan's objectives. By fostering sustainable economic practices, our project supports the National Islands Plan and the broader regional strategies set by Highlands and Islands Enterprise, enhancing Skye and Raasay's economic sustainability.
- **Contributing to Infrastructure Development:** The project addresses infrastructure development gaps identified in the Strategic Tourism Infrastructure Development Plan. By focusing on sustainable transport solutions and enhancing digital connectivity, the project aligns with the Highland Council's plans for infrastructure improvements and supports broader Scottish Government connectivity objectives.
- **Commitment to Educational and Cultural Enrichment:** By aligning with the Highland Council's third Gaelic Language Plan (GLP3), our project supports SARF's goals to promote Gaelic language and culture. This commitment reflects the statutory requirements of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, ensuring cultural preservation and educational enrichment across the region.
- **Promoting Health and Well-being:** Our initiatives promote health and well-being, enhancing access to healthcare and wellness resources. This aligns with SARF's health objectives and supports the Scottish Government's health and social care strategies. The alignment with local health improvement plans by NHS Highland ensures comprehensive support for the community's well-being.
- **Governance and Collaborative Efforts:** The project's governance approach supports SARF's collaborative framework and aligns with the Strategic Tourism Infrastructure Development Plan's focus on community and stakeholder engagement in regional development. By fostering partnerships across public, private, and community sectors, our project strengthens governance structures and enhances transparency in alignment with Scotland's National Performance Framework.

Alignment with Scotland's NSET Priorities

- **Entrepreneurial People and Culture:** Our project supports the NSET's goal to establish Scotland as a world-class entrepreneurial nation. With a 10 year sustainable tourism strategy and vision, this will aid in establishing Skye and Raasay as leaders in 21st century tourism, fostering an entrepreneurial culture by providing strategic guidance and resources to local businesses and startups in Skye and Raasay, particularly in the tourism sector. This directly aligns with the NSET's emphasis on improving entrepreneurial activity across all sectors of the economy.
- **New Market Opportunities:** Our initiative is poised to capitalise on new market opportunities by focusing on sustainable tourism and the development of green technologies, aligning with NSET's emphasis on creating new, well-paid jobs through a just transition to net zero. This will involve integrating sustainable practices in local businesses and leveraging Skye and Raasay's natural landscapes to attract eco-conscious tourists.
- **Productive Businesses and Regions:** By enhancing the productivity and innovation of businesses in Skye and Raasay, our project supports NSET's focus on making Scotland's regions more productive. This includes promoting and identifying advanced digital tools to improve business operations and customer experiences in the tourism sector, which contributes to regional economic growth.
- **Skilled Workforce:** Our project aims to inform businesses on how to build and direct a skilled workforce that can meet the demands of a modern, sustainable economy. This aligns with NSET's goal of ensuring people have the necessary skills at every stage of life. We plan to offer relevant training, education and resources in year 2 during delivery, focusing on digital skills and sustainability practices, which are essential for the future of tourism and other local industries.

- **A Fairer and More Equal Society:** We are committed to creating a fairer and more inclusive economic landscape in Skye and Raasay, which mirrors NSET's priority to reduce structural poverty and enhance social outcomes. Our project will include specific measures to support underrepresented groups and ensure equitable access to Skye and Raasay as a destination and improve employment and economic opportunities within the tourism sector.
- **A Culture of Delivery:** Our approach includes robust governance structures and clear accountability mechanisms to ensure the successful delivery of project outcomes. This supports NSET's emphasis on a delivery culture across public, private, and third sectors to achieve the economic transformation Scotland aims for.

4.4 Does the project require planning permission or other statutory regulatory consents?		NO
If YES, please detail below - provide evidence with the application if granted.		
Type	Applied – Yes/No (include date)	Granted – Yes/No (include date)

SECTION 5: BUDGET

This can be provided in a separate excel spreadsheet if preferred. Delete the example below before completing this section.

5.1 Main project expenditure – these should be as accurate and current as possible from recent quotations, price comparisons or advice from professionals.			
Budget Heading	Detailed costs	Revenue/Capital	Amount
Consultant Fee for delivery of project objectives	Design and delivery of the strategy, execution of the clearly defined delivery plan for strategy development, admin, collaboration with Infrastructure development officer and SLCVO (Skye & Lochalsh Council of Voluntary Organisations) to ensure efficiencies and synergistic working	Revenue	£32,000
Recruitment	Advertising, interview resources, press coverage	Revenue	£500
Public consultation meetings	Venue hire, IT equipment, promotion. Please note that a large portion of these costs will be minimised via in kind support and the use of online meetings where possible	Revenue	£1500
General Expenses	General materials, printing, stationary, fuel, travel, additional insurance if required	Revenue	£1000
Total capital expenditure			£
Total revenue expenditure			£35000

TOTAL PROJECT COST	35000
Is VAT included in these costs?	n/a
Project expenditure before March 2023	N/A

5.2 Reasonableness of cost – project expenditure as detailed in 5.1 should be from recent price quotations. If you have been unable to seek current quotations, please explain how you have obtained project costs whilst developing the project?

All quotations are based on established costs and regular benchmarking.

SECTION 6 – MATCH FUNDING

6.1 Please give details of confirmed or pending match funding:

If match funding is confirmed, please provide letters of awards with the application.

Name of funder	Applied YES / NO (include date)	Granted YES / NO (include date)	Amount £
SkyeConnect Own contribution	YES	YES	£20,000
Total match funding			£20,000
CRF requested			£15,000
Total project cost			£35,000

6.2 Will the project involve “in kind” support?

This should not form part of the overall budget or counted as confirmed match funding for the project.

SkyeConnect is fortunate to have a highly engaged and committed Board of Directors. All represent key businesses on Skye and have proven experience in strategy development and delivery alongside strong experience in collaborative working with public agencies. Our board generously contribute their time and expertise towards the strategic development and oversight of our projects. As we undertake the development of a 10-year sustainable tourism strategy for Skye, our Board’s involvement represents significant in-kind support.

Contributions:

- 1. Expertise and Time:** Our Board consists of professionals from various sectors including tourism, business development, environmental work, Press, Media and PR, Highland Council, law, marketing and finance amongst other key experience. Each member dedicates approximately 10 hours per month in a voluntary capacity, offering strategic advice, governance oversight, project management guidance alongside additional activities and work to support various initiatives.
- 2. Strategic Planning Sessions:** The Board conducts monthly meetings and regular strategic planning sessions, which are crucial for the roadmap of the 10-year strategy. These sessions involve critical decision-making, resource allocation, and long-term visioning, all provided without financial compensation.
- 3. Networking and Advocacy:** Board members leverage their personal and professional networks to advocate for SkyeConnect, engage stakeholders, and attract additional

resources and partnerships. This advocacy extends our reach and enhances our project's viability and success.

The monetary value of these contributions is conservatively estimated at **£35,000** annually, based on the professional rates typically charged for such services. This substantial in-kind support underscores the commitment of our Board to the sustainability and prosperity of Skye's tourism and community development.

By providing their skills, time, and leadership, our Board's contributions are instrumental in shaping and driving forward the strategic initiatives crucial for SkyeConnect. This support not only enriches our project but also significantly leverages the financial investment sought through this funding application, demonstrating robust local backing and a strong foundation for future success.

In addition, we have secured support from Visit Scotland to aid in the development of a community and business led sustainable tourism strategy. Visit Scotland recently worked collaboratively with SSDA (South of Scotland Destination Alliance) to develop their own 10 year strategy. Visit Scotland will provide insights into this process, data on tourism trends, support with public meetings, and some consultation at each stage of strategy development. This partnership will improve efficiencies and help avoid any issues that were identified during the SSDA's strategy development process. Alongside Visit Scotland's vital support. Visit Scotland's ongoing support for this initiative, which they are very keen to be involved with, could amount to approx. £10,000 worth of time, resources, and materials to support this project.

We also plan to engage with other key organisations such as HIE and Highland Council who have both expressed support for this initiative and have offered their support. The STA (Scottish Tourism Alliance) have also offered their support and expertise. We also have an established relationship with Lochaber Chamber who are spearheading the West Coast Vision initiative.

Lastly, we have some highly engaged and influential members. In a recent business survey, 90% of the 120 respondents expressed support for the development of this 10 year strategy. We also asked that members interested in helping to run public meetings or to take on specific tasks related to their expertise to aid the development of the strategy leave their details. From this request we have a list of approx. 30 people from all across the area who are willing to volunteer and help in any way they can. This includes potential free use of space for meetings. I would estimate that the in kind support from members of the local community would amount to approx. £10,000.

6.3 Please explain why public funding is required to deliver the project. Will the project happen without funding support?

NO – this is not a project that the private sector is capable or willing to fund

SECTION 7 – REVENUE GENERATION PROJECTS

*To be completed by **revenue generation** projects ONLY. If the project does not generate revenue, please go to SECTION 8. Please submit a business plan with the application.*

7.1 Will the project generate revenue? *Please provide a copy of the budget forecast with the application.*

Revenue Generation through Enhanced Visitor Experiences: The strategy aims to enhance the quality of visitor experiences by developing sustainable tourism practices, improving infrastructure, and promoting cultural and environmental preservation. Enhanced management will

result in increased visitor satisfaction AND reduced inconvenience for local communities. This will directly increase spending in the local economy and generate higher revenue for local businesses.

Diversification of Tourism Products and Services: The strategy includes developing new tourism products and services that leverage the unique natural, cultural, and historical assets of Skye and Raasay. By diversifying the tourism offerings, the region can attract a broader demographic of visitors throughout the year, reducing seasonality and creating more stable income streams for local tourism operators and other related businesses.

Job Creation and Economic Stability: Implementing the strategy will create new jobs both directly in tourism and indirectly in sectors such as retail, dining, and transport services. This job creation extends to opportunities in growing areas like eco-tourism, agri-tourism and cultural heritage, which align with global tourism trends towards more responsible travel.

Increased Investment in Local Infrastructure: A significant part of the strategy involves identifying ways to improve and expand local infrastructure, such as roads, transportation systems, visitor facilities and housing for local people. All of which are crucial for development of a sustainable visitor destination. This infrastructure development will not only enhance the visitor experience but also stimulate local employment and business opportunities during both the construction and operational phases.

Long-term Economic Growth through Sustainable Practices: By focusing on sustainability, the strategy aims to preserve the environmental resources that are fundamental to the area's tourism appeal, ensuring long-term economic viability. Sustainable practices manages risks associated with Volume tourism, which can lead to resource depletion and a decline in tourist numbers. Ensuring the environment remains intact and attractive to visitors is critical for the ongoing success of the tourism sector in Skye and Raasay.

Enhanced Global Reputation and Competitive Advantage: The strategy positions Skye and Raasay as leaders in 21st-century tourism, focusing on sustainability and community enhancement. This enhanced reputation can attract international recognition and potentially higher-spending tourists, further boosting local economies and creating a distinct competitive advantage in the global tourism market.

Revenue from Conferences and Events: The strategy includes hosting events and conferences, such as the launch event planned for January 2025. These events will not only generate direct revenue from attendees but will also be part of a drive to promote the region as a destination for corporate and academic gatherings, opening up additional streams of tourism revenue.

Voluntary Visitor Giving Scheme: The development of the strategy will enable us to launch a Voluntary Visitor Giving Scheme for Skye and Raasay. This could generate tens of thousands of pounds each year to fund small projects that align with the strategy. The potential for raising more money through such a scheme is also possible. With up to 1 million visitors expected to visit Skye in the coming years, even a small donation from 30% of these visitors could help us generate hundreds of thousands of pounds for enhancing, protecting, and preserving Skye and Raasay for visitors and residents. We already have a launch and delivery plan ready for Friends of Skye so this could form part of the delivery of the strategy in year 2.

7.2 How will you ensure that local organisations/businesses are not disadvantaged as a result of the project?

- **Local Inclusion and Economic Boost:** The project emphasises the involvement of local businesses, community members and key stakeholders from the outset. By conducting detailed surveys and interviews with local stakeholders during the Research and Analysis phase, the project gains insights into the specific needs and capacities of local businesses. This will help in tailoring strategies that leverage local strengths and opportunities.
- **Community Engagement and Consultation:** A four-month phase dedicated to community engagement ensures that local organisations have a say in the strategy development. Workshops and online meetings provide platforms for local businesses and residents to voice their concerns and suggestions, ensuring their interests are considered in the final strategy. This approach not only helps in identifying potential adverse impacts on local businesses and the community early but also in finding ways to mitigate them collaboratively.
- **Draft Strategy Development and Feedback Integration:** The initial draft of the tourism strategy is developed with significant input from local stakeholders, ensuring their concerns and suggestions are incorporated. The subsequent review phase allows for further refinement of the strategy based on detailed feedback from local businesses, ensuring that their operational realities and competitive landscapes are respected and supported. The process will use and benefit from community opinions raised during the recent consultation related to the development of National Park status for Skye & Raasay.
- **Implementation Planning with Local Empowerment:** The final implementation plan includes specific measures to empower local businesses. This might involve initiatives like training programs, partnerships with local vendors, and marketing collaborations that highlight local businesses and green initiatives to tourists. Such actions not only prevent the displacement of local businesses and residents but also position them to benefit from increased tourism.
- **Monitoring and Continuous Adjustment:** Post-implementation, the project includes ongoing monitoring and evaluation to assess the impact on the local economy and community so that strategies can be adjusted as needed. This ensures that any emerging issues affecting local businesses and the community can be addressed promptly and effectively.

7.3 Have you considered taking out a loan for the project?

NO

7.4 Have you had support from other organisations in developing the project?

For example:	Details
Visit Scotland	Process management and data delivery
STA	National network resource
Lateral North	Organisation that carried out recent consultation related to development of National Park status for Skye & Raasay.

7.5 Have you previously received public funds for the organisation?

YES

Funding	Year of award	Amount £
HIE – 3 year core funding	2021	£ 428,300
HIE – Digital Enhancement	2021	£ 14,495
SG/HIE Visitor Management Tool development	2021	£ 89,323
Nature Scot – Options appraisal Skye Foundation	2021	£ 7,680

VisitScotland – DMO Readiness	2020	£ 16,500
VisitScotland - Marketing	2021	£ 18,000
Sustrans – 2 year options appraisal funding	2020	£ 106,884
SG/Scottish Towns Partnership	2020	£ 1,200

SECTION 8 – SIGNATURE

I declare that the information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I have read the guidance notes and understand and accept the terms and conditions noted within them.

The data you have provided in the application (and claim) forms are subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

8.1 Main applicant, chairperson or equivalent – <i>the person signing this application has the authority within the organisation to apply for grant funding</i>		
Signature:	Print:	Date 15/05/2024

8.2 Supporting documents checklist. <i>You must enclose the following documents (where applicable) with the application. If they are not available, please state why. Please refer to the guidance note on how to name/label the documentation.</i>		YES / NO or Not applicable
1	Constitution or articles and memorandum	√
2	Committee Members or Directors List	√
3	Permissions – i.e. planning, building warrants, marine licences	n/a see text
4	Policies – i.e. child protection, health and safety, equal opportunities	n/a
5	Confirmation of match funding letters	Funding already in hand and ringfenced. SkyeConnect will match fund.
6	Bank statement – latest available * <i>please provide a statement below declaring what the remaining bank balances are for.</i>	√
7	Annual financial accounts – latest available	√
8	Evidence of need and demand i.e. letters of support, community consultation reports, photos	√
9	Business plan (revenue generation projects only)	n/a
10	Relevant insurance policies	√
11	Job descriptions (CRF funded posts only)	√
12	Evidence of control/ownership of asset – i.e. lease, title deeds	See text
13	Partnership agreement	See text
Reason for missing documentation: The role will be advertised as a consultant/contractor position to deliver the project within a required timeframe. Public liability insurance will be contractual and employers' liability insurance will also be contractual if relevant. We have our own public and employer's liability insurance in place.		

Business plan not applicable but basic draft delivery plan and strategy proposal documents attached for reference. Delivery plan will be finalised during initial “Development of project timeline and delivery plan” phase in month one.

Proposal and delivery plan also attached for “Friends of Skye” visitor giving scheme which will be part of the delivery in year 2. This scheme will be built around the deliverables of the strategy so funding will only be granted to projects that align with the strategy objectives.

Declaration what the remaining bank balances are for: See text attached to bank statements. Match funding is available and will be ringfenced. Reserve account bank statement also included. Remaining balances are for ongoing SkyeConnect operations and project work.

Completed forms and supporting documentation should be emailed to the following email address quoting your unique project reference number:

communityregenerationfund@highland.gov.uk

Appendix 2 - Project technical assessments - RAG Summary Spreadsheet

Isle of Skye & Raasay Committee - 03 June 2024

Ref No	Organisation	Project title	Project description	Total project cost	Grant Requested	% rate	Project Robustness	Engagement & Support	Meeting a need/demand	Legacy & Exit Strategy	Equalities issues/impacts	Environmental sustainability	Value for Money	Match funding	Meets Local Priorities	Additionality	Score
2346	Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations (SLCVO)	Empower Skye & Lochalsh Programme	This is a transformative three-year programme through which we will empower communities, enhance partnerships, and prioritise holistic wellbeing. Central to this is SLCVOs management of the Skye and Raasay Future Plan, ensuring inclusive representation and participation from local communities. Simultaneously, we will establish a Third Sector Health, Wellbeing, Welfare and Social Care Consortium, aimed at fortifying third sector relationships and fostering a healthier, more resilient community.	£ 49,767.57	£ 30,767.57	62%	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	28
2348	Skeabost Memorial Hall Association	Re-roofing Skeabost Memorial Hall	Skeabost Memorial Hall is a Registered War Memorial and also provides a social centre for nine widespread but sparsely populated communities in northern Skye – accommodating several social groups and providing a popular venue for social and entertainment events. It is the local polling station and can be connected to a generator and become an emergency refuge. Although the Hall is well maintained, we have recently had professional opinion that our roof has passed its expected lifespan and is beginning to deteriorate and crumble. It needs to be replaced before serious damage caused by major water ingress occurs.	£ 22,451.24	£ 7,185.24	32%	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	30
2349	Skye Connect	Tourism Strategy Project Manager	Skye Connect seek to build on the Sustainable Transport & Infrastructure Improvements project and develop a 10 year Visitor Economy Sustainable Tourism Strategy. The strategy will include a focus on infrastructure related to the visitor economy and the benefits to the local community will include economic opportunities throughout Skye & Raasay, carbon reduction for visitors and locals alike together with a diversified integrated transport network. The integrated strategy aims to make Skye and Raasay leaders in sustainable tourism, with a robust infrastructure that supports the visitor economy, enhances community well-being, and preserves the environment.	£ 35,000.00	£ 15,000.00	43%	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	29

NOTE - RAG assessment criteria scoring. Red Amber Green ratings are based on information provided during the application process and are provided as a guide only. The ratings are converted into scores as follows: Red - 1, Amber - 2, Green - 3. This allows a total score for each project to be provided. All projects presented above are eligible for funding. Where a project has been awarded Red or Amber against any criteria, this does not reflect an eligibility issue but does flag up that there are outstanding concerns, or that only brief information was provided within the application. If Members wish to approve projects that have Red or Amber ratings then we would seek to address these concerns by applying technical conditions to any funding award made.