

- 1.7 At the October Policy and Resources agreement was sought from members for a further delegation of powers to the Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth to approve the final list of projects to

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

**POLICY AND RESOURCES
COMMITTEE**

**DEVELOPMENT AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH**

15 FEBRUARY 2024

CROWN ESTATE 2023/2024 ALLOCATION - UPDATE

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 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. The expectation was 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 other for

- d) Agree to a delegation of powers to the Executive Director with responsibility for Development and Economic Growth to allow any subsequent amendment to approved Crown Estate grant allocations to ensure that any risk relating to having to payback any grant is minimised. This may involve swapping Crown Estate allocations with Place Based Investment Programme (PBIP) allocations of grants against individual projects but would not affect the projects identified but simply the grant source.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 The Scottish Government has written each year to Councils advising of the 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.
- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 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
 - Community
 - Climate Change.
 - Economic Development
- 4.4 The funding can be used by the council to deliver council projects or can be provided as a grant to third sector organisations to assist in the delivery of a community project.
- x 4.5 Where the funding is being F2 12 Tfnt

- 4.7 It is proposed that the remaining **£459,747** is allocated as per the details in Table 2, below. It should be noted that the £50,000 previously allocated to Kilmartin Museum Project from the 2022/23 allocation, will now be repurposed towards this element of the project the total ask from 2023/24 Crown Estate Funding for Kilmartin Museum Project is £150,000.

Table 2 Potential projects
Remaining £459,747 to allocate after Bellwin

4.8 The challenge in respect of the funding has always been to identify projects that meet the criteria, and are able to be delivered within short timeframes with our limited staff resources especially given the sheer number of projects that we are already involved in delivering. Projects by their very nature are complex and even those that might be classed as small scale and involving smaller levels of grant can be challenging. Projects that are well advanced in regard to their scope, detail and costings and where there the necessary resources are in place have a much higher chance of being delivered and this in turn limits the risk to the Council and these should therefore be prioritised. In addition projects that add value to works already undertaken and investment already made or that support Council objectives and policies can deliver a much greater benefit for our c Tf13 648.34 Tm0 g0 G[C]TJETQ0.000008873 0 595

