

CROWN ESTATE 2019 – 2023 ALLOCATIONS AND PROJECT UPDATES

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Scottish Ministers made a commitment in 2014 that they would provide 100% of the net revenue from Scottish Crown Estate marine assets out to 12 nautical miles to Local Authorities for coastal community benefit if management of the assets was devolved.
- 1.2 Scottish Government has written each year to Councils advising of the distribution of the net revenue generated from the Scottish Crown Estate's marine asset out to 12 nautical miles for their respective Council area. These annual revenue allocations are distributed in arrears following the finalisation of the annual accounts for the Scottish Crown Estate.
- 1.3 The expectation is that Local Authorities would use the funding for additional expenditure that specifically benefits coastal communities, with individual authorities making decisions on funding of projects to benefit coastal communities and being transparent and accountable to their communities and others for expenditure.
- 1.4 This report focuses on the last four tranches of payments paid to local authorities commencing in 2019/20 with the objective of ensuring that coastal communities benefit from the net revenue generated by the Scottish Crown Estate's marine assets. The allocation for each year relates to the net revenue generated from 2 financial years previous to the financial year the payment is received.
- 1.5 Over the last four tranches of payments to Argyll and Bute a total of £5,785,106.55 has been received. The Council is still awaiting confirmation of the allocation for this financial year (2023/24).
- 1.6 The annual payment made to each relevant local authority is based on the distribution method agreed by the Settlement and Distribution Group (SDG). It remains Scottish Governments preference that the allocations should be used to deliver coastal community benefit.

- 1.7 This report will updating members on the respective individual project allocations. In addition the report will provide an update on any subsequent changes made to the allocations as well as provide an update on progress of each of the projects. All projects, with the exception of the 2019/20 projects, are listed in Table 1.
- 1.8 The Crown Estate fund is targeted at the sustainability of coastal communities within the categories noted below and the Council has to advise how the funding is spent as part of the annual reporting requirements. Categories of expenditure are:-

Environment

Based Investment Programme (PBIP) allocations of grants against individual projects but would not affect the projects but simply the grant source.

- 4.6 As members will note from the Table 1 it is proposed to move the £100,000 Crown Estate (CE) allocation against the Tobermory Harbour Wall and Railings project and instead setting it against the Rockfield project and move the £100,000 PBIP funding to the Tobermory Harbour Wall and Railings Phase 2 project making their overall PBI Programme support £200,000. This

- 6.5.1 Equalities - protected characteristics – None.
- 6.5.2 Socio-economic Duty –