

Lochs

Local Place Plan (DRAFT)

2026-2036

Prepared by Impact Hub Inverness on behalf of Kinloch, North Lochs and Pairc Forums

Impact Hub Inverness and MAAC Studio

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Forewords from the Area Forums

Pairc Area Forum

The Pairc Area Forum has existed for several years and has enabled community groups in the district to collaborate, support and exchange a wealth of aspirations, examples of good practice and creative ideas for current and future projects.

More is needed in the community: a vision that works for everyone, that addresses the issues known by those who live here and finds solutions for them, safeguarding what is best in our community for the future and, crucially, is supported by those for whom this plan has been created.

It has become evident that many of the concerns facing Pairc are mirrored by those in Kinloch and North Lochs. It has been a rewarding experience for all involved to share experiences and understand each Forum's backgrounds and aspirations - yet another example of what is achieved when Lochies work together.

The Lochs Forums would like to thank Impact Hub Inverness for the development of this Plan that considers the priorities and needs of the area. We thank Suzanne MacAulay for her ability to collate the data which will ultimately provide us with guidance and priorities for our long-term development aspirations. We thank those groups who were willing to speak to the researchers and finally to the individuals who filled in questionnaires and attended events.

We hope that the community and funders will now aspire to help deliver these recommendations.

Kinloch Area Forum

We are living in uncertain times that continue to highlight the challenges faced by many remote and rural communities such as Lochs. These include an ageing and declining population, economic vulnerability, the centralisation of services, and rising living costs.

While it would be easy to respond with pessimism, doing so would risk losing the strong, open communities we value - communities built on integrity, hard work, and mutual support. A century ago, similar pressures led many to emigrate and not return. Through this plan, however, we have been reminded of the importance of pursuing a different path.

Community engagement throughout the process has demonstrated the pride, commitment, and determination of local people to secure a sustainable future for Lochs. This has required honest reflection and a willingness to embrace change, whilst finding a balance between our traditions, culture, modern life and the hopes and aspirations of both young and old.

Despite the challenges, we share a clear and collective vision. We are committed to building on what works well, embracing new opportunities, thinking and working collaboratively across the Lochs area, and to using the tools set out in this plan to achieve our ambitions.

This document marks the beginning of that journey. With corresponding ambition from government and other partners, this vision can be realised, ensuring Lochs goes on to thrive and to have a long and prosperous future.

North Lochs Area Forum

Welcome to the Lochs Area Place Plan. This document represents a collaborative effort between the communities of North Lochs, Kinloch, and Pairc to imagine and shape a shared future. As we embark on this journey together, we recognise the unique character, rich heritage, and natural beauty that define our area.

This plan is more than a blueprint - it is a commitment to community wellbeing, sustainable development, and shared prosperity. Built on active engagement and a deep understanding of local needs, the plan sets out a vision for a place where residents can thrive, visitors feel welcome, and the environment is protected and enhanced.

To achieve this vision, it is vital that public bodies take note of the plan's content and that Comhairle nan Eilean Siar uses it to inform the wider Local Development Plan, acknowledging the community's aspirations for our area.

Within these pages, you will find ambitions shaped by our collective voice. We explore themes of Community, Place, Environment, and Infrastructure. Whether it is strengthening community life, improving public spaces, preserving cultural heritage, or supporting economic diversification; every action outlined contributes to a more resilient and confident Lochs area.

Together, we can build a place that honours our past, embraces our present, and creates opportunities for generations to come.

1. Introduction

1.1 Local Place Plans in Scotland

In Scotland, a Local Place Plan (LPP) is a statutory, community-led document that allows local groups to shape ideas and priorities for future development in their area. Created through the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, these plans are submitted to local authorities and play a formal role in shaping the Local Development Plan. Since 2018 Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (CnES) has adopted the Outer Hebrides Local Development Plan (2018) to shape and guide development in the Outer Hebrides. In 2025 CnES initiated the process of preparing a new Local Development Plan. When registered by CnES, this Lochs area LPP will be considered by CnES in the development of the Outer Hebrides Local Development Plan 3.

1.2 Lochs Area Local Place Plan

This LPP has been prepared on behalf of the three area forums in Lochs: Kinloch, North Lochs and Pairc, in consultation with the community of the Lochs area of Lewis and it contains our vision and our priorities for the area for the next 10 years. Lochs comprises three community council areas: Kinloch, North Lochs and Pairc. The LPP was developed through consultation with our community during the winter of 2025 and into the spring of 2026. It presents our aspirations for land use in Lochs in a spatial format and covers the period up to 2036, or until an updated plan is submitted.

Figure 1 below shows the combined area of the three relevant community councils, collectively known as the Lochs area, to which this Local Place Plan relates.

Fig 01 - Lochs area



1.3 Our Shared Vision for Lochs

“Our vision for the Lochs area is a vibrant, resilient and sustainable community where people of all ages can live, work and thrive. We want Lochs to be an attractive and welcoming place with access to good homes, meaningful employment, and the services and facilities needed for healthy and fulfilling lives.

Building on our strong heritage, landscape and community spirit, we aim to support a balanced local economy, protect and enhance our natural environment, and improve infrastructure and connectivity across the area. Through collaboration and local initiative, we want Lochs to be a place where communities are empowered, opportunities are created, and future generations can continue to call this unique part of Lewis home.”

1.4 Purpose of the Lochs Area Local Place Plan

Local Place Plans give communities a statutory right to have their ideas taken into account during the preparation of a new Local Development Plan. They are designed to influence how the policies regulating the development of land and buildings in a community are expressed in the Local Development Plan.

While Local Place Plans primarily influence the future use and development of the land, they also provide an important framework for coordinating investment, supporting community aspirations and informing wider decision-making.

In line with statutory requirements, the purposes of this LPP are to:

- Inform and influence CnES in the preparation of the Outer Hebrides Local Development Plan 3 (OHLDP-3).
- Support the Community Councils (Kinloch, North Lochs and Pairc) and CnES consider the impact of planning applications on our local communities, in line with our community aspirations.
- Inform and influence planning and investment decisions by CnES, statutory bodies, funders, landowners and businesses in ways that can support and align with the priorities expressed by our community.
- Inform future plans and strategies that may be relevant to our area.
- Provide an outline of community aspirations and a central reference point for providing information and context that allows our community to align its aspirations with potential funding opportunities e.g. Coastal Communities Fund, Community Benefit Funds, Scottish Land Fund and UK Government Pride in Place Programme starting in 2026.

The LPP sets the overall priorities and spatial direction and includes potential partners who may develop plans, in consultation with the communities, to take the proposals forward in the future.

The LPP will complement the three Community Action Plans (CAPs) that are to be developed by Kinloch, North Lochs, and Pairc Forums. The LPP presents land use aspirations from

these communities, whereas the CAPs will present the broad range of community aspirations for activities and services in the Lochs area.

Our plan is place-based, people-centred, and delivery-focused. It incorporates the community's proposals for land and building development and use and contributes ideas and suggestions to the planning process. During the consultation period for the LPP, some community members expressed concerns that similar research had been conducted previously without subsequent action. We believe that this LPP provides CnES, statutory agencies, wider partners and the community with insight into what matters to our community and the opportunity for our hopes and aspirations to be considered in planning decisions.

1.5 The Bigger Picture

The LPP is based on our community's aspirations whilst also reflecting planning policy aims of creating sustainable, liveable and productive places as expressed in National Planning Framework 4 (2023) as well as taking account of the Outer Hebrides Local Development Plan (2018), the Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plan (2021-2027) and the National Islands Plan (2025).

2. Current and Local Context in a Snapshot

Each of the three areas in Lochs has varying geographical, economic and social challenges. This Local Place Plan represents a new way of working for the three areas, which have come together for the first time to strategically plan an approach to meet the needs of all the communities. This includes the creation of the Local Place Plan and three local Community Action Plans.

Lochs lies south of Stornoway, the capital and principal service centre of the Isle of Lewis and the wider Outer Hebrides. It comprises a series of villages set within a landscape of freshwater lochs, peatland, moorland and coastal margins. The southern part of the LPP area falls within NSA 9149: South Lewis, Harris and North Uist National Scenic Area, recognising its nationally significant scenic quality. Crofting remains central to local land use and community identity, with many households managing small agricultural holdings alongside employment in their local community, Stornoway or beyond.

Lochs covers an area of approximately 179 sqm. A distinctive feature of the topography of the Lochs area is that the Pairc Peninsula is nearly separated from the rest of Lewis, bordered by Loch Erisort to the north and Loch Seaforth to the south. The Pairc Peninsula can be seen within the fresh water and sea loch borders of the southern section of figure 1.

In the Lochs area, key facilities include community halls, churches, local shops, post offices, petrol stations and recreation venues. There are two primary schools, Sgoil nan Loch in Leurbost (136 pupils in 2025-6, including the nursery, Sgoil Araich nan Loch) and Sgoil Na Pairc in Gravir (6 pupils in 2025-26). The Langabhat Medical Practice has a surgery in Leurbost and one in Gravir. Secondary health care, secondary and further education, major retail and recreational services are accessed in Stornoway or Tarbert.

Access to Stornoway varies across the Lochs area. Communities located close to the A859 and the principal bus routes generally benefit from better access to services and employment opportunities. Communities situated further from the main road network and public transport routes may experience greater challenges travelling to and from

Stornoway, particularly where journeys depend on connecting services or limited bus timetables.

A wide range of community organisations and voluntary groups operate across the Lochs area. These groups are under pressure to deliver essential services, and the availability, focus and capacity of these organisations varies between communities, reflecting the distinct identities, geography and local priorities of each area. They are also subject to ongoing issues of volunteer burnout and succession planning.

Community land ownership is variable across the Lochs area, with community land owners such as Pairc Trust, Aline Community Woodland, Keose Glebe Estate, and Stornoway Trust managing land and assets for housing and broader community benefit. The Lochs area has potential for renewable energy production (and battery storage) from which income could be generated for reinvestment in and by the communities of Lochs. There are mixed community views on the impact of renewable energy across the Lochs area. Currently, the Muaitheabhal Community Trust, established to distribute the community benefit fund from the proposed Beinn Mhor Wind Farm, has been distributing community benefit funds in the area since 2013, even though the development did not go ahead.

The road network is centred on the A859 arterial route between Harris and Lewis, but most of the villages in Lochs lie off this main artery. The B8060 provides access to Pairc settlements, and the B897 to the communities in North Lochs. Single-track roads are common throughout the whole of the Lochs area and are essential for connectivity into and within the area. The low level of geographic accessibility of much of the Lochs area is reflected in the access domain of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)¹, which shows the South Lewis datazone to be in the highest decile for this domain in 2020. Overall, the area is in the fourth decile.

The characteristics outlined below provide the context for the priorities identified throughout this Plan. Demographic change, accessibility, housing, transport, community facilities and economic opportunity are closely interconnected. Understanding these local conditions helps explain why particular places, projects and interventions emerged as priorities through community engagement.

2.1 Community Demographics

Overall, the Western Isles have recorded the largest population decline of all Scottish council areas (-5.5%) between 2011 and 2022² (National Islands Plan, 2025).

Data from Scotland's Census, defined by 2011 data zones³, indicates a 1% increase in population in Lochs from 1,810 in 2011 to 1,830 in 2022. Population age ranges and changes between the last two censuses are shown in Table 1⁴. The data show that the age profile of the area is imbalanced, with an ageing and declining population. Population projections show an overall predicted population decline, based on recent trends, of -3.6% to mid-2032 compared to a national increase of +4.4%⁵. A declining population and falling school rolls

¹ <https://simd.scot/#/simd2020/BTTTTFTT/12/-6.4705/58.1364/>

² <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-islands-plan-2/documents/>

³ census data zones for Lochs area are S01009025 and S01009026: <https://www.gov.scot/collections/small-area-statistics/>

⁴ <https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/search-the-census/#/>

⁵ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/publications/projected-population-of-scotland-2022-based/>

were raised repeatedly as concerns during the community consultation, with urgent action needed to try to turn this round. NHS Western Isles statistics for 2025 show low birth and high death rates in the Lochs area, leading to a ratio of nearly one birth for every four deaths⁶.

In addition to Census information, Public Health Scotland GP registration data provides a useful indicator of demographic change between Census years. Updated quarterly, this information helps build a more current understanding of population change and reinforces the demographic trends identified through the Census.

While Census data provides an important long-term picture, more recent NHS Western Isles demographic monitoring indicates these trends are continuing. Low birth rates and relatively high death rates continue to result in natural population decline across the Lochs area. Together with GP registration data, this provides a more up-to-date understanding of the demographic challenges facing the area.

Table 1 Age Range and Change, 2011-2022

Age range	Lochs 2011	Lochs 2022	Difference
0-4 years old	4.42%	3.39%	-1.03%
5-15 years old	10.99%	10.00%	-0.99%
16-29 years old	10.94%	12.24%	1.30%
30-44 years old	17.73%	12.30%	-5.44%
45-59 years old	23.59%	24.86%	1.27%
60-74 years old	22.21%	23.33%	1.12%
75 and over	10.11%	13.88%	3.77%

These demographic trends have significant implications for future planning. An ageing population, declining birth rates and fewer young households influence housing demand, education, transport, healthcare provision, workforce availability and the long-term sustainability of community facilities. Responding to these trends will require coordinated planning that supports population retention, attracts new households and enables residents to remain living independently within their communities.

2.2 Households and Housing

The 2022 census records show there were 913 households in Lochs, and one and two-person households were most common, comprising 41% and 35% of households, respectively.

Census data also show that 99% of occupied households were a whole house or bungalow. 80% of houses were in owner occupation; 11% were socially rented, and private rent/other

⁶ NHSWI, IJB November 2025 presentation on Effects of Demographic Change

made up the balance. Data from 2023⁷ show that 7% of dwellings in the Lochs area were second homes. In 2024, the proportion of second homes in Scotland was 0.8%, and in the Western Isles it was 5.9%⁸. That is, the proportion of stock in Lochs that is unavailable for local use is higher than average for the Western Isles. As of the end of 2025, the Western Isles had the highest proportion of active short-term let licences in Scotland, at 707 licences per 10,000 dwellings⁹.

These housing characteristics reinforce the issues identified throughout the community consultation regarding affordability, housing choice and the availability of homes for local people. Increasing the supply of appropriate housing will be important in supporting population retention and attracting new households to the area.

2.3 Transport

Car ownership levels for Lochs in the 2022 Census indicate that 85% of households own one or more cars or vans. The national average is 74%.

Public transport provision varies across the Lochs area. The W8 and W8A services serve North Lochs, the W9 and W9A serve South Lochs and Keose, and the W10 provides the main Stornoway-Balallan-Tarbert route along the A859. Access, frequency and connections vary between communities, with those located further from the principal routes generally facing greater challenges in travelling to employment, education, healthcare and other services.¹⁰

2.4 Economic Activity

Census figures from 2022 indicate that 57% of the Lochs population was economically active. This is significantly lower than for the Western Isles and Scotland as a whole (67% and 70% respectively). In Lochs, 34% of people were in full-time employment, 13% in part-time employment, and 9% were self-employed. Retirement levels were much higher in Lochs at 29% of adults over 16, compared to 17% for the CnES area, and 15% in Scotland.

This data highlights the area's ageing demographic profile, with a higher proportion of residents being retired than across both the Western Isles and Scotland more widely. These demographic characteristics have important implications for the future workforce and long-term sustainability of the area.

2.5 Health

In the 2022 Census 47% of respondents from Lochs indicated very good health and 31% indicated good health. These responses are consistent with both local CnES and National data.

While self-reported health remains generally positive, the demographic profile of the Lochs area presents important future planning considerations. Public Health Scotland GP registration data and local demographic evidence indicate an ageing population, increasing the importance of accessible healthcare facilities, community support services, and places that enable people to remain healthy and independent for longer. These demographic

⁷ From NRS Households and Dwellings in Scotland: 2023, supplied by Adhartas Trust

⁸ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/publications/households-and-dwellings-in-scotland-2024/>

⁹ [Western Isles has highest rate of short-term lets in Scotland | Scottish Housing News](#)

¹⁰ Bus route and timetable information current at the time of writing.

trends reinforce the importance of accessible housing, active travel infrastructure and well-located community facilities that support healthy ageing.

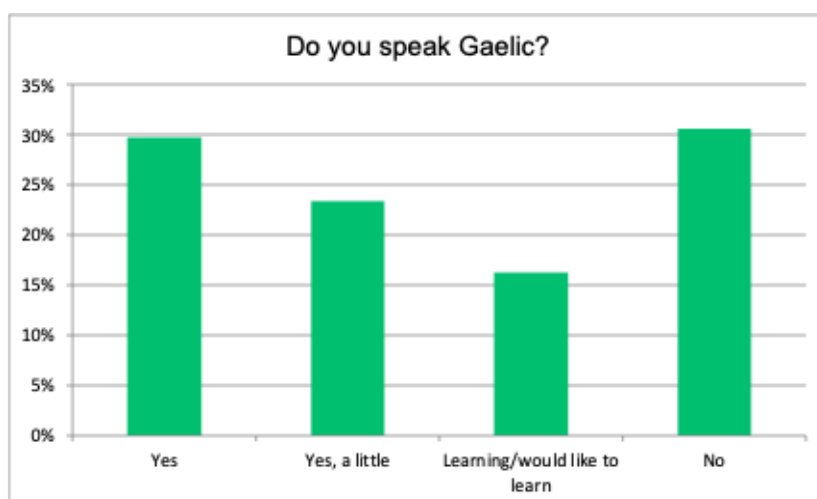
2.6 Gaelic Language

In the 2022 Census, 52% of people in the Lochs area reported that they understood, spoke, read or wrote Gaelic. This compares to 57% across the CnES area. In the survey carried out as part of the LPP process, just over 50% of respondents spoke some Gaelic, and a further 15% were interested in learning (see figure below).

Sgoil nan Loch in Leurbost teaches both in English Medium and Gaelic Medium (48% of pupils in 2025-26¹¹), the latter allowing pupils to learn with Gaelic as a first language, and English as a second. 48% of pupils from Nursery to P7 are currently enrolled in Gaelic Medium Education classes. The school also has a Gaelic Nursery¹². Gaelic Medium Education provision was recently removed from Sgoil Na Pairc.

The continued use and promotion of Gaelic contribute significantly to the cultural identity and distinctiveness of the Lochs area. Protecting and celebrating the language should therefore continue to be reflected through community facilities, interpretation, education and place-making initiatives.

Table 2 Gaelic Speaking amongst Survey Respondents



3. How this Plan was Prepared

This plan was commissioned by the Adhartas Trust on behalf of the area forums of Kinloch, North Lochs, and Pairc.

Project development: The first stage of the work was agreement on the engagement strategy, identification of local stakeholders, and collation and analysis of local plans and local information.

September - December 2025

Engagement: Stakeholder interviews to get insights from key actors in the area. Online and paper community survey promoted through social media, local groups, and direct contact with residents. Four drop-in sessions to share survey and interview findings, get feedback,

¹¹ <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/es/sgoilnanloch/>

¹² <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/es/sgoilnanloch/>

gather further input, and to add and identify spatial elements on maps of the Lochs area. School pupils at two local schools completed surveys.

November 2025 - February 2026

Plan Preparation: Development of a LPP draft, including a consultation period for the community, neighbouring Community Councils, stakeholders and Councillors to provide feedback on the draft. Production of the final plan.

July 2026 - August 2026.

3.1 Community Engagement

Community engagement was carried out from November 2025 to February 2026. All community engagement activity was undertaken in line with the [National Standards for Community Engagement](#) and [The Scottish Government Planning Circular 1/2022 \(Local Place Plans\)](#) that outlines guidance on the preparation, submission and registration of Local Place Plans.

The engagement approach sought to ensure that people could participate in a variety of ways, recognising that different methods are appropriate for different audiences and communities.

3.1.1 Stakeholder Interviews

Stakeholder mapping identified local stakeholders from local businesses, churches, councillors, community facilities and organisations, education and landowners. 56 stakeholders were identified, and they were contacted a minimum of 3 times to take part in an interview. A total of 18 in-depth interviews were conducted (6 from Pairc, 3 from Kinloch, 3 from North Lochs and 6 Lochs-wide).

A schedule of questions was used to guide the interviews, covering topics such: as what people valued about Lochs; any areas for concern; developments they wished to see; and opportunities and challenges in the years ahead. Interviewees were invited to talk freely and openly about their views and given an opportunity to bring anything else to the discussion. Findings were analysed collectively to identify common themes, opportunities and issues requiring further exploration during wider community engagement.

3.1.2 Community Surveys

- A survey was made available online through SurveyMonkey, with paper copies available from local collection points for those who preferred to complete it offline. It was promoted through: posters; direct email; local websites; on social media; word of mouth; local networks; and in the local press. Information about the survey was also included in the newsletter to parents at the primary schools. In total, 111 surveys were completed, representing 7% of Loch's population and providing a strong evidence base for a community of this size.
- A shorter online survey, also prepared on SurveyMonkey was made available for participants under the age of 18 years. There were 3 responses.
- A survey of primary school children, led by the primary schools, specifically designed for children. For the lower age groups, a teacher-led discussion was used to help pupils complete the survey. Older primary school pupils were asked to complete the survey directly. Responses were received from 40 pupils. The school engagement provided an

important opportunity to understand the perspectives of younger residents who are often underrepresented within these kinds of processes.

The main survey covered a range of topics and was largely based on the Place Standard Tool¹³, it was adapted to reflect some of the unique characteristics of the Lochs area, such as crofting, the Gaelic language, and piers and harbours. The Place Standards Tool covers themes such as housing, transport, the natural environment, education, and work. As well as asking people how they felt about these topics, the survey invited them to identify areas for improvement and indicate where they would like to see change.

Common themes were drawn out of the survey responses. These were then combined with the findings from the interviews and other reports and documents from/on the Lochs area. Collectively, the outputs were used as the basis for the next stage of consultation at the drop-in sessions.

3.1.3 Open Drop-in Sessions

Four open drop-in sessions were held across the areas of Lochs: Kinloch (in the Kinloch Hub), North Lochs (in North Lochs Community Association Hall), and Pairc (in Gravir Church Hall and Ravenspoint). The events were held over three days during the week beginning 9th February 2026, with opportunities to drop-in between midday and 8pm. These events were publicised via social media, posters and word of mouth. The purpose of the drop-in sessions was to gather additional feedback on the initial findings of the community survey and to capture wider community feedback for the place plan. 155 people attended over the four events, demonstrating strong community interest and providing an opportunity for residents to test, refine and expand the emerging findings from the earlier consultation stages. Some, but not all, of these people had also completed the survey previously. There was a good spread of people from across the three areas of Lochs.

At each session, a number of posters were positioned around the room, covering each of the emerging themes. For each theme, there were at least two posters - one for the challenges identified, and one for possible solutions. The posters were pre-populated with the findings from the work to date, and attendees were invited to respond to these with a simple tick/cross, to add their own additional thoughts, and to add detail on where they wished solutions to be implemented.

As well as thematic posters, area-specific posters were also included, again based on the findings of the consultation to date. Attendees were encouraged to either place flags on a series of maps of the Lochs area, highlighting suggestions for improvement, development opportunities, and areas of concern with possible solutions, or to record their thoughts on flipcharts and post-its. While the maps proved of great interest and a useful focal point for discussion, most attendees preferred to add their thoughts to the flipcharts, with only a few people placing flags on the maps themselves. The events focused on identifying specific locations for the priority themes that had emerged. At each drop-in event, the responses from the other sessions were visible, enabling people to add to and comment on what had arisen already.

¹³ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/our-place-website/>

Table 3 Location and Attendance at Drop-in Sessions

Area	Event attendance	Residence location of participants
North Lochs	64	67
Pairc	33	30
Kinloch	58	58
Total	155	155

The events provided useful additional feedback and comments on the main priority areas to emerge from the community survey and stakeholder interviews. An opportunity to comment on other issues that were raised was also provided, as well as a chance to add additional areas for consideration and any quick and simple solutions.

Responses were collated, and where specific mention of locations was provided, these are mapped and presented in the appendix of this plan.

3.1.4 Draft Local Place Plan Consultation Period

(to be completed post-statutory consultation)

The consultation period for the draft local place plan was XXX>YYY.

During this time, community feedback on the draft LPP was collected through an online form, allowing people to provide comments or suggested amendments to the plan. As per the statutory requirements, a copy of the proposed Local Place Plan and information notice was also sent to:

Councillors for the Lochs area (Sgìre nan Loch)

Angus Morrison

Robert Mackenzie

Community Councils for the Lochs area

Kinloch Community Council

North Lochs Community Council

Pairc Community Council

Community Councils adjacent to the Lochs area

Stornoway Community Council

Breasclete Community Council

Bernera Community Council

North Harris Community Council

Uig Community Council

xx responses were received on the draft LPP during the consultation period (add details of who and how the comments were received). Add general statement regarding comments – for after the consultation phase.

Comments received during the consultation period were reviewed and considered prior to finalising the LPP. Where appropriate, amendments were made to reflect factual corrections, additional evidence and community feedback.

3.1.5 Finalisation

Following consideration of all consultation responses, the LPP was revised where appropriate before being finalised and submitted to CnES.

4. The Area Overall - Assets, Opportunities, Needs and Challenges

The priorities outlined in this plan reflect the key concerns and aspirations of the people living in the Lochs area, which have been developed from the output of community engagement during November 2025-February 2026. These priorities have been identified by residents of the Lochs area as having the greatest potential to positively impact life in the area. As such, they illustrate the collective vision and hope for the Lochs area over the next 10 years. In addition to this Local Place Plan, a separate Community Action Plan for each of the three areas in Lochs - Kinloch, North Lochs and Pairc - will be prepared in due course by the Community Development Officer (CDO) on behalf of the three local area forums in Lochs.

Many of the priorities identified through this process are not new. Rather, they reinforce longer-standing community aspirations that have consistently emerged through previous consultation exercises, community planning and local development activity. This LPP provides an important opportunity to bring these priorities together within a single framework.

4.1 Key Positives about the Lochs area

The Lochs area is defined by a strong community identity, deep cultural heritage, and a landscape that shapes daily life. Residents consistently describe the area as a special place, valued for its scenery, quietness, wildlife, and sense of community and belonging. This was the same across all age groups, including school children who highlighted a strong sense of belonging and connection to nature.

- Strong community identity and cohesion across villages
- Feeling of safety and secure environment for young and old especially
- Peace and quiet, and pride of place
- Rich and clean natural environment: coastline, moorland, woodland walks, scenic routes
- Community halls, hubs and schools acting as social anchors
- Active crofting culture and strong Gaelic and island heritage
- Strong volunteer networks and community groups providing a range of services and facilities
- Strong willingness amongst communities to work collaboratively across the Lochs area to address shared challenges and opportunities.

4.2 Key Challenges Across all Villages

As well as recognising a lot of positives about living in Lochs, respondents highlighted a number of issues which were negatively impacting their community. Central to this were transport and digital infrastructure, limited housing and employment opportunities, which compounded social isolation, and disproportionately affected young people, families, the elderly, and non-drivers. On a daily basis, travel availability and safety, housing availability, community facilities, and land use remain the most common priorities. While many residents value the peaceful environment and aspects of community life, the ongoing loss of services, limited and variable transport, poor digital connectivity, and an ageing and declining population undermine the quality of life and long-term sustainability.

The purpose of a Local Place Plan is to identify land-use related aspirations from the local community. In addition to these, the community engagement process collected a lot of data that was more general or lacked a specific land-use aspect. These will be picked up in the theme discussions below and will be further explored in the individual Community Action Plans that are to be prepared by the CDO for the three areas in Lochs: Kinloch, North Lochs and Pairc. It is worth noting that respondents expressed a long-standing frustration that many issues raised in the LPP consultation process have been raised repeatedly over recent decades without meaningful progress. With the development of this LPP and the subsequent CAPs, it is hoped that progress will start happening.

5. Community Priorities

5.1 How to use this Plan

The consultation generated a substantial amount of data at the very micro-level. The comments and suggestions made have been grouped into themes, which are discussed in more detail in sections 6-13 below. This Local Place Plan is structured around the key themes. Many of the priorities identified through community consultation were very specific to one or more locations, whilst others were common across the whole of the Lochs area. Table 4 overleaf presents more detailed proposals for the three Forum areas, by theme, as well as those that had no specific location or were general across the whole of the Lochs area. The appendix gives even finer detail on proposals at the village level.

The maps and tables in the appendix collectively show proposals grouped by theme, any specific locations suggested by the community consultation, and which partners may be appropriate to take the proposal forward. All of the proposals identified in this Plan will require more detailed exploration, consultation, planning and engagement by multiple partners to take them forward.

Across the whole area, the priorities can be summarised as:

Community facilities - improvements and upgrades to Halls and Hubs, upgrades to and additional provision of playparks, expansion of parking and space/provision at GP surgeries, development of walking routes, improvements to and provision of additional facilities and activities at Aline Community Woodland, additional sports facilities, school improvements

Crofting and community growing - provision of sites for allotments, community growing, and polycrubs

Community and renewable energy - areas for renewables and energy storage

Digital connectivity - improvements in coverage in blackspots

Environment and heritage - nature restoration, interpretation, bird hides

Economy - development of small-scale commercial and retail spaces, land-based tourism-related enterprise development

Housing - provision of affordable housing.

Transport - better speed management, improved road safety and signage, improved active travel infrastructure, enhanced parking provision.

Lochs, however, is a large and diverse area, and consequently priorities across the three Forum areas and across each of the villages vary hugely. This variation becomes apparent through drilling down into the data, and shows, for instance, that housing was a much more significant priority in Pairc than in the other two areas. Table 4 below provides a more detailed summary of the proposals suggested across the whole of the Lochs area, shown by each of the Forum areas, against the key themes, and in the appendix, the finer detail by village is given.

The proposals detailed in the following sections have arisen from community consultation and as such, represent the areas for development that they would like to see considered in the forthcoming Outer Hebrides Local Development Plan (OHLDP-3).

Table 4 Themes and Priorities across the Forum areas, and alignment with OHLDP

Theme and sub-theme	Proposals	Alignment with OHLDP
C - Community facilities and local services: Investment in halls, playparks, health facilities, piers and harbours, schools, and sport and recreation facilities		
C1 Community Spaces, e.g. hubs and halls	Kinloch - Kinloch Hub - Add new entrance porch on laundry to change from SW facing to east facing and add public toilets - Balallan Village Hall needs heating and window improvements - Balallan Village Hall - Convert to bunk house or upgrade - Upgrade Keose hall with toilet and refurbishment - Lochs showground: Improve buildings, including solar panels etc. to make more sustainable - Community health hub at Lochs showground - New facility solar dome (meeting place for parties, star gazing, music, etc.) in Keose and Keose Glebe - Potential for new campervan facility	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD4, PD5, PD6, ED2, EI1, EI2, EI12, NBH4, NBH6
	North Lochs - North Lochs Community Association Hall: redevelopment for recreation and business, disabled access and disabled toilets and ebike hire, Café area redevelopment, Solar panels to reduce electricity costs, gym hall and office space - Sgoil nan Loch improvements – poor lighting, add foot paths/pavements/cycle paths - New community space in Grimshader - Campsite pitch in Leurbost	
	Pairc - Potential for new campervan facility at Shieldinish - Defibrillator in Calbost village - Gym at Pairc Trust Resource Centre - Improve accessibility at Ravenspoint	

Theme and sub-theme	Proposals	Alignment with OHLDP
	- Building expansion project at Ravenspoint - New hall at Pairc Trust Building - Make greater use of Orinsay Hall	
C2 Health	Kinloch	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD4, PD6, ED2, EI1, EI2, EI9, EI12
	North Lochs - Langabhat Surgery: gym and physio suite	
	Pairc - Investment in the surgery building in Gravir - Creation of multi-use hub for fire service, doctors, nursery, library, hotdesking and housing in Gravir - Defibrillator in Calbost	
C3 Playparks	Kinloch - Better play park facilities and better maintenance of playpark at Aline - Kinloch Hub - Reinstate play park; improve and increase age range - Public toilet at playpark in Keose	DS1, PD1, PD5, PD6, EI1, EI7, EI9, NBH1, NBH2
	North Lochs - New play park in Crossbost/Ranish - Create playpark at Achmore - Better play park at Sgoil nan Loch	
	Pairc - Relocate closed and dilapidated play park to school in Gravir	
C4 Piers and harbours	Kinloch - Improve pier in Keose - Maintain slipways in Keose	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI6, EI9, EI11, NBH1, NBH2, STY3
	North Lochs - Crossbost Pier needs improved, could be site for business development, and needs toilet and disabled toilet - Ranish Pier needs improvement - Boat moorings	

Theme and sub-theme	Proposals	Alignment with OHDP
	Pairc - Clean up Cromore Pier - Clean up Garyvard Pier and carry out maintenance	
C5 Schools and education	Kinloch - Woodland nursery/forest school at Aline	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD4, PD5, PD6, ED2, EI1, EI2, EI9, EI12
	North Lochs - Sgoil nan Loch improvements unusable pitch and play area (Astroturf needed)	
	Pairc - Use Gravir school for community activities - Improvements in Gravir school - Reinstate Gaelic Medium in Gravir school	
C6 Sport and recreation, walking trails and picnic benches etc.	Kinloch - Develop Loch Seaforth Shore walking route - Upgrade official route from Airidh a Bhruaich to Loch Seaforth - Aline Woodland - Add circular walking routes, add benches and picnic tables at key points, make all ability paths, resurface walkways to reduce slippiness of walkways - some are now avoided due to Health and safety, add cycleways and mountain bike tracks, build a gazebo shelter on a bridge over the loch, add dog walking enclosure - Potential for new multi-use sport centre with outdoor area - All ability trail in Keose - Historic port in Keose - starting point for walking route - Open access to historic pathway in Keose - Walkway access in Keose for rambling and fishing - Map board with walking routes in Keose/Keose Glebe - Loch Erisort viewpoint - Upgrade Laxay woodland walk - Walking route between Keose and Keose Glebe	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD5, PD6, PD7, EI1, EI7, EI9, NBH1, NBH2
	North Lochs - Picnic benches at Crossbost Pier	

Theme and sub-theme	Proposals	Alignment with OHLDP
	- Shoreline path opportunities at Crossbost - Path over Arnish Moor connecting villages - Footpath linking Grimshader to Leurbost - New paths in Grimshader - Walking routes to North Lochs via Arnish - Walking routes around Loch Tom an Fheidh - Walking route between Macdonald Gardens (water tank) and Grimshader water treatment - Improved changing areas at North Lochs Community Association Hall - Walking route linking North Lochs villages - Paths linking the communities to North Lochs Community Hall - Walking route between Macdonald Gardens (water tank) and Grimshader water treatment - Stands at the Creagan Dubh pitch - Development of old moor path between Sgoil nan Loch and North Lochs Community Association Hall Pairc - Heritage trail in Calbost - Signage to Crobeg and Eilean Chaluim Chile (signage to note no parking) - Open up historic routes between Cromore and Marvig - Walking route and picnic benches around Loch nam Faolleag - Picnic benches in Gravir - Community sauna in Gravir - Potential horse arena in Habost and Kershader - Create Pairc Trail walk between all villages - Viewpoints to the Shiant Islands and Skye - Picnic area in Marvig, Lemreway and Orinsay - Walk along Druim Anish and back through Marvig village - Open up historic routes between Cromore and Marvig - Improved access and walk from Orinsay to Steimreway	

Theme and sub-theme	Proposals	Alignment with OHLDP
	Pan-Lochs - More outside seating and picnic areas in villages - More stiles needed over fences to make paths between villages usable - Water dispensing stations in villages along A859 for walkers and cyclists - Develop long distance paths using old peat tracks, such as a North Lochs Way	
C7 Other	Kinloch - More benches and outside seating at Hub - Re-instate post box in centre in Grimshader - Post box needed in Keose - Public toilets on main road at Laxay	
	North Lochs - Dog park provision	
	Pairc - New petrol pump at Ravenspoint and weather protection - Post box in Calbost	
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture: Increased community growing facilities, opportunities for crofting and aquaculture.		
CC1 Aquaculture	Pan-Lochs - More locally sensitive further fish farming	DS1, PD1, PD6, ED4, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI6, EI9, EI11, NBH1, NBH2
CC2 Community growing	Kinloch - Disused HHP and council sites to be used for communal growing - Polycrub at Kinloch Hub - Redevelop Grimshader old school pitch for community garden and polycrubs - Community growing spaces and polycrub at play park in Keose - Allotments and Introduction to Crofting area in Keose	DS1, PD1, PD5, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI5, NBH1, NBH2
	North Lochs - Create polycrubs or allotments at Achmore - Polycrubs and allotments on Leurbost old school pitch	
	Pairc	

Theme and sub-theme	Proposals	Alignment with OHLDP
	- Community polycrub for Calbost, Cromore, Garyvard, Ravenspoint, Orinsay, Lemreway, in old skip area in Gravir, and Marvig. - Proposal for communal Grazings' Committee agricultural shed in Cromore	
	Pan Lochs - Communal gardens and growing spaces in villages	
CC3 Crofting, including fanks and fencing	Kinloch North Lochs - Issues with croft access in Grimshader Pairc - Eishal fank improvements - Upgrade to fank in Cromore	DS1, PD1, PD6, EI2, EI3, EI5, EI7, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5
CE - Community and Renewable Energy: potential for renewables and use of community benefit		
CE1 Community and renewable energy	Kinloch - Renewables - battery storage for Keose and Keose Glebe North Lochs - Grimshader area to be kept free of wind turbines Pairc - Solar and battery storage project at Ravenspoint - Location of pump storage and turbines in Sheildinish and Seaforth Pan Lochs - Tidal turbines in Loch Erisort and Loch Seaforth - Community-owned turbines (bladeless)	DS1, PD1, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI5, EI8, EI9, EI11, EI12, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5
D - Digital Connectivity: Patchy broadband and mobile coverage affecting safety, work and education.		
D1 Connectivity (mobile and broadband)	Kinloch North Lochs - Poor digital services in Ranish - Connectivity in Grimshader - relying on broadband or satellite- very expensive, affects house prices. - Better understanding about fibre rollout, connectivity info for householders	DS1, PD1, EI10, EI11, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5, NBH6

Theme and sub-theme	Proposals	Alignment with OHLDP
	Pairc - No mobile service in places in Cromore - No mobile service in places in Gravir	
	Pan Lochs - Internet too slow and patchy - Patchy mobile signal - Poor connectivity, broadband speed and lack of alternative or value providers	
E - Environment and Heritage: Shoreline cleanliness, biodiversity, waste management, nature and invasive species.		
E1 Heritage	Kinloch	PD1, PD7, EI7, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5, NBH6, NBH7
	North Lochs	
	Pairc - Dun Cromore potential archaeological project - Interpretation board at Ravenspoint	
E2 Nature, including interpretation boards and bird hides	Kinloch - Aline Woodland - Bird hides and photographic points, and wildflower walks - Bird hide and otter hide and photographic point in Keose or Keose Glebe - Interpretation board at Keose - Nature restoration projects in Keose and Keose Glebe	DS1, PD1, PD7, ED3, EI1, EI3, EI5, EI7, NBH1, NBH2, NBH3
	North Lochs - Dark Sky area in Grimshader - Last of the original Lewis forest - Bird hide at Loch Orasaig	
	Pairc - Bird hides in central location in Cromore, Gravir, Habost and Kershader - Potential peat restoration in Habost and Kershader	
	Pan Lochs - Better deer management needed - Improved control of invasive species	
	Kinloch	

Theme and sub-theme	Proposals	Alignment with OHLDP
E3 Shoreline cleanliness	North Lochs - Beach pollution concerns at Crossbost	
	Pairc - Clear up Cromore Bay - Clear up marine debris in Garyvard and Caversta	
	Pan Lochs - Clear up marine debris	
E4 Waste management	Kinloch - Laxay graveyard: Roadside waste bins	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI9, NBH1, NBH2
	North Lochs - Roadside waste bins in Leurbost - Community Hub chemical waste disposal point	
	Pairc	
	Pan Lochs - More roadside bins and poo bins - Bring back waste disposal skips in key locations in each of Pairc, Kinloch and North Lochs - Dog waste notices - Remove litter - lots on the roads	
E5 Other	Pan Lochs - Improved and upgraded fencing throughout villages	
EC - Economy: Business opportunities		
EC1 Business Opportunities	Kinloch - Old quarry to be reinstated - Small food shop and post office at Kinloch Hub - Develop Loch Erisort Inn as a social/business and tourist hub - Campervan facilities - 3x small industrial units in Keose - Use slipway at Keose for boat trips/kayaks etc	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD4, PD6, PD7, ED1, ED2, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI9, EI10, EI12, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5, NBH6, STY1, STY2

Theme and sub-theme	Proposals	Alignment with OHLDP
	North Lochs - Crossbost pier needs improved, could be site for business development - Hall redevelopment for business, office space and hotdesks in Leurbost	
	Pairc - Development of unused Scottish Water site for renewable energy or tourism in Habost and Kershader - Business units in Habost and Kershader - Potential development area in Habost and Kershader - Have small shops in business units in Habost and Kershader - Trips to the Shiant Islands	
H - Housing: Affordable homes, fuel poverty, elderly housing, and retaining young families		
H1 Provision of affordable and appropriate for local needs housing	Kinloch	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD3, PD4, PD5, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI4, EI5, EI9, EI10, EI12, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5, NBH6
	North Lochs - Housing for Achmore	
	Pairc - Affordable housing in Cromore, Gravir, Habost, Kershader, Garyvard and Caversta - Progress development of the proposed site in Gravir - Smartclachan housing development in Gravir	
	Pan Lochs - Use church glebes for housing - More land for self-build - Use modular building techniques - Empty properties back into use - Use non-croft land for housing	
H2 Elderly housing	Kinloch	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD3, PD4, PD5, PD6, ED2, EI1, EI2, EI4, EI9, EI10, EI12
	North Lochs	
	Pairc - Elderly care home at house that joins onto Gravir Surgery	

Theme and sub-theme	Proposals	Alignment with OHLDP
H3 Fuel poverty	Pan Lochs - Continue to allow peat cutting (to ease fuel poverty)	PD3, PD4, EI5, EI8
T - Transport and safe movement: Road safety, speeding, poor pavements, limited public transport, EV network, road conditions, parking, and weak active travel connections.		
T1 Active Travel	Kinloch - Complete cycle path Harris to Stornoway - Bicycle stop point in Keose or Keose Glebe	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD5, EI1, EI7, EI9, NBH1, NBH2
	North Lochs - Pavement upgrades needed in Ranish - Cycle path Grimshader/Leurbost to Stornoway - Bicycle stop point in Leurbost - Desire for a cycle lane to Stornoway from Leurbost	
	Pairc	
T2 EV network	Kinloch	PD1, PD2, EI8, EI9, EI11, NBH1, NBH2
	North Lochs - EV charging at North Lochs Community Hub	
	Pairc - EV charging at Ravenspoint	
	Pan Lochs - More EV points in the area generally	
T3 Parking	Kinloch	PD1, PD2, PD5, PD6, EI1, EI9, NBH1
	North Lochs - North Lochs Community Association Hall parking issues - Langabhat Surgery needs improved parking	
	Pairc - More parking in centre of Calbost - Park and ride at Eishal Junction - Dedicated car park for the doctors' surgery in Gravir, and level the car park - Improved parking at Ravenspoint	

Theme and sub-theme	Proposals	Alignment with OHLDP
	- Parking site in Lemreway and Orinsay	
T4 Public transport	Kinloch	DS1, PD1, PD2, EI9, EI11
	North Lochs	
	Pairc	
	- Park and ride at Eishal Junction	
T5 Road conditions	Kinloch	PD1, PD2, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI9, NBH1, NBH2
	- Keose Glebe road in urgent need of repair	
	North Lochs	
	- Road quality concerns in Ranish	
	- Poor road through Grimshader	
	- Road between Ranish and Grimshader improvement	
	- Neglected road markings and signage on A859	
	Pairc	
	- Bridge and gate to shore in Torostay require remedial works	
	- Roads south of Garyvard need improvement	
	- Extend double track road to Eishal Junction from Garyvard	
	Pan Lochs	
	- White lines on all single-track roads	
T6 Safety, including street lighting and pavements	Kinloch	PD1, PD2, PD6, PD7, EI1, EI9
	- Need for safe pedestrian route from Laxay to Arivruaich	
	- Link up pavements through Balallan - continuous safe route	
	- Pavements and street lights through Laxay	
	North Lochs	
	- Street lighting on stretch between Leurbost and Crossbost, very dark area where people walk regularly.	
	- A859 improve road safety at bus stop	
	- Keep left and Do Not Cross sign at passing place between Crossbost and Leurbost	
	- Improve street lighting in Leurbost village	

Theme and sub-theme	Proposals	Alignment with OHLDP
	- Widen road at the beginning of Leurbost - Upgrades to pavement (too smooth and dangerous)	
	Pairc	
T7 Speed management	Kinloch - Speed restrictions through Balallan and Speed indicator signs in Balallan - Speeding on road between Balallan and Laxay - Speed bumps by Kinloch Hub - Speed restrictions through Keose village (30mph) - Slow signs at Keose play park North Lochs - 30mph speed limit through central Crossbost - Extend 30 mile zone through Leurbost village - Speed restrictions through Leurbost - A859 approach to Stornoway dangerous. Pairc - Traffic calming measures in Habost and Kershader Pan Lochs - Warnings for sheep on all open moor roads - Blind summit road signs - Speed limits of 30 max in all villages - Improve road signage to communicate road safety and driving etiquette on single-track roads	PD1, PD2, PD7, EI9
T8 Other	Kinloch North Lochs Pairc - Causeway from Kershader to Laxay Pan Lochs - More Gaelic signage	EI9

6. Community Facilities and Local Services

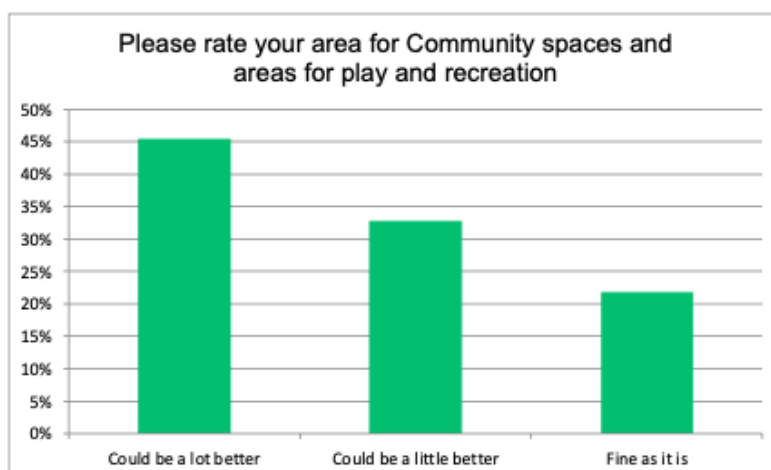
Community halls, hubs, playparks, and sports spaces form the backbone of social life across the area, providing venues for events, services, learning, and community connection. While there is a strong network of buildings and active volunteer groups, many facilities were identified as requiring investment to modernise, improve accessibility, and meet current community needs. Opportunities exist to renovate key halls, improve accessibility, develop new sports provision, and expand youth facilities. However, ageing infrastructure, limited organisational capacity and the ongoing costs of maintaining community assets present significant challenges to their long-term sustainability.

There were many suggestions for additional services that people would like to see provided within existing community facilities, including Gaelic lessons, skills development opportunities, craft activities, community growing initiatives and other activities that encourage social interaction and reduce isolation. -While these suggestions fall largely outside the remit of the LPP, they provide valuable evidence for the accompanying CAP and demonstrate the importance of well-designed, flexible community facilities.

In the survey, 45% of respondents said that spaces for play and recreation could be a lot better. This included halls and play parks. Children and young people strongly echo the priorities raised by adults. Young people identified clear gaps in provision that limit opportunities to play, socialise, and be active, emphasising the importance of better sports and leisure facilities, more things to do locally, and more youth-focused activities.

This reinforces the importance of ensuring that community facilities continue to meet the needs of all age groups and remain adaptable to changing patterns of use.

Table 5 Rating of Community Facilities



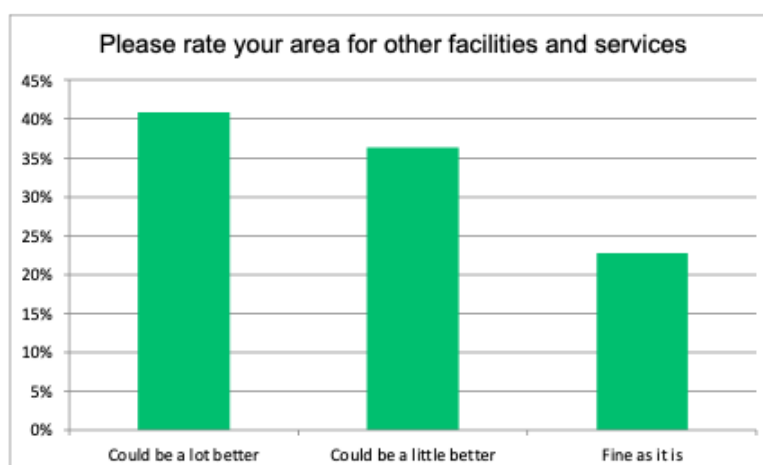
When asked about other facilities (such as health services, sports facilities and gyms, post offices, banks, shops, libraries, etc.), 40% of respondents said they could be a lot better. Respondents also identified opportunities to improve access to healthcare and community services. Rather than focusing solely on new services, many comments highlighted the importance of ensuring existing community buildings and healthcare infrastructure are capable of accommodating a broader range of health, wellbeing and community uses.

Schools were considered to be key community assets as they provide safe spaces and contribute to community cohesion. Sgoil na Pairc in Gravir was repeatedly raised as a concern because of falling school rolls and the recent withdrawal of Gaelic medium

education, and people were fearful for its long-term viability. Respondents felt there was scope for greater provision of educational and community-based services to be provided in schools, particularly in Gravir. Using Pairc school for adult education and as a general community hub were specific uses mentioned. This reinforces the important role that schools can play as multi-functional community assets, particularly within rural communities where opportunities to share facilities become increasingly important.

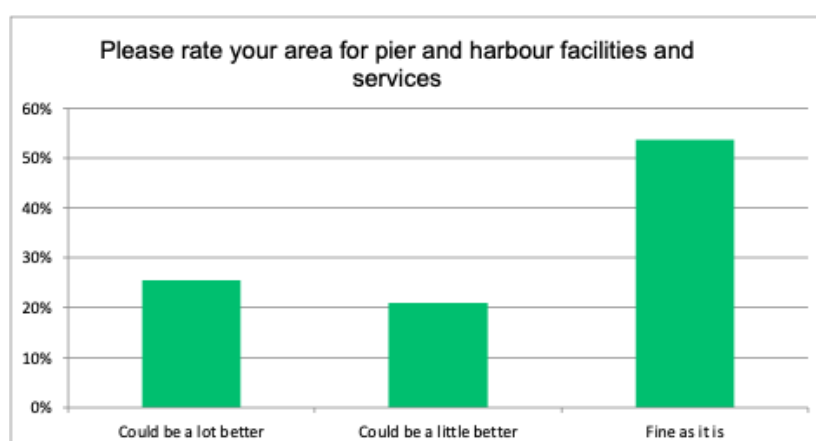
Many of the suggestions relating to the future delivery of services fall outside the scope of the LPP. However, they provide valuable evidence and will be considered further in the three Lochs Community Action Plans.

Table 6 Rating of Other Facilities and Services



The provision of piers and harbours was overall seen as adequate, with a few areas identified for improvements. There is scope for greater leisure use of the existing facilities, the income from which could contribute to their upkeep. While respondents generally supported greater leisure use of existing harbour facilities, there was little support for large-scale marina development.

Table 7 Rating of Piers and Harbour Facilities



Key Points

- Each of the three areas in Lochs has a main hall or hub, and there are smaller community facilities in many of the villages. Halls/hubs serve their local community with no single space serving the whole Lochs area. This poses challenges for strategic

service planning and delivery. General areas for improvement to community facilities were highlighted as accessibility, comfort, connectivity, and service offering.

- There is **significant potential for improvement of community facilities across the whole area**, including hall renovations, new sports facilities, upgraded and new playparks, and expanded youth spaces.
- Several facilities require investment to improve conditions, accessibility and flexibility of use. Many facilities are **in poor condition**, with playparks and sports provision highlighted as specific gaps.
- **Staffing and capacity constraints** limit the ability of hubs to expand services or operate sustainably.
- Young people consistently highlighted the need for improved sports and leisure facilities, including indoor sports provision and access to swimming facilities.
- Many feel there is a **lack of things to do**, particularly in smaller villages.
- More **picnic areas and benches** for community use.
- **Schools were seen as key assets** but fears were raised about the future of Gravir Primary, and suggestions made about additional services it could provide to give it additional purpose.
- The lack of **nursery** options and **childcare** was also raised.
- Although outwith the scope of the LPP, respondents highlighted the importance of improved access to vocational training and lifelong learning opportunities.
- Improved walking routes, active travel opportunities and all-ability access throughout the Lochs area.

7. Crofting, Community Growing and Aquaculture

Crofting has shaped both the landscape and the communities of the Lochs area for generations and continues to play an important role in supporting biodiversity, local food production, rural employment and cultural identity. Community engagement demonstrated strong support for protecting this heritage while encouraging innovation and diversification to ensure crofting remains resilient in the future.

Respondents described many positive examples of active land management, including livestock production, traditional grazing, woodland planting, polycrubs, polytunnels, diversification into tourism and the introduction of alternative livestock. At the same time, concerns were raised about absentee tenancy and land that is no longer actively managed, resulting in the spread of rushes and other undesirable vegetation.

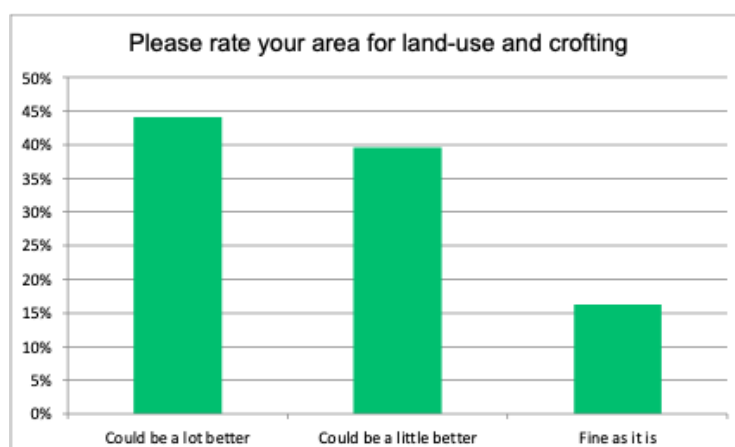
There was a desire to see unused or unworked crofts brought back into use, both as a source of potential housing or housing sites, and as workable land either for food production or income generation. Participants felt that administrative processes and regulatory complexity could present barriers to bringing croft land back into active use. Desired potential land uses of croft land were identified as tree planting, community renewables, eco-camping, and other tourism-related activities, and the addition of polycrubs for greater food production. Indeed, there was interest in polycrubs more widely

than just on crofts, with most villages saying they wanted an area for communal growing and communal polycrubs.

Although aquaculture was identified as part of the scope of this theme, relatively few comments were received during consultation. Where discussed, respondents generally supported the sustainable use of marine resources where environmental quality, community benefit and local employment could be maintained.

Participants recognised that active land management, local food production and diversified crofting practices can all contribute towards greater climate resilience while strengthening local communities and supporting biodiversity.

Table 8 Rating of Land-use and Crofting



Key points

- **Active crofting communities** and good examples of productive croft use.
- Opportunity to bring underused croft land back into productive use, including housing where appropriate, food production and other forms of sustainable land management.
- Support for initiatives that encourage more active, productive and diversified use of croft land.
- Development of **communal growing areas**, allotments, and installation of polycrubs in all villages.
- Investment in crofting infrastructure, including fanks, fencing, access tracks and footpaths.

8. Community and Renewable Energy

Renewable energy, particularly wind energy, has become an established part of the landscape and an important form of energy production across the Western Isles.

Community engagement demonstrated broad recognition that renewable energy will continue to play a role in the future of the Lochs area. However, respondents placed considerable emphasis on where future developments should be located, identifying both potential opportunities and areas where they felt further large-scale developments would be inappropriate.

Where there was broader support for additional renewable energy development, respondents favoured projects that were proportionate in scale, community-led, and capable of delivering meaningful community impact. There was strong interest in ensuring

that community benefit funding generated through renewable energy developments is invested in locally identified priorities that strengthen the long-term sustainability of the Lochs area.

Key points

- Explicitly link renewable developments with the potential for **investment in housing** and other community projects.
- Although there was some support for greater investment in renewable energies locally, some areas were highlighted where people felt there should be no renewable developments.

9. Digital Connectivity

Over 45% of respondents in the survey said digital connectivity could be a lot better. Connectivity varies significantly across the Lochs area, shaping people's ability to work, study, access services and remain connected during emergencies and power outages. While some communities now benefit from improved 4G and broadband capability, others continue to face unreliable broadband, no mobile coverage and heightened vulnerability during power cuts. While community hubs and remote working present opportunities to strengthen digital resilience, persistent gaps in broadband and mobile coverage continue to present significant challenges for households and businesses. Although there is not necessarily a land-use element to the issues raised, additional masts may be required in the area, which would require suitable locations and permissions. Digital connectivity also influences the future use and viability of housing, community facilities, businesses and public services, and plays an increasingly important role in supporting remote working, education, access to services and the retention of working-age households within the Lochs area.

Key Points

- Provision is generally improving and some villages now have **improved 4G and fibre to cabinet provision**, offering a stronger foundation for digital access.
- There is clear potential for **digital hubs in community centres** and better support for remote working and enterprise.
- Several communities experience **poor broadband**, particularly Ranish, Keose, Grimshader, Gravir, Cromore and Calbost.
- Mobile **service** was reported as variable and inconsistent across different providers, leading residents to express concern about safety and limited communication as analogue services are phased out.
- **Power cuts increase vulnerability**, especially where digital connectivity is already weak.
- There is a need for telecommunications infrastructure to be more resilient to severe weather events.
- **Strong appetite for better digital infrastructure**, especially fibre and mobile coverage
- Recognition that digital access underpins **health, safety, economic viability, education, and community resilience**

10. Environment and Heritage

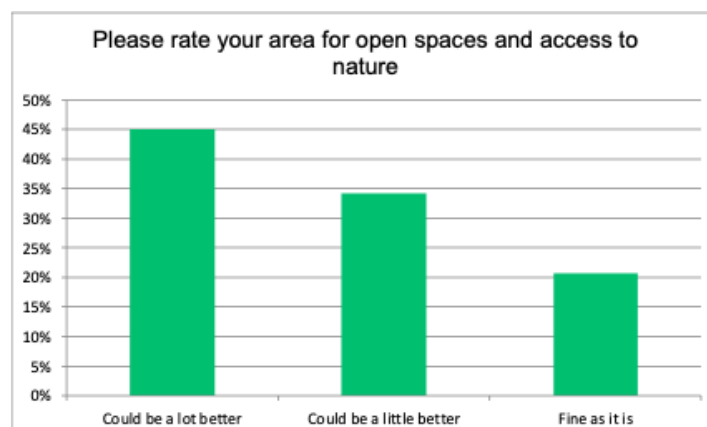
The natural environment is one of the area's strongest assets, but communities are increasingly concerned about land management, biodiversity loss and shoreline cleanliness. Residents value the crofting landscape, extensive coastline moorland and rich natural heritage, together with the strong local interest in regenerative land management. However, they recognise that invasive species, marine debris and declining crofting skills are placing pressure on the landscape. There is a clear appetite for community-led action, from community growing and allotments to eco-tourism and habitat restoration, but progress is challenged by environmental pressures and limited access to some crofting areas.

Improving accessibility to and within the natural environment was seen as a priority, with calls for improving the path network and, in some cases, developing existing informal moorland routes. The installation of interpretation boards and other facilities that could enhance appreciation of the natural environment was highlighted. Aline Community Woodland was seen as a key asset for the area that could be further improved. Greater scope for more tree planting across the area was highlighted, as was the need for peatland restoration.

Together, these opportunities demonstrate the important contribution that environmental stewardship can make to the long-term resilience and distinctiveness of the Lochs area.

Management of waste and pollution needs to be improved, both on land and the shoreline. This requires remedial action, such as clean-ups, but also preventative measures, such as more public toilets, dog waste bins, and provision for the disposal of grey water.

Table 9 Rating of Open Spaces and Access to Nature



Key Points

- The area benefits from a rich crofting heritage and strong community interest in **biodiversity**, regenerative land use and **habitat restoration**.
- There is significant potential for **community-led environmental projects**, including orchards, allotments, bird hides, shoreline clean-ups and eco-tourism initiatives.
- The environment faces pressures from **invasive species**, marine debris, deer overpopulation and declining traditional crofting skills.
- Access to steep crofts and remote areas remains a challenge, limiting **active land management** and restoration work.

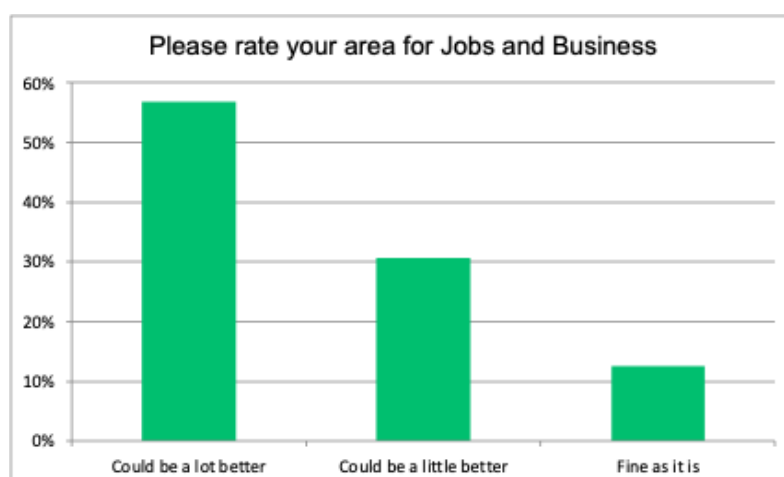
- Increased tree planting and strengthening habitat connectivity through the creation of nature corridors.
- Better management of invasive non-native species, including Gunnera and rhododendron, alongside appropriate measures to address the local impacts of rushes, geese and deer.

11. Economy

Nearly 60% of survey respondents felt there was a lot of room for improvement in relation to jobs and business, with respondents stating there was a lack of employment opportunities, especially in the outlying parts of Lochs. Where jobs did exist locally, they were often described as low-paid or insecure. The proximity of Stornoway was viewed as both an opportunity and a constraint. While it provides access to employment for some residents, respondents also felt that its role as the main employment centre has contributed to investment and services becoming increasingly concentrated there, leaving more peripheral communities with fewer local employment opportunities. For many residents, commuting to Stornoway is not a realistic option because of limited public transport, the need to have access to a car, or the additional costs associated with travel. These factors can restrict access to employment and training opportunities, particularly for those living in more remote communities.

Potential key sectors for development included crofting, aquaculture and tourism. Improved digital connectivity was also seen as creating greater opportunities for remote working and home-based businesses, while the availability of premises for start-ups or small-scale business development was raised as an opportunity.

Table 10 Rating of Jobs and Business



Key points

- Need for **better-paid** and more diverse employment options
- Demand for **vocational training** and **apprenticeship** opportunities locally
- **Tourism, crofting and aquaculture were consistently identified as sectors with potential to support future economic development.**

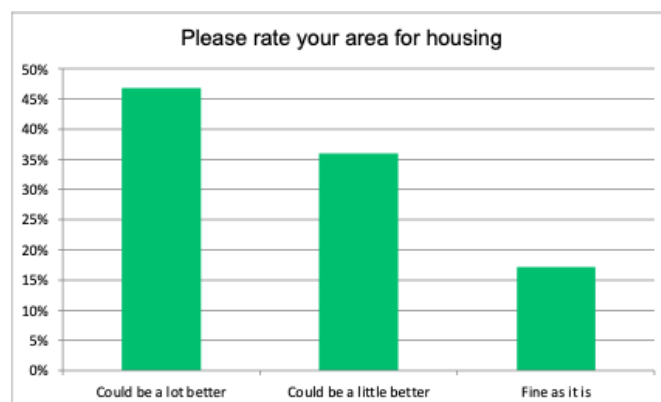
- **Digital and transport connectivity can restrict access to employment opportunities, particularly in more remote communities.**
- Potential to develop community hubs as flexible spaces that support local enterprise, remote working and small business development.

12. Housing

Housing is a core concern across the area, with communities highlighting persistent affordability issues, widespread fuel poverty, and a shortage of suitable homes for young families and older residents. While there is strong local commitment to retaining population and supporting self-build, renovation, and community-led solutions, progress is constrained by the availability of suitable sites, investment in new development, limited affordable housing stock in several villages, and increasing pressure from second homes and holiday lets. There is potential to address some of these issues by greater investment and commitment by HHP, CnES, bringing empty homes back into use, expanding serviced plots, restoring croft houses, and exploring the potential to use revenue generated by renewable energy production to support projects addressing fuel poverty and support long-term population sustainability.

Throughout the consultation, respondents consistently linked the availability of suitable housing with the long-term sustainability of their communities, highlighting the need for homes that enable young people to stay, families to settle, and older residents to remain within their communities.

Table 11 Rating for Housing



Key points

- Concerns over **access to housing** and the impact on local people was raised in most villages
- Access to land for development was widely identified as a challenge. While relatively few new sites emerged through this consultation, other than general comments about the potential use of glebe and other church land, respondents noted that potential housing sites have been identified through previous community planning work and should continue to inform future discussions with landowners and delivery partners.
- **Affordability** limits access to housing for young local people and first-time buyers.
- Recent new build developments by Hebridean Housing Partnership in Leurbost were acknowledged, but the lack of any development in Pairc from Hebridean Housing Partnership or CnES for nearly fifty years was also raised.

- **Fuel poverty** was raised consistently as an issue due to damp and poorly insulated homes and limited fuel types.
- Desire to see relaxation of crofting laws and planning regulations to facilitate housebuilding
- Desire to bring **empty properties back into use** through the use of energy efficiency measures, renovation grants and other incentives.
- The impact of second homes and holiday lets varies across the area. Some respondents suggested reviewing holiday let licensing arrangements as one possible means of increasing the availability of housing for local people.

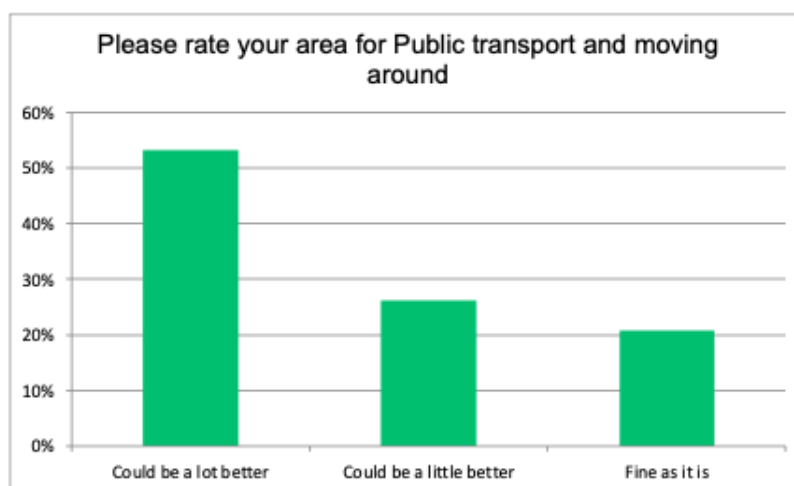
13. Transport and Safe Movement

Transport and safe movement emerged as one of the principal themes during community engagement, although the nature and extent of the issues varied between communities. Communities report widespread concerns about speeding, dangerous bends, narrow roads, poor visibility, and a lack of pavements, or safe walking routes. There were also some concerns raised about the operation of the pre-booked feeder bus service and a feeling that it did not always meet local needs. Active travel infrastructure is minimal, with few safe routes linking villages, schools, or key services. Parking pressures at piers, halls, medical facilities, and schools add to congestion and safety risks. The need for dedicated places for motorhome parking was also raised.

Across the area, residents want safer roads, better public transport, and active travel routes that connect communities and support everyday movement. Just over a quarter of respondents used public transport, and over 40% said they sometimes used it. Availability of public transport and the need for a car were reported by some as concerns as they got older, and respondents expressed anxiety about getting older and not being able to drive. The experience of public transport varied depending on location, with some feeling well-served during the day at least, and others frustrated by very limited or no connections.

Concerns were also raised about the cost of travel, whether that be higher fuel prices or the air and ferry costs to travel to the mainland. The unreliability of the ferry to the mainland in recent years was repeatedly raised as a concern, and one which impacted on residents of Lochs.

Table 12 Rating for Public Transport and Moving Around



The impact of the travel-related issues identified was increased isolation, and reduced access to health care and other services, employment and education opportunities, and social and recreation activities. Car ownership among survey respondents was high at 92%, with only 3% saying they had no access to a car at all.

Many of the transport issues identified through the consultation were ultimately concerns about access - to employment, education, healthcare, community facilities and social opportunities - rather than movement alone.

Table 13 Use of Public Transport

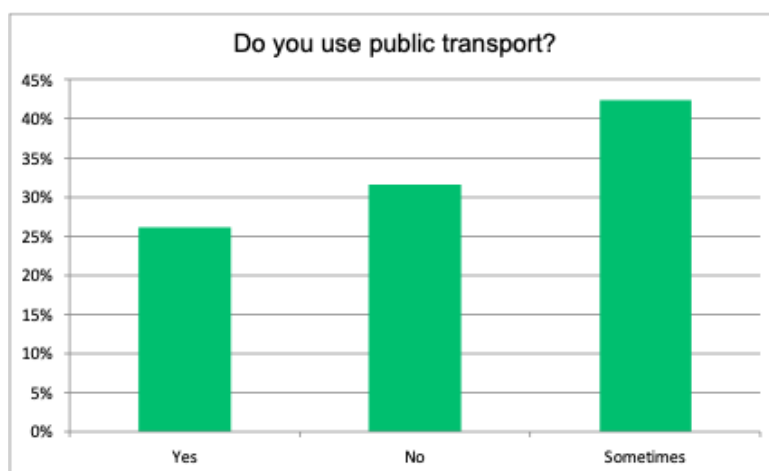


Table 14 Rating for Traffic and Parking



Key points

- **Road safety** was an overarching concern due to speeding, signage and road markings, deer, and bends, and this made driving and modes of active travel dangerous.
- There were mixed views on extending pavements and street lighting, but agreement that in some **key spots in villages**, additional provision would add greatly to safety.
- **Unsafe walking routes** in several locations remain significant concerns for children and families.
- A number of areas require additional and **safer parking**, with schools, community hubs/halls, and GP surgeries being particularly mentioned.
- Desire for improvements to the **quality of roads** - surface repairs, potholes, maintenance of verges and drainage, etc. Of particular concern was the impact that

some major proposed infrastructure projects (such as the Lewis Hub) would have on road quality.

- Depending on where people lived, there were mixed views on the availability of **public transport**, with access for some very limited or non-existent. The lack of services generally in the evening was an issue across the board. As a consequence, having access to a car was seen as essential.
- A need for additional measures to support forms of **active travel** was identified.
- **Improved** parking around lochs and other areas was seen as an opportunity for greater tourism and economic development.
- There was a call for more **EV and bike charging points** at key locations such as community hubs.

14. Taking the Plan Forward

This Local Place Plan provides a spatial framework to help guide how the Lochs area can develop over the next five to ten years. It identifies the places, projects and priorities that emerged through community engagement and will help inform future planning, investment and decision-making. The community consultation also highlighted a lot of non-spatial improvements or changes that people wanted to see in the Lochs area: these will be covered in the three individual area Community Action Plans that will be produced later in 2026.

Some of the actions shown are about improving existing assets and facilities, others are about doing something new or different, and others are about things that are already in development but have not fully progressed and where there is the potential to influence the final shape they take. Some of the community aspirations can be delivered quickly and easily, whilst others will take much longer to come to fruition. But work needs to start now on all areas if there are going to be significant changes in the area over the next ten years, and if the momentum generated by the preparation of this Local Place Plan is to be maximised.

The proposals detailed in the LPP are very specific to each village location. In addition, each community will have its own set of priorities for their area. As part of the next stage of taking the LPP forward, it will be necessary to work with the community to assess the proposals according to community need and feasibility, and possible timescales for delivery.

14.1 Roles and Responsibilities

The community consultation identified many aspirations which are major projects in their own right and are outwith the control of the local community to bring to fruition. Responsibilities lie across a wide range of organisations, and so collaboration will be essential to take the plans forward. For example, provision of affordable housing, improvements to the road network, enhanced health service provision and upgraded community facilities may require the input of several of the following: CnES; the NHS; Hebridean Housing Partnership; local hall committees; housing developers; and local landowners. For each action in the Local Place Plan, relevant stakeholders have been identified in sections 6 to 13 above.

This Local Place Plan identifies several developments which the community wishes to see happen in the local area. During the consultation events, residents were keen to emphasise the need for any developments to be undertaken in a way that is sensitive to the local

vernacular, and which reflects the rural nature of the Lochs area. Such sensitivity should be evident in all aspects of any future development, including the scale, design, layout, and choice of materials.

As well as there being a role for public, private and third sector organisations in taking this Plan forward, there is also a role for the community to play. Without joint effort, we will not achieve our ambitions for Lochs. If you live in the area and want to get involved in whatever small way, then the Lochs Forum, and the three local forums in Kinloch, North Lochs and Pairc are here to support you in that.

The priorities identified through this LPP also align with the wider Scottish Government ambitions to strengthen communities, support sustainable development and build more resilient local economies. Delivering the plan will require continued partnership working across the public, private, community and voluntary sectors, ensuring that investment contributes to long-term community benefit and supports the future sustainability of the Lochs area.

Some of the key organisations of relevance to the delivery of the aspirations in this Local Place Plan are:

- The three local forums for Kinloch, North Lochs and Pairc, as the instigator of this plan and the collective voice of the community organisations in the area
- Various community groups, including churches, halls and Grazings' committees.
- Landowners in the area, large and small, whether they are private landowners, public bodies, or community landlords
- Local businesses.
- The Crofting Commission
- Renewable energy companies operating in the area.
- CnES, as a landowner and also as the statutory authority responsible for planning, roads, transport, education, housing, waste management, adult services, social work and social care and leisure, sport and culture.
- Housing partners, including HHP, CnES, the Scottish Government (including the Rural and Island Housing Fund and Croft House Grant Scheme), the proposed More Homes Scotland, and Tighean Innse Gall, all of whom have roles in supporting different aspects of housing delivery and improvement.
- Other statutory bodies such as Police Scotland, NHS Western Isles, SEPA, and Scottish Water who all have responsibility for one or more of the areas covered by the plan.
- Highlands and Islands Enterprise in relation to economic and community development, jobs and business.
- Community Councils in and adjoining our area where it would be beneficial to work together, for example, in relation to transport or visitor management.

This Local Place Plan represents the beginning rather than the end of a shared process. By continuing to work together, communities, partners and public bodies can help ensure that the aspirations identified through this Plan shape future investment and contribute to the long-term sustainability of the Lochs area.

14.2 Future Planning and how this Plan fits with Local and National Priorities

This Local Place Plan presents community aspirations for local land use and development in the Lochs area for CnES to consider as it prepares the forthcoming Outer Hebrides Local

Development Plan. The proposals are outlined in the table below as required by Scottish Government Circular 1-2022 'Local Place Plans', paragraphs 32-33 (<https://www.gov.scot/publications/circular-1-2022-local-place-plans/>).

The Community Wealth Building Act 2026, places statutory responsibilities on local authorities in respect of promoting and supporting economic development that is focused on ensuring local people and places benefit more directly from economic activity, retain wealth locally, and promote fair, inclusive growth. This Lochs Local Place Plan contributes community-generated proposals that align to and can support the delivery of CWB in the Lochs area - particularly through the pillars of Land and Property and Inclusive Ownership.

Table 15 Local and National Policy Alignment

Theme	Sub Theme Description	Policy Alignment
C – Community Facilities		
C1	Community Spaces	- National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4): Policy 1, 2, 8, 9, 14, 15, 21, 23, 25, 28, 29, 31 - Outer Hebrides Local Development Plan (OHLDP): Policy DS1, PD1, PD2, PD4, PD5, PD6, ED2, EI1, EI2, EI12, NBH4, NBH6 - National Islands Plan - Comhairle Corporate Strategy
C2	Health	- NPF4: Policy 2, 14, 21, 23, 29 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD2, PD4, PD6, ED2, EI1, EI2, EI9, EI12 - National Islands Plan - Comhairle Corporate Strategy
C3	Playpark	- NPF4: Policy 8, 14, 21, 23, 29 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD5, PD6, EI1, EI7, EI9, NBH1, NBH2 - National Islands Plan
C4	Piers and Harbours	- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 14, 18, 22, 25, 29 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD2, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI6, EI9, EI11, NBH1, NBH2, STY3 - National Islands Plan
C5	Schools	- NPF4: Policy 14, 29 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD2, PD4, PD5, PD6, ED2, EI1, EI2, EI9, EI12 - National Islands Plan - Comhairle Corporate Strategy
C6	Sport and recreation	- NPF4: Policy 8, 14, 21, 23, 29 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD2, PD5, PD6, PD7, EI1, EI7, EI9, NBH1, NBH2 - National Islands Plan

Theme	Sub Theme Description	Policy Alignment
		- Comhairle Corporate Strategy
CC - Crofting, Community Growing and Aquaculture		
CC1	Aquaculture	- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 18, 29, 30, 32 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD6, ED4, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI6, EI9, EI11, NBH1, NBH2 - National Islands Plan - Rural Support Plan
CC2	Community Growing	- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 14, 23, 25, 29 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD5, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI5, NBH1, NBH2 - National Islands Plan - Rural Support Plan
CC3	Crofting	- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 3, 8, 29 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD6, EI2, EI3, EI5, EI7, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5 - National Islands Plan - Rural and Islands Housing Action Plan - Rural Support Plan
CE - Community and Renewable Energy		
CE1		- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 11, 14, 15, 25, 27, 29 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI5, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11, EI12, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5 - National Islands Plan - Comhairle Corporate Strategy - Rural Support Plan
EC - Economy		
EC1	Business Opportunities	- NPF4: Policy 2, 14, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD2, PD4, PD6, PD7, ED1, ED2, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI9, EI10, EI12, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5, NBH6, STY1, STY2 - National Islands Plan - Comhairle Corporate Strategy
E - Environment and Heritage		
E1	Heritage	- NPF4: Policy 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 18, 25, 29 - OHLDP: Policy PD1, PD7, EI7, NBH1, NBH4, NBH5, NBH6, NBH7 - National Islands Plan - Comhairle Corporate Strategy
E2	Nature	- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 29

Theme	Sub Theme Description	Policy Alignment
		- OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD7, ED3, EI1, EI3, EI5, EI7, NBH1, NBH2, NBH3 - National Islands Plan
E3	Shoreline Cleanliness	- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 10, 12, 29 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, EI3, EI4, EI6, NBH1, NBH2 - National Islands Plan
E4	Waste Management	- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 29 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD2, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI9, NBH1, NBH2 - National Islands Plan
H - Housing		
H1	Affordable Housing	- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 14, 16, 17, 25, 29 - OHLDP: Policy S1, PD1, PD2, PD3, PD4, PD5, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI4, EI5, EI9, EI10, EI12, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5, NBH6 - National Islands Plan - Rural and Islands Housing Action Plan - Comhairle Corporate Strategy
H2	Elderly Housing	- NPF4: Policy 14, 16, 17, 25, 29 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD2, PD3, PD4, PD5, PD6, ED2, EI1, EI2, EI4, EI9, EI10, EI12 - National Islands Plan - Rural and Islands Housing Action Plan - Comhairle Corporate Strategy
H3	Fuel Poverty	- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 14, 16, 17, 29 - OHLDP: Policy PD3, PD4, EI5, EI8 - National Islands Plan - Comhairle Corporate Strategy
T - Transport		
T1	Active Travel	- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 13, 14, 21, 23, 25, 29 - OHLDP: DS1, PD1, PD2, PD5, EI1, EI7, EI9, NBH1, NBH2 - National Islands Plan - National Transport Strategy - Comhairle Corporate Strategy
T2	EV Network	- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 13, 14, 25, 29 - OHLDP: Policy PD1, PD2, EI8, EI9, EI11, NBH1, NBH2 - National Islands Plan - National Transport Strategy

Theme	Sub Theme Description	Policy Alignment
		- Comhairle Corporate Strategy
T3	Parking	- NPF4: Policy 14, 18, 29 - OHLDP: Policy PD1, PD2, PD5, PD6, EI1, EI9, NBH1 - National Islands Plan
T4	Public Transport	- NPF4: Policy 1, 2, 13, 14, 18, 29 - OHLDP: Policy DS1, PD1, PD2, EI9, EI11 - National Islands Plan - National Transport Strategy - Comhairle Corporate Strategy
T5	Road Conditions	- NPF4: Policy 14, 18, 29 - OHLDP: Policy PD1, PD2, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI9, NBH1, NBH2 - National Islands Plan - National Transport Strategy
T6	Safety	- NPF4: Policy 14, 15, 18, 29 - OHLDP: Policy PD1, PD2, PD6, PD7, EI1, EI9 - National Islands Plan - Comhairle Corporate Strategy
T7	Speed Management	- NPF4: Policy 14, 15, 29 - OHLDP: Policy PD1, PD2, PD7, EI9 - National Islands Plan - National Transport Strategy - Comhairle Corporate Strategy

Policy Sources:

- [National Planning Framework 4 \(NPF4\)](#)
- [Outer Hebrides Local Development Plan \(2018\)](#)
- [National Islands Plan \(2025\)](#)
- [Rural and Islands Housing Action Plan](#)
- [National Transport Strategy](#)
- [Comhairle Corporate Strategy 2022–2027](#)
- [Rural Support Plan](#)
- [Outer Hebrides Local Development Plan – Action Programme Review \(2021-2022\)](#)
- [Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plan \(2021-2027\)](#) (new version out for consultation in summer 2026)

Appendix 1 - Pan Lochs and Village Maps and Tables of Proposals

Where a specific geographic location for a proposal was put forward by the community, it is specified in the tables and on the maps. If no location was identified, the proposal is still highlighted and given a general location on the map. For instance, an expressed request for a postbox in a Calbost had no specific location stated other than the village name, so the proposal has been outlined on the map as a general proposal.

The Pan Lochs and Village Tables identify a range of potential partners who may support or contribute to the development or delivery of a proposal subject to further consultation and planning.

Proposals for the Pan-Lochs Area by Theme

Theme and Sub-Theme	Details of Proposals	Partners	OHLDP Alignment
C - Community Facilities and Local Services			
C6	More outside seating and picnic areas in villages	CnES; landowners; community groups	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD5, PD7, EI1, EI3, EI5, EI7, EI9, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5
C6	More stiles needed over fences to make paths between villages usable	Landowners; grazings committees; community groups	PD5, EI7
C6	Water dispensing stations along main road in villages for walkers and cyclists	Scottish Water; CnES; community organisations	PD5, EI7
C6	Develop long distance paths using old peat tracks, such as a North Lochs Way	Landowners: CnES; community organisations; NHS; HITRANS; Walk Wheel Cycle Trust; Walking Scotland	EI7, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5
CC - Crofting, Community Growing and Aquaculture			

Theme and Sub-Theme	Details of Proposals	Partners	OHLDP Alignment
CC1	More locally sensitive further fish farming	CnES; Marine Scotland; local businesses	DS1, PD1, PD6, ED4, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI6, EI9, EI11, NBH1, NBH2
CC2	Communal gardens and growing spaces in villages	Landowners; CnES; community organisations; Climate Hebrides: SRUC; TSI Hebrides; UHI	DS1, PD1, PD5, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI5, NBH1, NBH2
CE - Community and Renewable Energy			
CE1	Tidal turbines in Loch Erisort and Loch Seaforth	Landowners; CARES; Community Energy Scotland; CnES; Community Power Outer Hebrides, (CPOH), Western Isles Development Trust	DS1, PD1, PD6, ED1, EI1, EI3, EI6, EI8, EI9, EI11, EI12, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5
CE1	Community-owned turbine (bladeless)	Landowners; CARES; Community Energy Scotland; CnES; Community Power Outer Hebrides (CPOH); Western Isles Development Trust; community groups	DS1, PD1, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI5, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11, EI12, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5
D - Digital Connectivity			
D1	Internet too slow and patchy	Internet providers; Local councillors; MSPs; MP; Scottish and UK Governments	DS1, PD1, EI10, EI11, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5
D1	Poor connectivity, broadband speed and lack of alternative or value providers	Internet providers; Local councillors; MSPs; MP; Scottish and UK Governments	DS1, PD1, EI10, EI11, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5

Theme and Sub-Theme	Details of Proposals	Partners	OHLDP Alignment
D1	Patchy mobile signal	Internet providers; Local councillors; MSPs; MP; Scottish and UK Governments	DS1, PD1, EI10, EI11, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5, NBH6
E - Environment and Heritage			
E2	Better deer management needed	NatureScot; landowners; community groups; Lewis and Harris Deer Management Group; CnES; Community Land Outer Hebrides	DS1, EI3, EI5, NBH1, NBH2
E2	Improved control of invasive species	Landowners; community groups, NatureScot; CnES; Scottish Invasive Species Trust; Community Land Outer Hebrides	EI3, NBH1, NBH2
E3	Marine debris	Fish farm partnerships; CnES; Keep Scotland Beautiful; community groups; Clean Coast Outer Hebrides; Salmon Scotland; Scottish Coastal Clean Up; Scottish Islands Federation Marine Litter Working Group	EI3, EI4, EI6, NBH1, NBH2
E4	More roadside bins and poo bins	CnES; landowners; community groups	PD1, PD2, PD6, EI4, EI9, NBH1
E4	Bring back waste disposal skips in key locations across the Lochs area	CnES	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI9, NBH1, NBH2
E4	Dog waste notices	CnES; landowners; community groups	PD1, PD7, EI4, EI9

Theme and Sub-Theme	Details of Proposals	Partners	OHLDP Alignment
E4	Remove litter - lots on the roads	CnES; landowners; community groups; Keep Scotland Beautiful	EI4, EI9, NBH1
E5	Improved and upgraded fencing throughout villages	CnES; landowners; community groups; Grazings' Committees	DS1, PD1, EI7, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5
H - Housing			
H1	Use church glebes for housing	Churches; HHP; CnES	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD3, PD4, PD5, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI4, EI5, EI9, EI10, EI12, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5, NBH6
H1	More land for self-build	CnES, landowners, The Crofting Commission	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD3, PD4, PD5, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI4, EI5, EI9, EI10, NBH1, NBH2, NBH5
H1	Use modular building techniques	Builders; CnES; HHP; TIG	DS1, PD1, PD3, PD4, PD6, EI4
H1	Empty properties back into use	CnES; TIG; HHP; The Crofting Commission	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD3, PD4, PD6, NBH4, NBH6
H1	Use non-croft land for housing	CnES; landowners; TIG; HHP	DS1, PD1, PD2, PD3, PD4, PD5, PD6, EI1, EI2, EI4, EI5, EI9, NBH1, NBH2, NBH5
H3	Continue to allow peat cutting (to ease fuel poverty)	NatureScot; local landowners	EI3, EI5, EI8, NBH2, NBH5
T - Transport and Safe Movement			
T1	Complete cycle path Harris to Stornoway	Walk Wheel Cycle Trust; HITRANS; community groups along the route; community councils	DS1, PD1, PD2, EI1, EI2, EI3, EI5, EI7, EI9, EI11, NBH1, NBH2, NBH4, NBH5

Theme and Sub-Theme	Details of Proposals	Partners	OHLDP Alignment
T2	More EV points in the area generally	CnES; community groups; HITRANS; Scottish Power; Climate Hebrides; Energy Saving Trust	PD1, PD2, EI8, EI9, EI11, NBH1
T5	White lines on all single-track roads	CnES	PD1, EI9
T7	Warnings for sheep on all open moor roads	CnES	PD1, EI9
T7	Blind summit road signs	CnES	PD1, EI9
T7	Speed limits of 30 max in all villages	CnES	DS1, PD1, EI9
T7	Improve road signage to communicate road safety and driving etiquette on single-track roads	CnES	PD1, EI9
T8	More Gaelic signage	CnES	PD1, PD7, EI9, NBH4, NBH6

Fig 3

Achmore



- THEMES** Line colours on map are indicative of themes
- **H** - Housing
 - **CC** - Crofting, Community growing and Aquaculture
 - **C** - Community Facilities



Achmore

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Possible/suggested partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C3	Create playpark	CnES; North Lochs Community Council; Community organisations; North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		
CC2	Create polycrubs or allotments	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations - North Lochs Community Association; Climate Hebrides; SRUC; TSI Hebrides; North Lochs Community Council, North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
H – Housing		
H1	Housing	CnES; Hebridean Housing Partnership; landowners; North Lochs Community Council; Tighean Innse Gall (TIG)

Fig 4

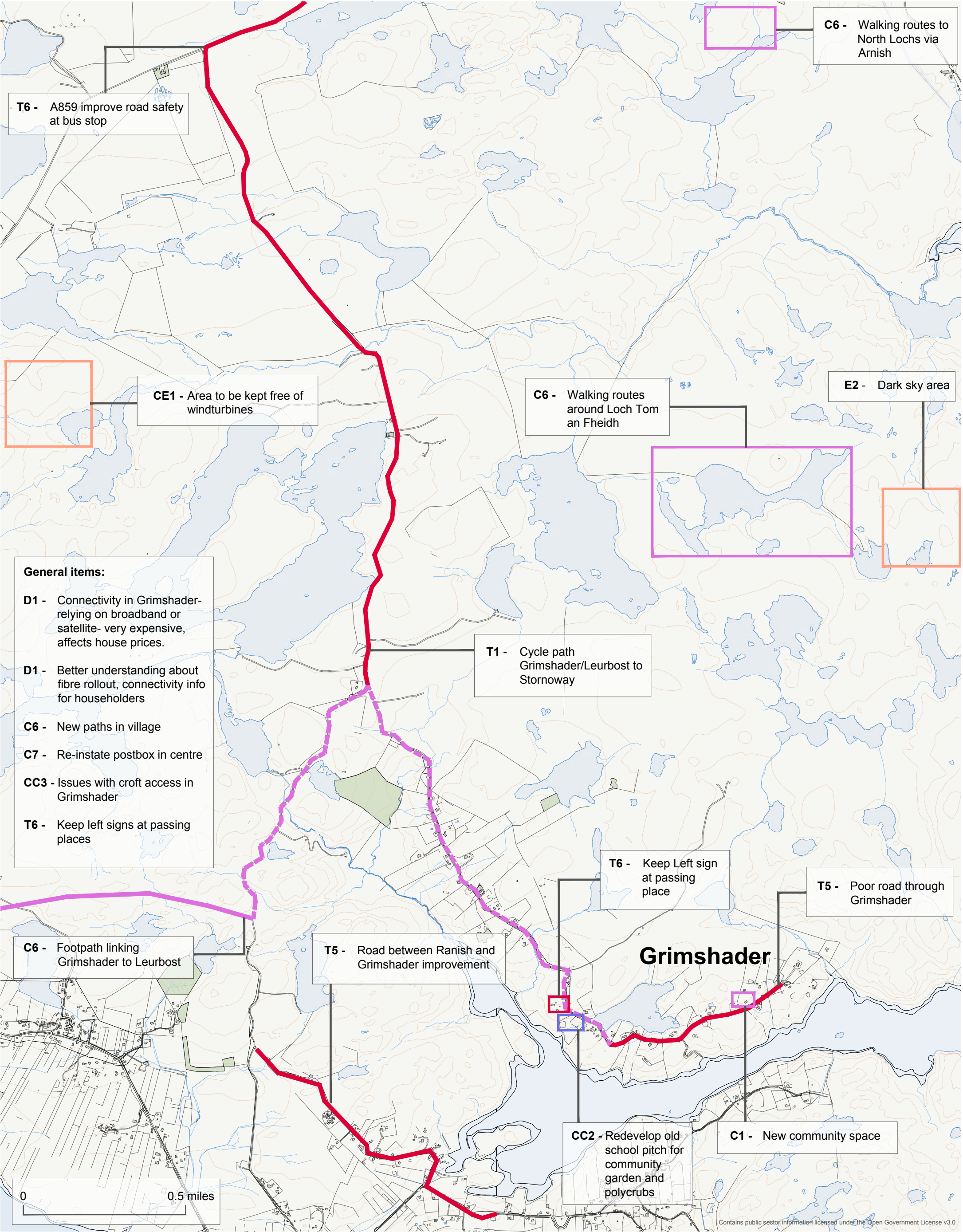
Grimshader

THEMES

Line colours on map are indicative of themes

- | | |
|--|--|
| ● T - Transport & Safe Movement | ● CC - Crofting, Community growing and Aquaculture |
| ● C - Community Facilities | ● CE - Community and Renewable Energy |
| ● EC - Economy | ● E - Environment and Heritage |

- North
- Solid purple line - Footpaths
- Dashed purple line - Footpaths alongside roads
- Solid red line - transport related proposal

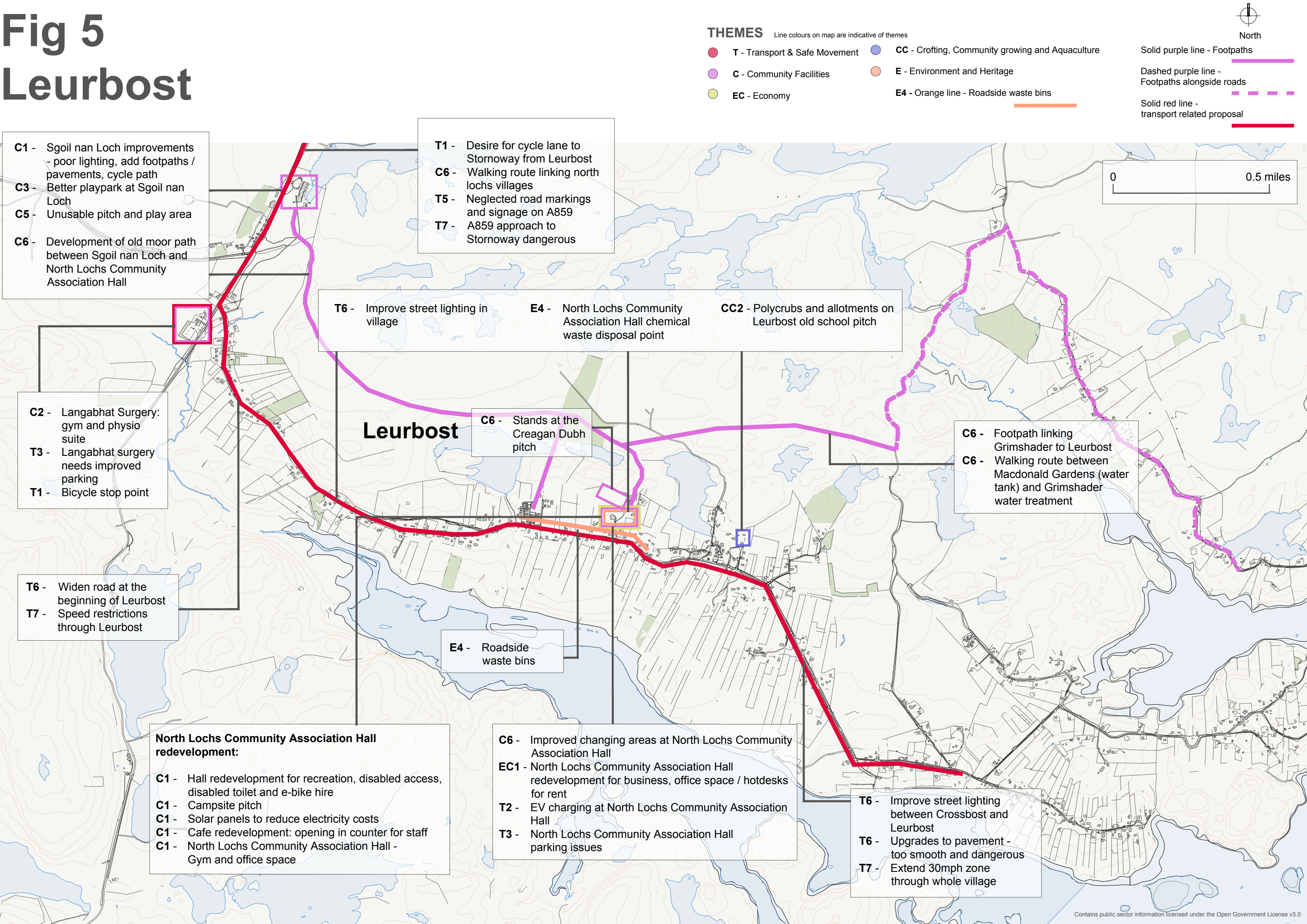


Grimshader

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C1	New community space	CnES; North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Amenity Group
C6	Footpath linking Grimshader to Leurbost	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Walk on Hebrides; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Amenity Group
C6	New paths in the village	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Walk on Hebrides; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Amenity Group
C6	Walking routes to North Lochs via Arnish	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Walk on Hebrides; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Amenity Group
C6	Walking routes around Loch Tom an Fheidh	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Walk on Hebrides; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Amenity Group
C6	Walking route between Macdonald Gardens (water tank) and Grimshader water treatment	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Walk on Hebrides; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Amenity Group
C7	Reinstate post box in centre	CnES; Royal Mail; North Lochs Community Council
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		
CC2	Redevelop old school pitch for community garden and polycrubs	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides SRUC; TSI Hebrides; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
CC3	Issues with croft access in Grimshader	CnES; landowners; Crofting Commission; Common Grazings
CE - Community and Renewable Energy		
CE1	Area to be kept free of wind turbines	North Lochs Community Council
D - Digital connectivity		
D1	Connectivity in Grimshader - relying on broadband or satellite- very expensive, affects house prices.	Internet providers; Local councillors; MSPs; MP; North Lochs Community Council; Scottish Government; UK Government
D1	Better understanding about fibre rollout, connectivity info for householders	Internet providers; Local councillors; MSPs; MP; North Lochs Community Council; Scottish Government; UK Government
E - Environment and heritage		
E2	Dark Sky area	DarkSky International; landowners; community groups; Stornoway Astronomical Society; North Lochs Community Council
T - Transport and safe movement		
T1	Cycle path Grimshader/Leurbost to Stornoway	CnES; Walk Wheel Cycle Trust; HITRANS; community groups along the route; North Lochs Community Council
T5	Poor road through Grimshader	CnES; North Lochs Community Council
T5	Road between Ranish and Grimshader improvement	CnES; North Lochs Community Council
T6	A859 improve road safety at bus stop	CnES; North Lochs Community Council
T6	Keep left sign at passing place	CnES; North Lochs Community Council

Fig 5
Leurbost



Leurbost

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C1	North Lochs Community Association Hall: redevelopment for recreation and business, disabled access and disabled toilets and ebike hire	North Lochs Community Association; CnES, North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C1	Campsite pitch	North Lochs Community Association; CnES, North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C1	North Lochs Community Association Hall: Solar panels to reduce electricity costs	North Lochs Community Association; CARES; CnES, North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group; Community Energy Scotland, Community Power Outer Hebrides
C1	North Lochs Community Association Hall: Café area redevelopment	North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C1	Sgoil nan Loch improvements – poor lighting, add foot paths/pavements/cycle paths	North Lochs Community Association; CnES, North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C1	North Lochs Community Association Hall Gym and Office space	North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C2	Langabhat Surgery: gym and physio suite	NHS Western Isles; GP Owners; CnES. Community groups; North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C3	Better play park at Sgoil nan Loch	CnES; Sgoil nan Loch parent council; North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C5	Sgoil nan Loch improvements unusable pitch and play area (Astroturf needed)	CnES; Sgoil nan Loch parent council; North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C6	Improved changing areas at North Lochs Community Association Hall	North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group; Lochs FC
C6	Walking route linking North Lochs villages	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group; Walk on Hebrides
C6	Paths linking the communities to North Lochs Community Hall	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group; Walk on Hebrides
C6	Walking route between Macdonald Gardens (water tank) and Grimshader water treatment	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group; Walk on Hebrides
C6	Stands at the Creagan Dubh pitch	CnES; Lochs FC; SportScotland; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C6	Development of old moor path between Sgoil nan Loch and North Lochs Community Association Hall	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group; Walk on Hebrides

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		
CC2	Polycrubs and allotments on Leurbost old school pitch	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides SRUC; TSI Hebrides; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group; North Lochs Community Council
E - Environment and heritage		
E4	North Lochs Community Hub chemical waste disposal point	North Lochs Community Association; CNES; North Lochs Community Council; North Locha Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
E4	Roadside waste bins	CnES; North Lochs Community Council
EC - Economy		
EC1	Hall redevelopment for business, office space and hotdesks	North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group; North Lochs Community Council
T - Transport and safe movement		
T1	Bicycle stop point	CnES; Walk Wheel Cycle Trust; HITRANS; North Lochs Community Council; community groups; North Lochs Area Forum
T1	Desire for a cycle lane to Stornoway from Leurbost	CnES; Walk Wheel Cycle Trust; HITRANS; community groups along the route; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
T2	EV charging at North Lochs Community Hub	CnES; community groups; HITRANS; ChargePlace Scotland; North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum.
T3	North Lochs Community Association Hall parking issues	CnES; community council; North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum.
T3	Langabhat Surgery needs improved parking	NHS western Isles; CnES; GP Owners; North Lochs Community Association, North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum.
T5	Neglected road markings and signage on A859	CnES; North Lochs Community Council
T6	Improve street lighting in village	CnES; North Lochs Community Council
T6	Street lighting on stretch between Leurbost and Crossbost, very dark area where people walk regularly.	CnES; North Lochs Community Council
T6	Widen road at the beginning of Leurbost	CnES; North Lochs Community Council
T6	Upgrades to pavement (too smooth and dangerous)	CnES; North Lochs Community Council
T7	Extend 30 mile zone through whole village	CnES; North Lochs Community Council
T7	Speed restrictions through Leurbost	CnES; North Lochs Community Council
T7	A859 approach to Stornoway dangerous.	CnES; North Lochs Community Council

Fig 6

Ranish & Crossbost

THEMES Line colours on map are indicative of themes

T - Transport & Safe Movement

C - Community Facilities

EC - Economy

E - Environment and Heritage

Orange line - Shoreline path opportunities

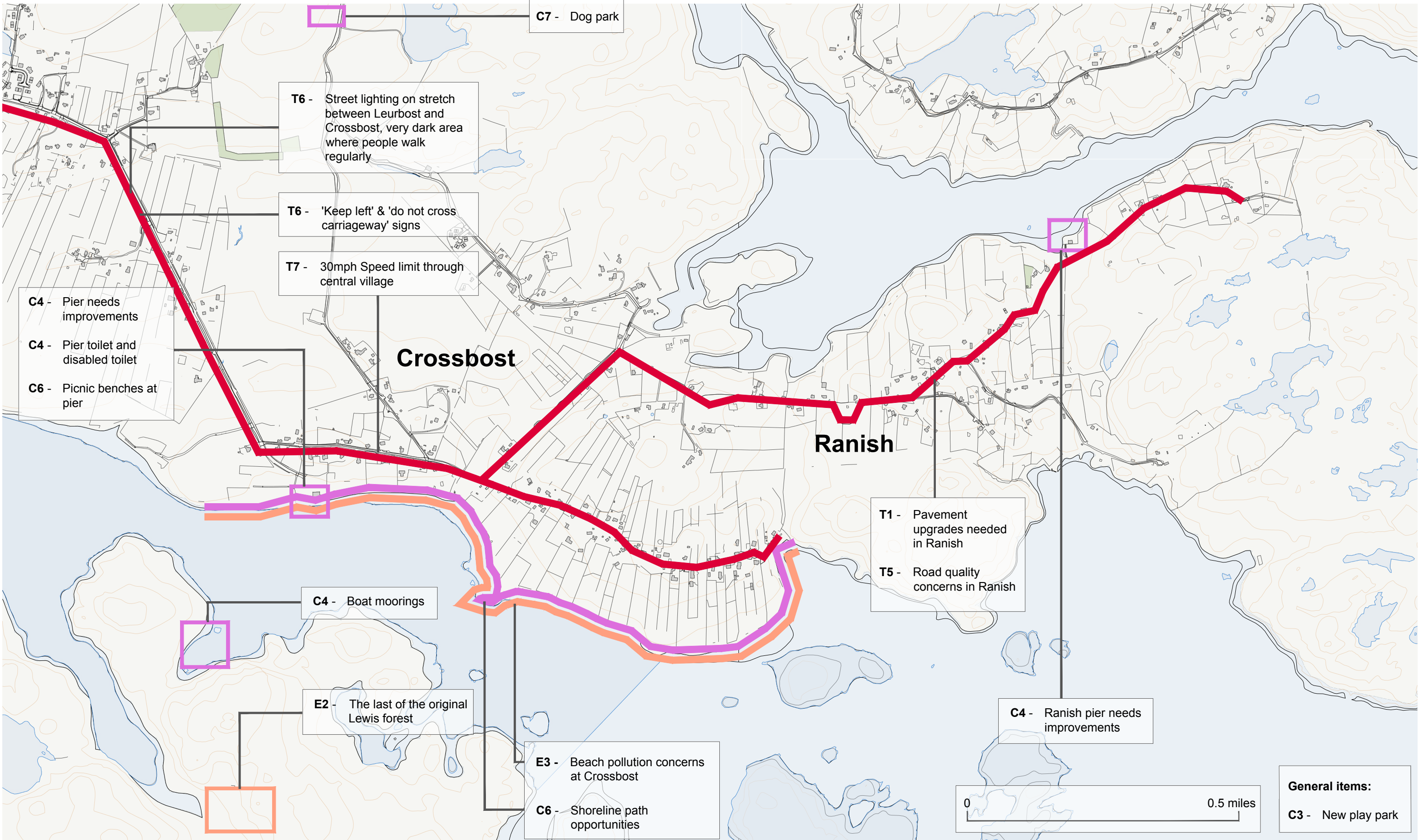
Solid purple line - Footpaths

Dashed purple line - Footpaths alongside roads

Solid red line - transport related proposal



North



Ranish and Crossbost

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C3	New play park	CnES; North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C4	Crossbost Pier needs improved, could be site for business development	CnES; North Lochs Community Association; Crossbost Pier Users Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C4	Crossbost Pier toilet and disabled toilet	CnES, North Lochs Community Association; Crossbost Pier Users Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C4	Boat moorings	CnES; Crossbost Pier Users Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C4	Ranish Pier needs improvement	CnES; Crossbost Pier Users Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C6	Picnic benches at Crossbost Pier	CnES; landowners; North Lochs Community Association; Crossbost Pier Users Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group
C6	Shoreline path opportunities at Crossbost	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group; Walk on Hebrides

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C6	Path over Arnish Moor connecting villages	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group; Walk on Hebrides
C7	Dog park	CnES; landowners; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Area Forum; North Lochs Amenity Group; Walk on Hebrides
D - Digital connectivity		
D1	Poor digital services in Ranish	Internet providers; Local councillors; MSPs; MP; Scottish Government; UK Government, community councils
E - Environment and heritage		
E2	The last of the original Lewis forest	Woodland Trust; NatureScot
E3	Beach pollution concerns at Crossbost	CnES; community groups; Clean Coast Outer Hebrides; Fish farm partnerships; Keep Scotland Beautiful; Salmon Scotland; Scottish Coastal Clean Up; Scottish Islands Federation Marine Litter Working Group; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Amenity Group
E - Economy		
EC1	Crossbost pier needs improved, could be site for business development	CnES; Crossbost Pier Users Association; North Lochs Community Council; North Lochs Community Association; North Lochs Amenity Group
T - Transport and safe movement		

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
T1	Pavement upgrades needed in Ranish	CnES; North Lochs community council
T5	Road quality concerns in Ranish	CnES; North Lochs community council
T6	Street lighting on stretch between Leurbost and Crossbost, very dark area where people walk regularly.	CnES; North Lochs community council
T6	'Keep Left' and 'Do Not Cross' sign between Crossbost and Leurbost	CnES; North Lochs community council
T7	30mph speed limit through central village	CnES; North Lochs community council

Fig 7

Aline Woodland



THEMES

Line colours on map are indicative of themes

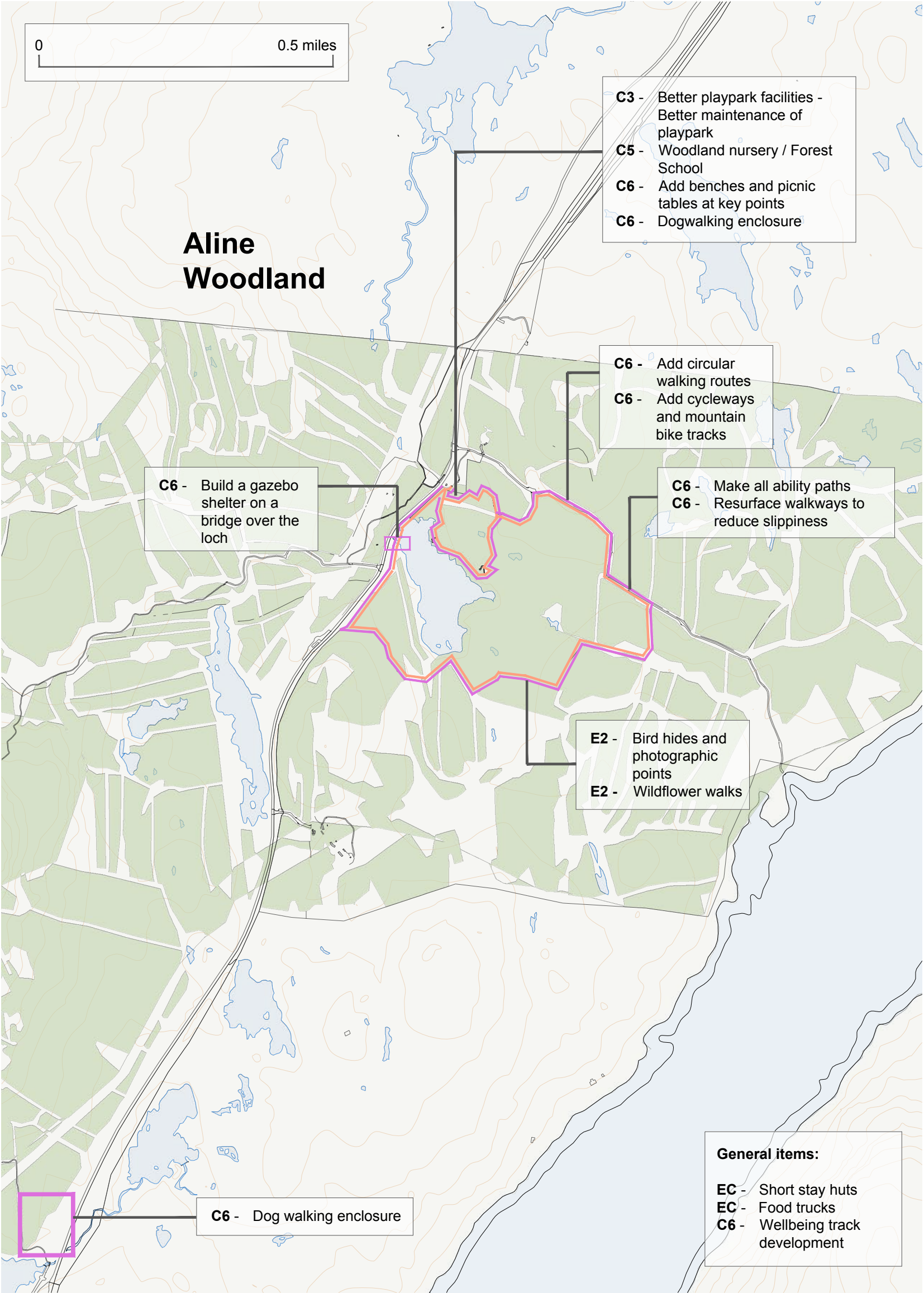
C - Community Facilities

E - Environment and Heritage

EC - Economy

Orange line - Wildflower walks

Solid purple line - Footpaths



Aline Woodland

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C3	Better play park facilities - better maintenance of playpark	CnES; Aline Community Woodland; community groups
C5	Woodland nursery/forest school	CnES Outdoor Learning Team; Aline Community Woodland; OWL Scotland
C6	Add circular walking routes	CnES; Aline Community Woodland; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Walk On Hebrides
C6	Add benches and picnic tables at key points	CnES; Aline Community Woodland; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Walk On Hebrides; NHS Heb
C6	Make all ability paths	CnES ; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Aline Community Woodland; Walk On Hebrides
C6	Resurface walkways to reduce slippiness of walkways - some are now avoided due to Health and safety	CnES; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Aline Community Woodland; Walk On Hebrides
C6	Add cycleways and mountain bike tracks	CnES; Walk Wheel Cycle Trust; Aline Community Woodland; DMBinS
C6	Build a gazebo shelter on a bridge over the loch	CnES; Aline Community Woodland
C6	Dog walking enclosure	CnES; Aline Community Woodland
E - Environment and heritage		
E2	Bird hides and photographic points	CnES; Aline Community Woodland; RSPB; Species on the Edge
E2	Wildflower walks	CnES; Aline Community Woodland; community groups; Species on the Edge

Fig 8
Arivruaich

THEMES

Line colours on map are indicative of themes

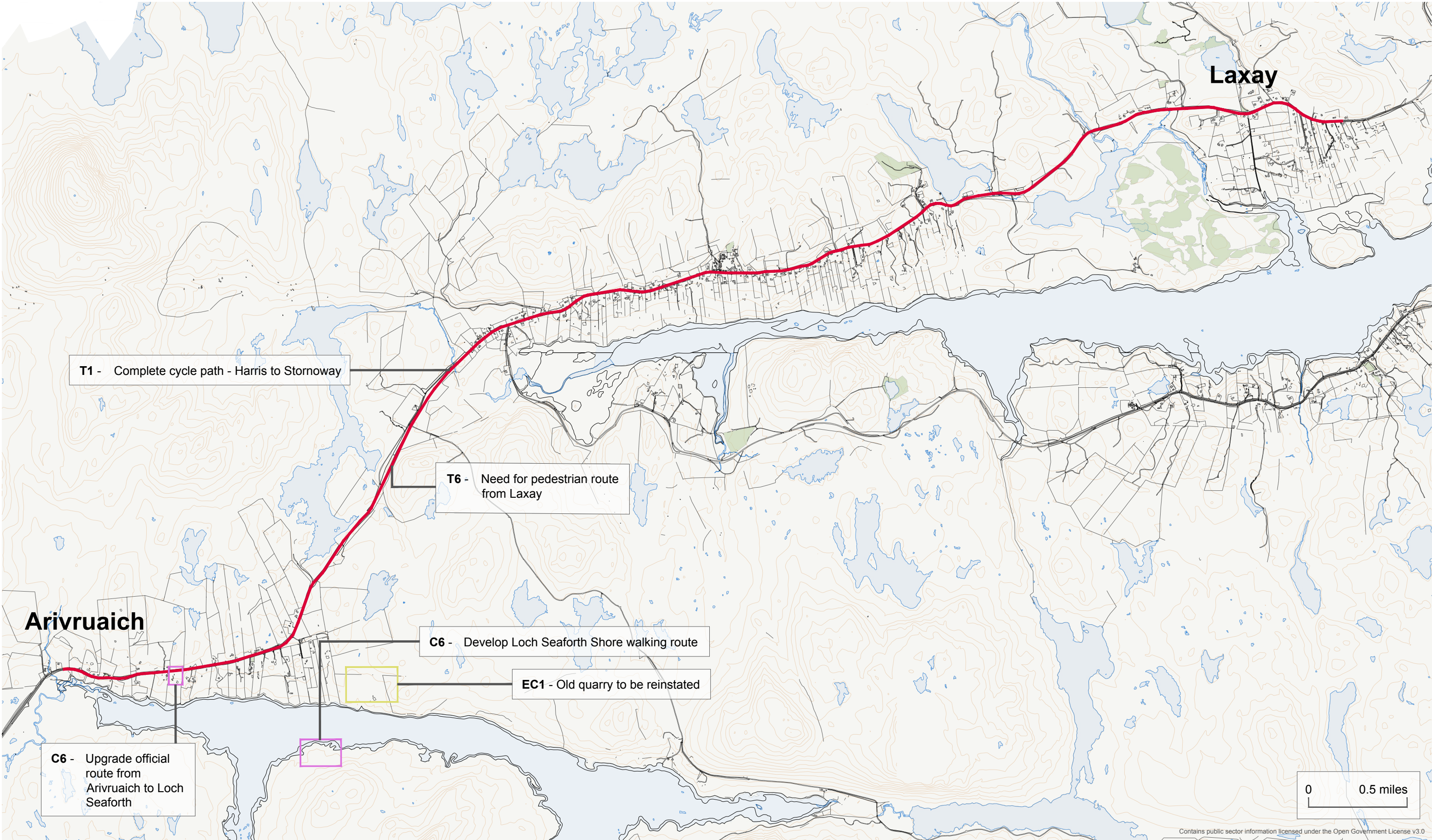
T - Transport & Safe Movement

C - Community Facilities

EC - Economy

Solid red line -
transport related proposal

North



Arivruaich

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C6	Develop Loch Seaforth Shore walking route	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Community Councils; Walking Scotland
C6	Upgrade official route from Airidh a Bhruaich to Loch Seaforth	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Community Councils; Walking Scotland
EC - Economy		
EC1	Old quarry to be reinstated	CnES; Landowners
T - Transport and safe movement		
T1	Complete cycle path Harris to Stornoway	CnES; Walk Wheel Cycle Trust; HITRANS; community groups along the route; community council; Kinloch Community Council and North Lochs Community Council, Pairc Community Council; North Lochs Amenity Group
T6	Need for safe pedestrian route from Laxay.	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; HITRANS; Walking Scotland

Fig 9
Balallan & Sheildinish

THEMES

Line colours on map are indicative of themes

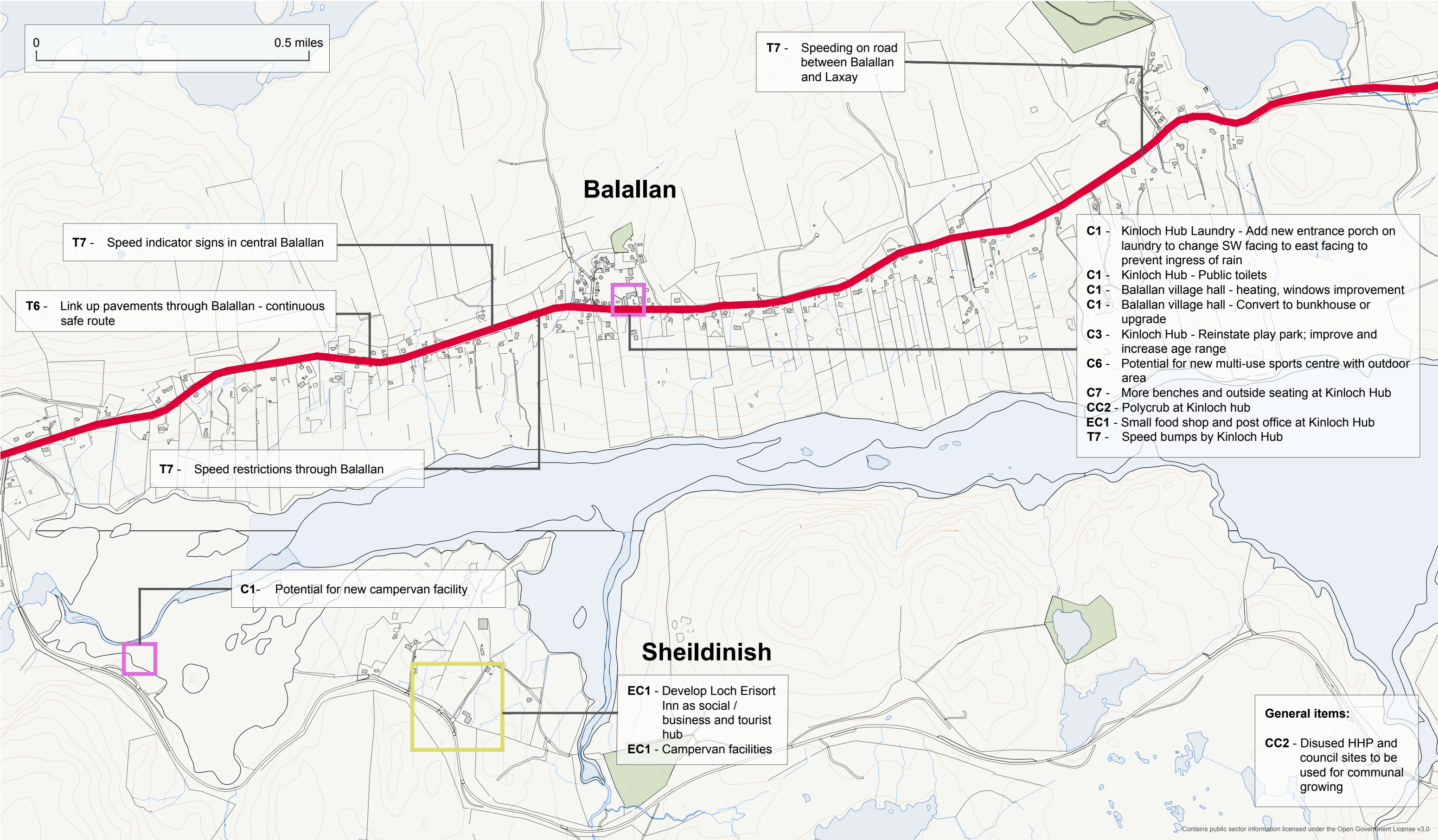
T - Transport & Safe Movement

CC - Crofting, Community growing and Aquaculture

C - Community Facilities

EC - Economy

Solid red line - transport related proposal



Balallan and Sheildinish

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C1	Kinloch Hub Laundry - Add new entrance porch on laundry to change from SW facing to east facing	CnES; Kinloch Historical Society
C1	Balallan Village Hall – Heating, windows improvement	Kinloch Historical Society; CARES
C1	Balallan Village Hall - Convert to bunk house or upgrade	Kinloch Historical Society
C1	Potential for new campervan facility	Pairc Trust
C1	Kinloch Hub - Public toilets	CnES; Kinloch Historical Society
C3	Kinloch Hub - Reinstate play park; improve and increase age range	CnES; Kinloch Historical Society; community council
C6	Potential for new multi-use sport centre with outdoor area	CnES; Landowners; SportScotland; community council
C7	More benches and outside seating at Hub	CnES; Kinloch Historical Society
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		
CC2	Disused HHP and council sites to be used for communal growing	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides SRUC; TSI Hebrides;
CC2	Polycrub at Hub	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides SRUC; TSI Hebrides
EC - Economy		
EC1	CnES; Royal Mail; North Lochs Community Council	CnES; Royal Mail; North Lochs Community Council
EC1	Develop Loch Erisort Inn as a social/business and tourist hub	Loch Erisort Inn owners; Community groups; private enterprises

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
EC1	Campervan facilities	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations
T - Transport and safe movement		
T6	Link up pavements through Balallan - continuous safe route	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; community council
T7	Speed restrictions through Balallan	CnES; community council
T7	Speeding on road between Balallan and Laxay	CnES; community council
T7	Speed bumps by Kinloch Hub	CnES; community council
T7	Speed indicator signs in Balallan	CnES; community council

Fig 10
Keose & Keose Glebe

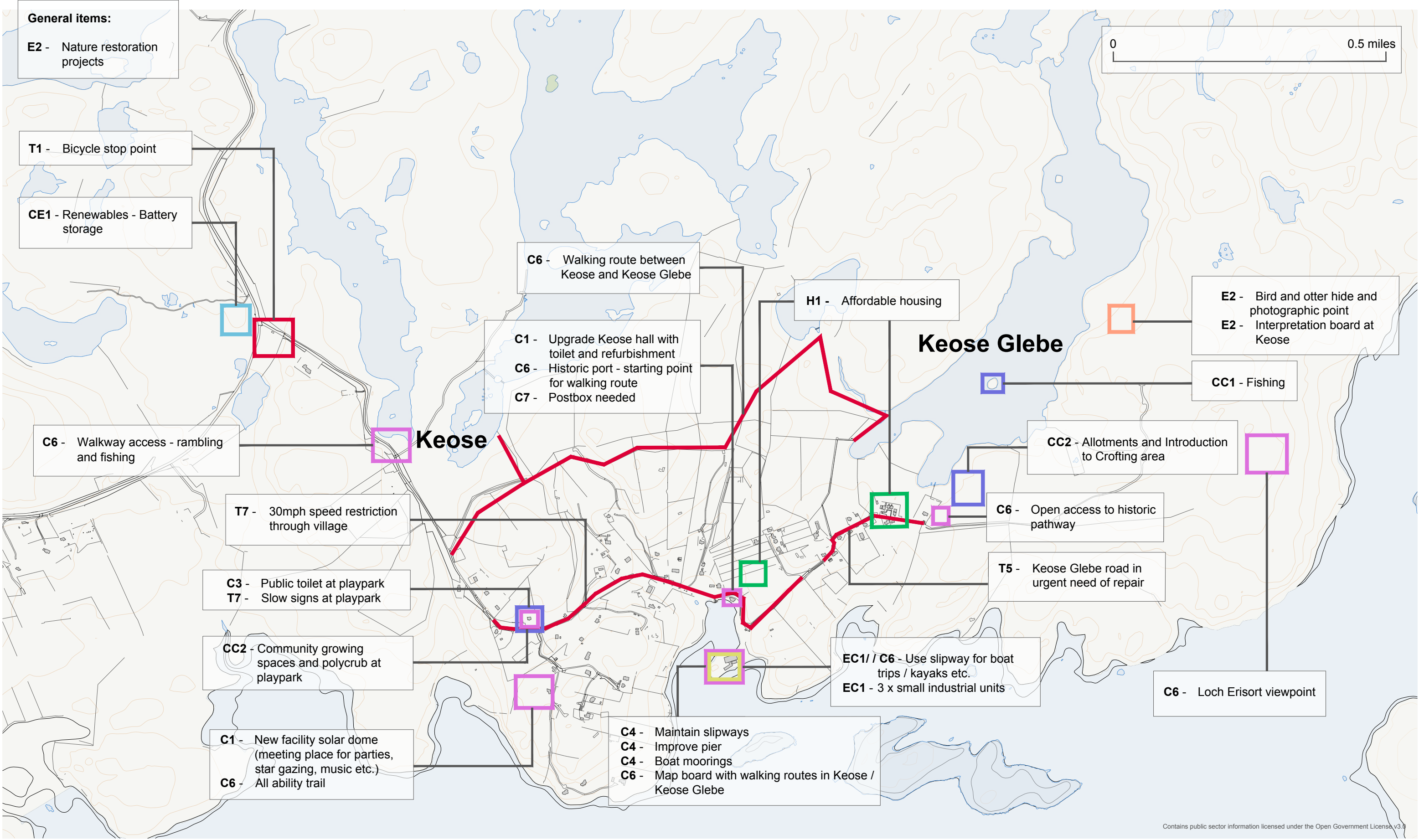
THEMES Line colours on map are indicative of themes

● T - Transport & Safe Movement	● CC - Crofting, Community growing and Aquaculture
● H - Housing	● CE - Community and Renewable Energy
● C - Community Facilities	● E - Environment and Heritage
● EC - Economy	

Solid red line - transport related proposal



North



Keose and Keose Glebe

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C1	Upgrade Keose Hall with toilet and refurbishment	Hall Committee
C1	New facility solar dome (meeting place for parties, star gazing, music, etc.)	Community organisations; private enterprises
C3	Public toilet at playpark	CnES; community council
C4	Improve pier	CnES; MOWI Scotland
C4	Maintain slipways	CnES; community council
C6	All ability trail	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland
C6	Historic port - starting point for walking route	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Kinloch Historical Society; community council
C6	Open access to historic pathway	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Kinloch Historical Society; community council
C6	Walkway access - for rambling and fishing	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; community council
C6	Map board with walking routes in Keose/Keose Glebe	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Kinloch Historical Society; Walking Scotland
C6	Walking route between Keose and Keose Glebe	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland
C6	Loch Erisort viewpoint	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Kinloch Historical Society; community council
C7	Post box in central location	CnES; Royal Mail; community council
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
CC2	Community growing spaces and polycrub at play park	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides SRUC; TSI Hebrides
CC2	Allotments and Introduction to Crofting area	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; grazings committee; Scottish Crofting Federation; Crofting Commission
CE - Community and Renewable Energy		
CE1	Renewables - battery storage	CARES; Community Energy Scotland, Community Power Outer Hebrides
E - Environment and heritage		
E2	Bird hide and otter hide and photographic point	CnES; landowners; community groups; RSPB; Species on the Edge
E2	Interpretation board at Keose	Community organisations
E2	Nature restoration projects	CnES; landowners; community groups; RSPB; Species on the Edge; NatureScot; Scottish Invasive Species Trust; Woodland Trust; highland carbon; Atlantic Salmon Trust; Outer Hebrides Biological Reporting
EC - Economy		
EC1	3x small industrial units	Private developers; HIE, CnES
EC1	Use slipway at Keose for boat trips/kayaks etc	Private businesses; CnES
T - Transport and safe movement		
T1	Bicycle stop point	CnES; Walk Wheel Cycle Trust; HITRANS; community council; community organisations; Kinloch Historical Society

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
T5	Keose Glebe road in urgent need of repair	CnES; community council
T7	Speed restrictions through village (30mph)	CnES; community council
T7	Slow signs at play park	CnES; community council

Fig 11
Laxay

THEMES Line colours on map are indicative of themes

T - Transport & Safe Movement

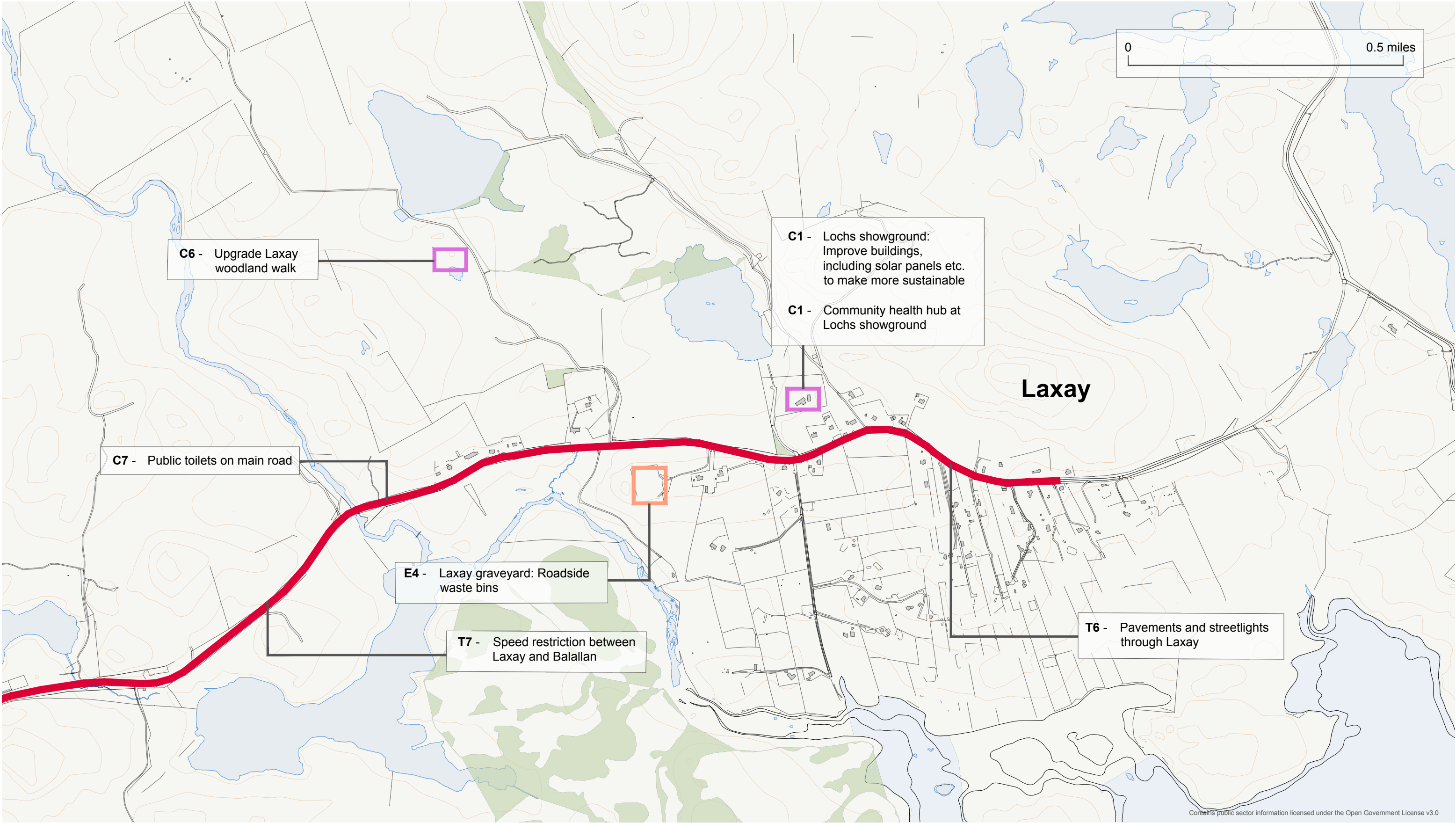
E - Environment and Heritage

C - Community Facilities

Solid red line - transport related proposal



North



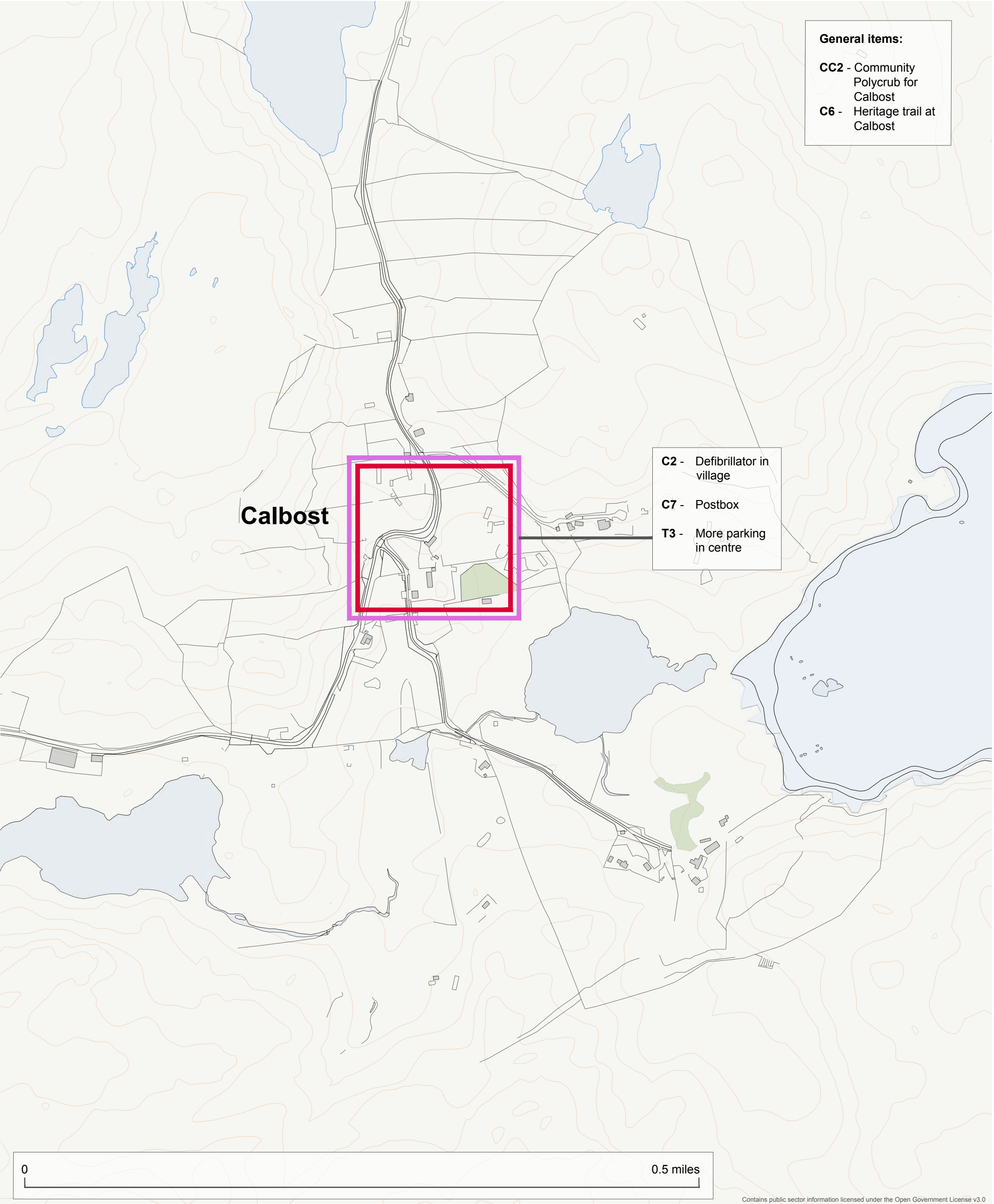
Laxay

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C1	Lochs showground: Improve buildings, including solar panels etc. to make more sustainable	Lochs Agricultural Society; CnES, community council
C1	Community health hub at Lochs showground	Lochs Agricultural Society; CnES, community council
C6	Upgrade Laxay woodland walk	CnES; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; community council
C7	Public toilets on main road	CnES; community council
E - Environment and heritage		
E4	Laxay graveyard: Roadside waste bins	CnES; community council
T - Transport and safe movement		
T6	Pavements and street lights through Laxay	CnES; community council
T7	Speed restrictions Laxay - Balallan	CnES; community council

Fig 12
Calbost



- THEMES** Line colours on map are indicative of themes
- T - Transport & Safe Movement
 - C - Community Facilities
 - CC - Crofting, Community growing and Aquaculture



Calbost

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C2	Defibrillator in village	CnES; landowners; British Heart Foundation; Community organisations; community council; Lucky2BHere
C6	Heritage trail	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; NatureScot; Comunn Eachdraidh na Pairc; community council; Walk On Hebrides; Pairc Trust
C7	Postbox	CnES; Royal Mail; community council
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		
CC2	Community polycrub for Calbost	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides; SRUC; TSI Hebrides; Pairc Trust
T - Transport and safe movement		
T3	More parking in centre	CnES, community council

Fig 13

Cromore & Torostay

THEMES

Line colours on map are indicative of themes

T - Transport & Safe Movement

CC - Crofting, Community growing and Aquaculture

H - Housing

E - Environment and Heritage

C - Community Facilities

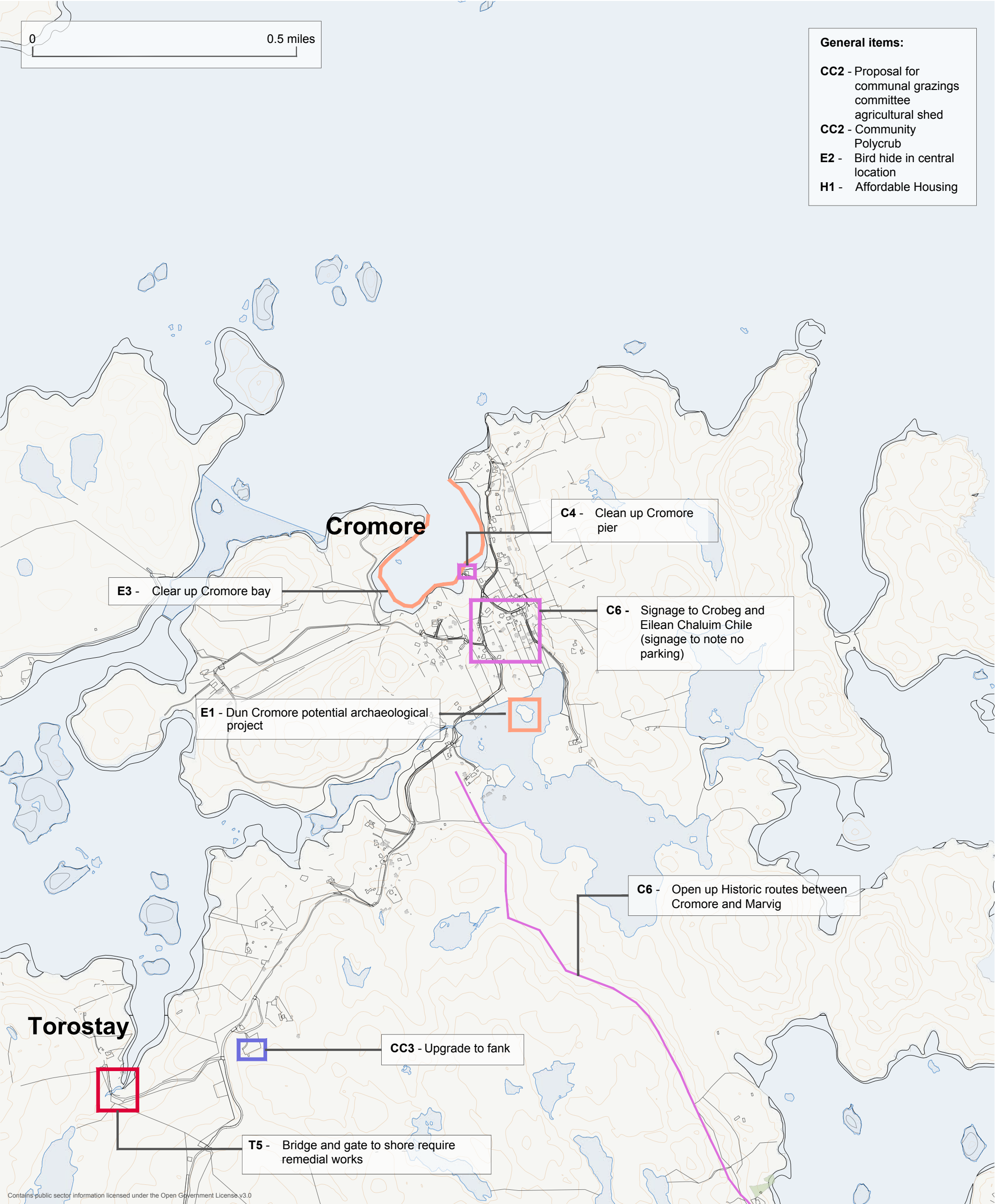
Orange line - Marine debris

North

Solid purple line - Footpaths

Dashed purple line - Footpaths alongside roads

Solid red line - transport related proposal



Cromore and Torostay

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C4	Clean up Cromore Pier	CnES; community council; Pairc Area Forum; Pairc Trust
C6	Signage to Crobeg and Eilean Chaluim Chile (signage to note no parking)	CnES; community councils;
C6	Open up historic routes between Cromore and Marvig	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Pairc Area Forum; Comunn Eachdraidh na Pairc; Pairc Trust
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		
CC2	Community polycrub	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides; SRUC; TSI Hebrides; Habost Development Association
CC2	Proposal for communal grazings committee agricultural shed	Grazings committee
CC3	Upgrade to fank in Cromore	Grazings committee
D - Digital connectivity		
D1	No mobile service in places	Mobile service providers; Local councillors; MSPs; MP
E - Environment and heritage		
E1	Dun Cromore potential archaeological project	Hebridean Connections; community groups; Landowners; Comunn Eachdraidh na Pairc; Angus Macleod Archive; Pairc Trust
E2	Bird hide in central location	CnES; landowners; community groups; RSPB; Species on the Edge

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
E3	Clear up Cromore Bay	CnES; community groups; Clean Coast Outer Hebrides; Keep Scotland Beautiful; Scottish Coastal Clean Up; Scottish Islands Federation Marine Litter Working Group
H - Housing		
H1	Affordable housing	CnES; Hebridean Housing Partnership; landowners; community council; Tighean Innse Gall (TIG); Pairc Trust
T - Transport and safe movement		
T5	Bridge and gate to shore require remedial works	CnES; land owners

Fig 14

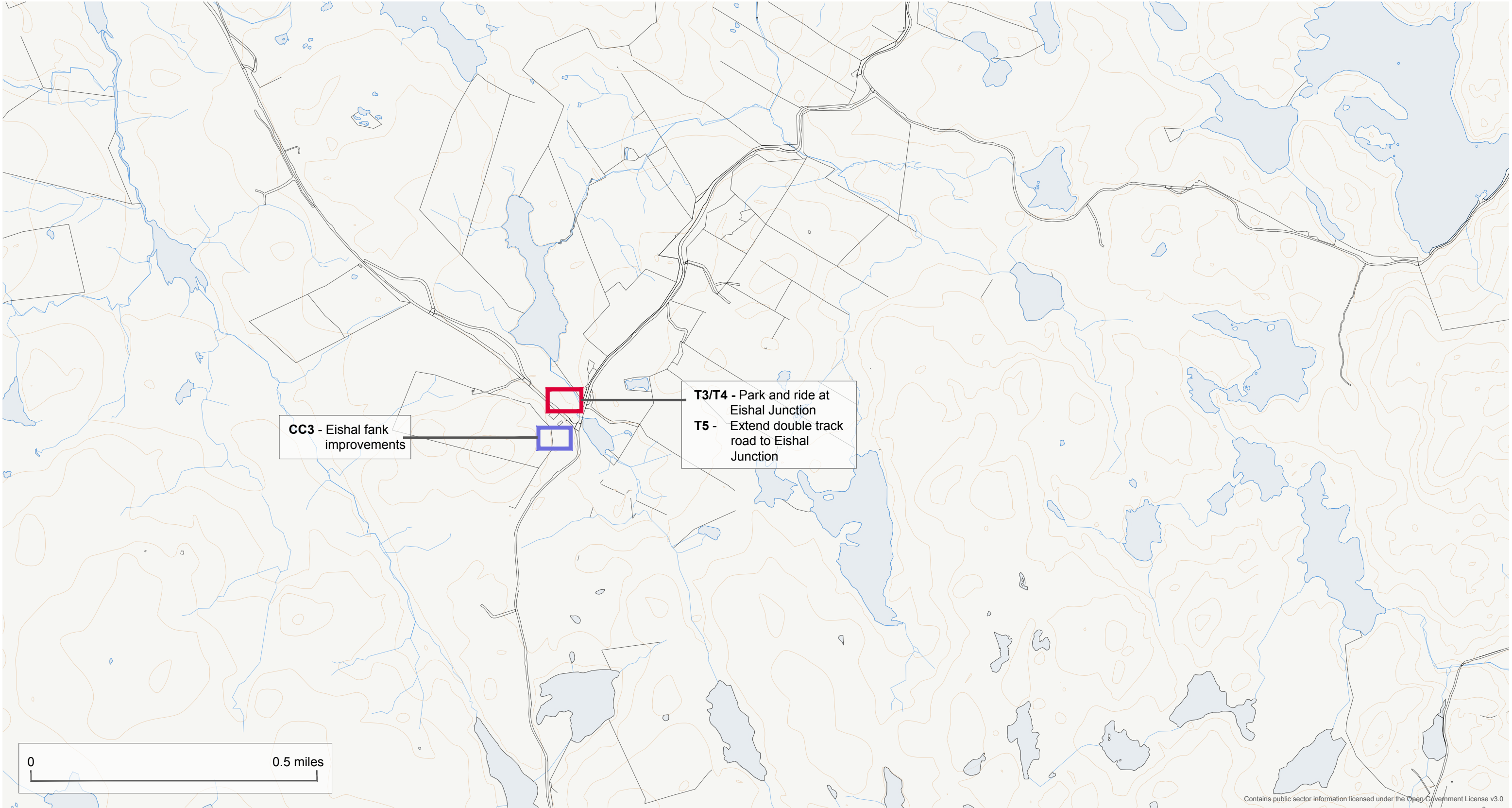
Eishal Fank and Junction



THEMES Line colours on map are indicative of themes

T - Transport & Safe Movement

CC - Crofting, Community growing and Aquaculture



Eishal

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		
CC3	Eishal fank improvements	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides SRUC; TSI Hebrides; Habost Development Association
T - Transport and safe movement		
T3/T4	Park and ride at Eishal Junction	CnES; HITRANS; community council
T5	Extend double track road to Eishal Junction from Garyvard	CnES; community council

Fig 15

Garyvard & Caversta

THEMES

Line colours on map are indicative of themes

T - Transport & Safe Movement

H - Housing

C - Community Facilities

CC - Crofting, Community growing and Aquaculture

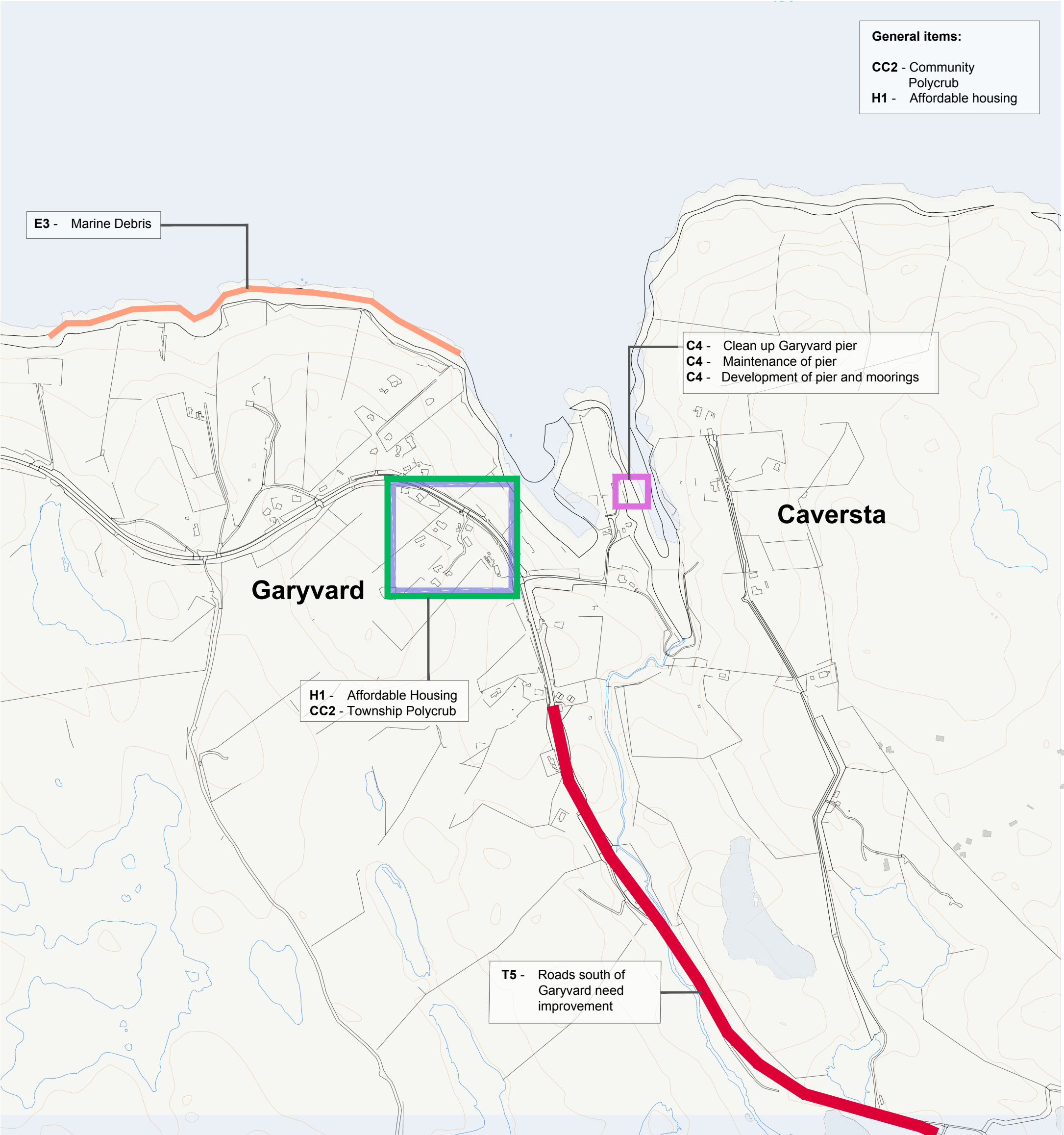
E - Environment and Heritage

Orange line - Marine debris

Solid red line - transport related proposal



North



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Garyvard and Caversta

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C4	Clean up Garyvard Pier	CnES, local community groups
C4	Maintenance of pier	CnES
C4	Development of pier and moorings	CnES
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		
CC2	Community polycrub	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides; SRUC; TSI Hebrides; Habost Development Association
E - Environment and heritage		
E3	Marine debris	CnES, community groups; Clean Coast Outer Hebrides; Fish farm partnerships; Keep Scotland Beautiful; Salmon Scotland; Scottish Coastal Clean Up; Scottish Islands Federation Marine Litter Working Group
H – Housing		
H1	Affordable housing	CnES; Hebridean Housing Partnership; landowners; community council; Tighean Innse Gall (TIG);
T - Transport and safe movement		
T5	Roads south of Garyvard need improvement.	CnES; community council

Fig 16
Gravir

THEMES

Line colours on map are indicative of themes

T - Transport & Safe Movement

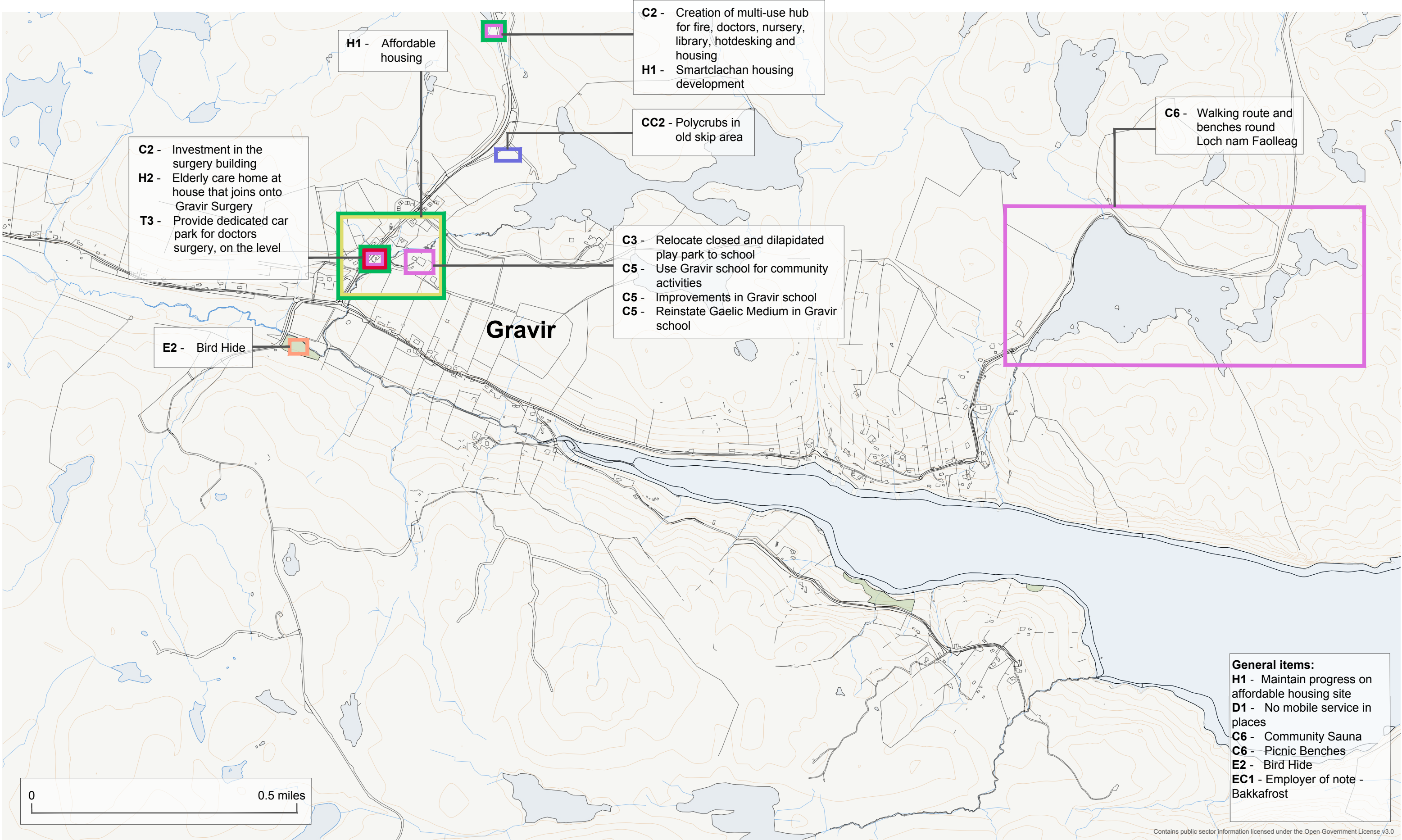
H - Housing

C - Community Facilities

EC - Economy

CC - Crofting, Community growing and Aquaculture

E - Environment and Heritage

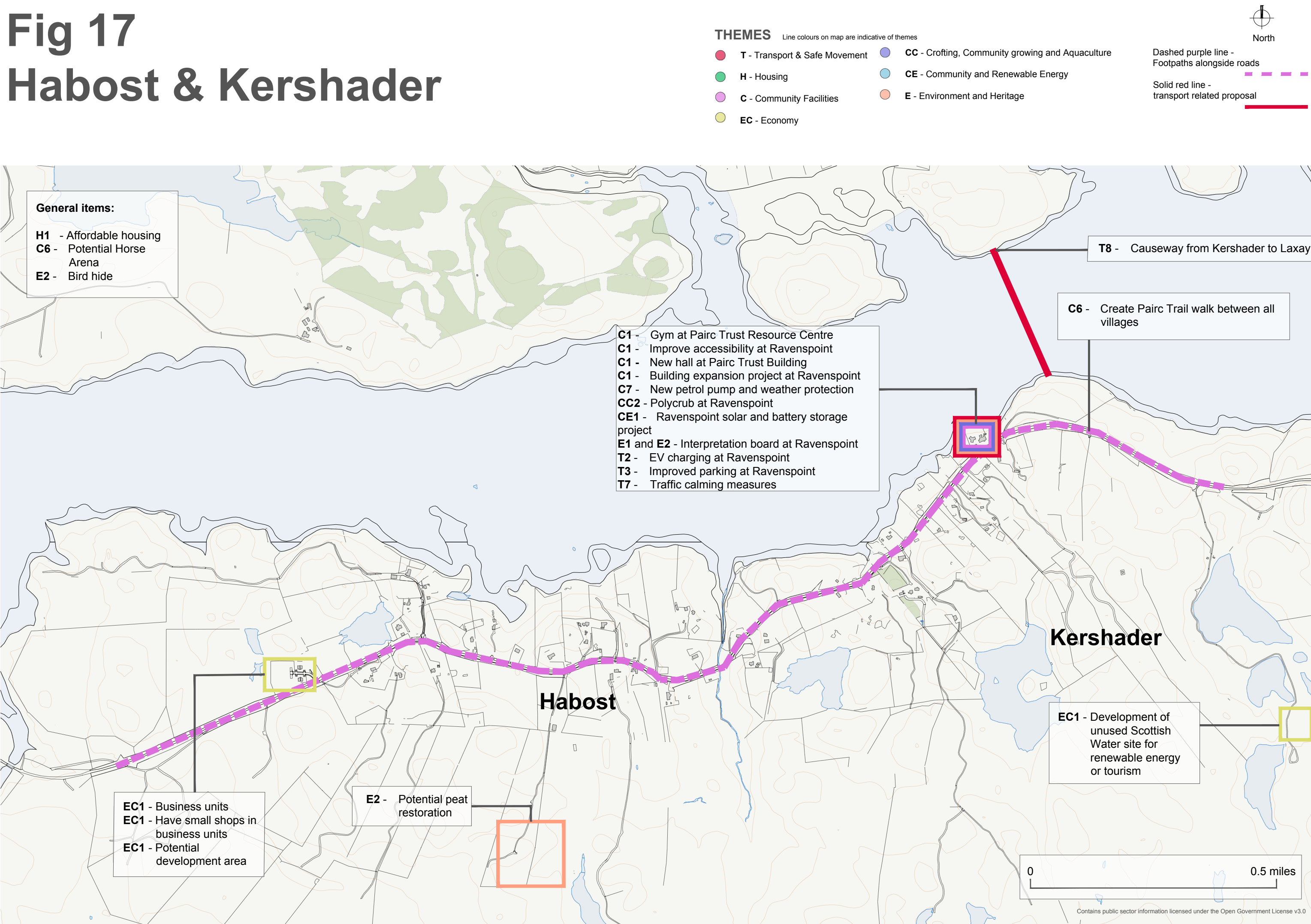


Gravir

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C2	Investment in the surgery building	NHS Western Isles; GP Owners
C2	Creation of multi-use hub for fire service, doctors, nursery, library, hotdesking and housing	CnES; NHS; community groups; community council; GP Owners; Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
C3	Relocate closed and dilapidated play park to school	CnES; community council; parent council
C5	Use Gravir school for community activities	CnES; community council; parent council
C5	Reinstate Gaelic Medium in Gravir School	CnES; parent council
C5	Improvements in Gravir school	CnES; community council; parent council
C6	Walking route and picnic benches round Loch nam Faolleag	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; Walking Scotland; Kinloch Health Walks; Comunn Eachdraidh na Pairc
C6	Community sauna	Landowners; Community organisations; Pairc Trust
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		
CC2	Polycrubs in old skip area	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides SRUC; TSI Hebrides; Habost Development Association
D - Digital connectivity		
D1	No mobile service in places	Mobile providers; Local councillors; MSPs; MP
E - Environment and heritage		

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
E2	Bird Hide	CnES; landowners; community groups; RSPB; Species on the Edge
EC - Economy		
EC1	Employer of note	Bakkafrost
H - Housing		
H1	Affordable housing	CnES; Hebridean Housing Partnership; landowners; community council; Tigh Innse Gall (TIG);
H1	Smartclachan housing development	CnES; Hebridean Housing Partnership; landowners; community council; Tigh Innse Gall (TIG); grazings committees and Crofting Commission
H1	Gravir Housing Development Affordable housing site - please maintain progress on development of this site	CnES; Hebridean Housing Partnership
H2	Elderly care home at house that joins onto Gravir Surgery	NHS Western Isles; Community organisations; Pairc Trust; community council; GP Owners
T - Transport and safe movement		
T3	Provide dedicated car park for the doctors surgery in Gravir on the level	CnES, NHS Western Isles; community council; GP Owners

Fig 17
Habost & Kershader



Habost and Kershader

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C1	Gym at Pairc Trust Resource Centre	Pairc Trust
C1	Improve accessibility at Ravenspoint	Co-chomunn na Pairc
C1	Building expansion project at Ravenspoint	Co-chomunn na Pairc
C1	New hall at Pairc Trust Building	Pairc Trust
C6	Potential horse arena	Land owners
C6	Create Pairc Trail walk between all villages	CnES; Landowners; Pairc Trust; Committees; Walking Scotland; Kinloch Health Walks; Comunn Eachdraidh na Pairc
C7	New petrol pump and weather protection	Co-chomunn na Pairc
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		
CC2	Polycrub at Ravenspoint	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides; SRUC; TSI Hebrides; Habost Development Association; Co-chomunn na Pairc
CE - Community and Renewable Energy		
CE1	Solar and battery storage project at Ravenspoint	CARES; Community Energy Scotland, Community Power Outer Hebrides; Co-chomunn na Pairc
E - Environment and heritage		
E1 and E2	Interpretation board at Ravenspoint	Pairc Trust; Co-chomunn na Pairc; Comunn Eachdraidh na Pairc

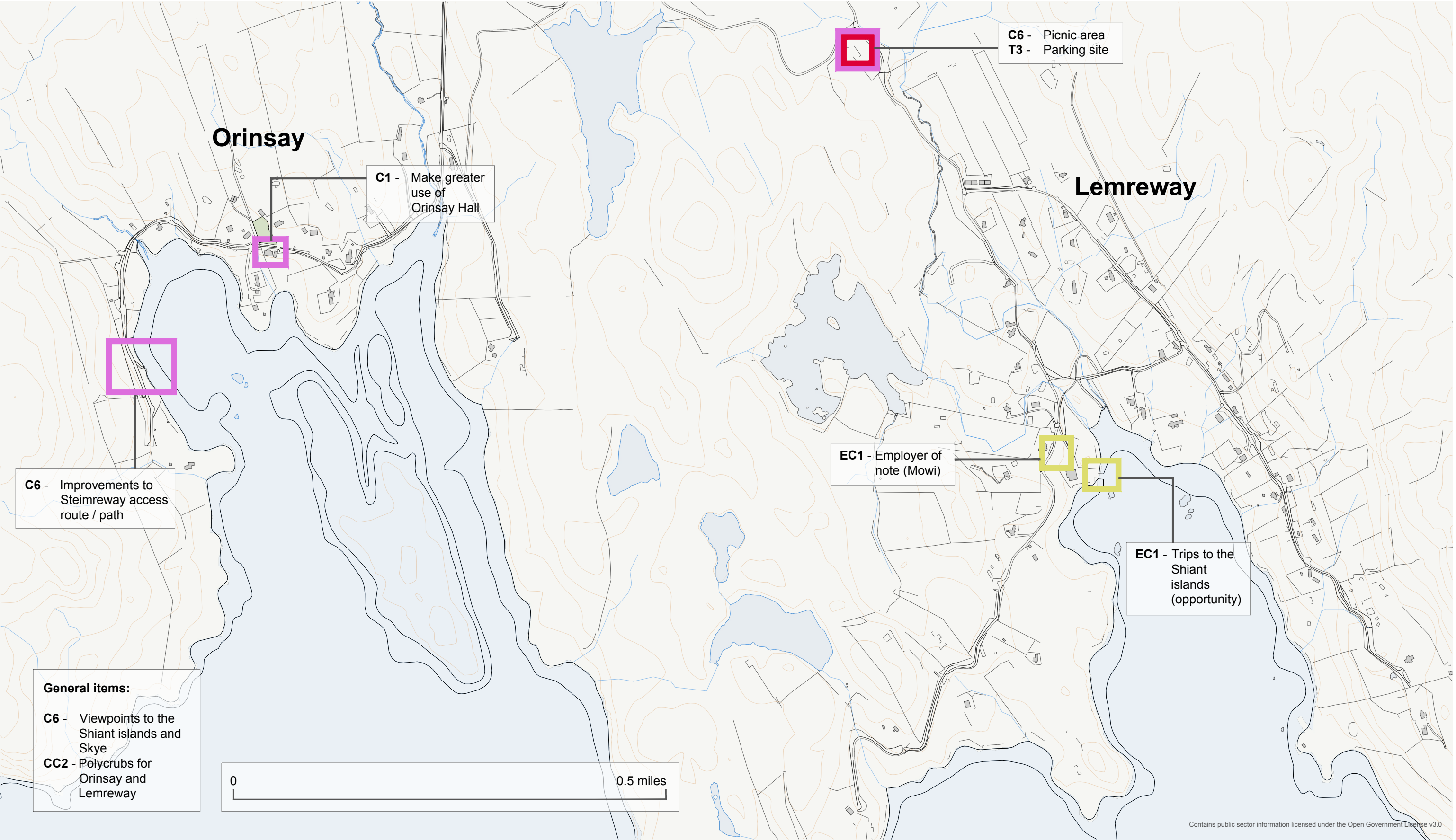
Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
E2	Potential peat restoration	highlandcarbon; Peatland ACTION; Scottish Water; naturescot; Pairc Trust; Grazings Committees
E2	Bird hide	CnES; landowners; community groups; RSPB; Species on the Edge
EC - Economy		
EC1	Development of unused Scottish Water site for renewable energy or tourism	CnES; Scottish Water; HIE; private developers; Community organisations; Community Energy Scotland, Community Power Outer Hebrides
EC1	Business units	CnES; HIE; private developers; Community organisations
EC1	Potential development area	CnES; HIE; private developers; Community organisations
EC1	Have small shops in business units	CnES; HIE; private developers; Community organisations
H – Housing		
H1	Affordable housing	CnES; Hebridean Housing Partnership; landowners; community council; Tigh Innse Gall (TIG);
T - Transport and safe movement		
T2	EV charging at Ravenspoint	CnES; community groups; HITRANS; ChargePlace Scotland
T3	Improved parking at Ravenspoint	Co-Chomun na Pairc
T7	Traffic calming measures	CnES; community council;
T8	Causeway from Kershader to Laxay	CnES; community council; HITRANS

Fig 18

Lemreway & Orinsay



- THEMES** Line colours on map are indicative of themes
- C - Community Facilities
 - CC - Crofting, Community growing and Aquaculture
 - EC - Economy



Lermreway and Orinsay

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C1	Make greater use of Orinsay Hall	Community groups; Orinsay Village Association
C6	Viewpoints to the Shiant Islands and Skye	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; community council
C6	Improvements to Steimreway access route / path	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; community council
C6	Picnic area	CnES; Landowners; Community organisations; community council
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		
CC2	Polycrubs for Orinsay and Lemreway	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides SRUC; TSI Hebrides; Habost Development Association
E - Environment and heritage		
E2	Bird hide at Loch Orasiag	CnES; landowners; community groups; Species on the Edge
EC - Economy		
EC1	Trips to the Shiant Islands	Marine operators
EC1	Employer of note (Mowi)	MOWI
T - Transport and safe movement		
T3	Parking site	CnES; community councils; landowner

Fig 19
Marvig



THEMES Line colours on map are indicative of themes

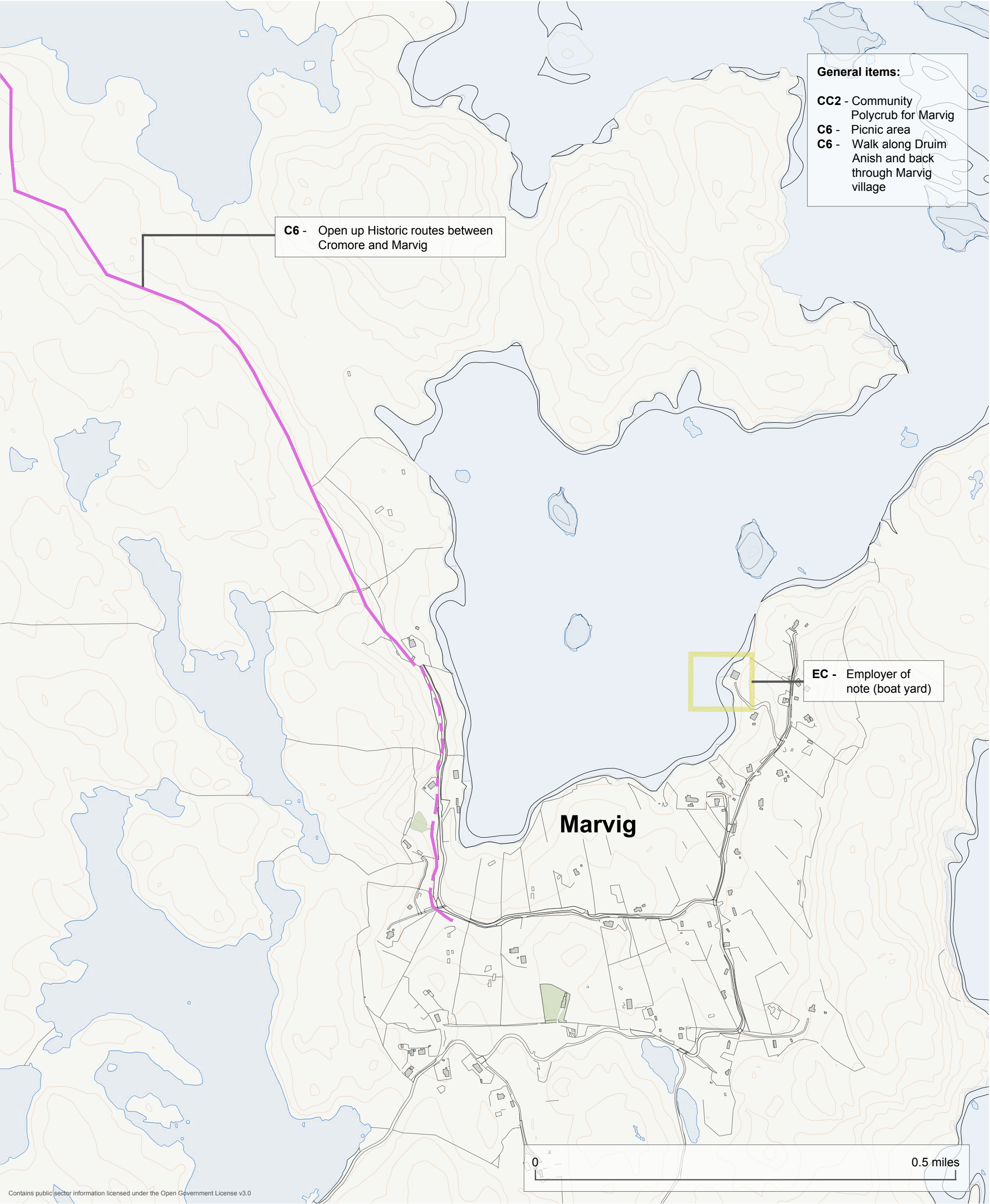
C - Community Facilities

EC - Economy

CC - Crofting, Community growing and Aquaculture

Solid purple line - Footpaths

Dashed purple line - Footpaths alongside roads



Marvig

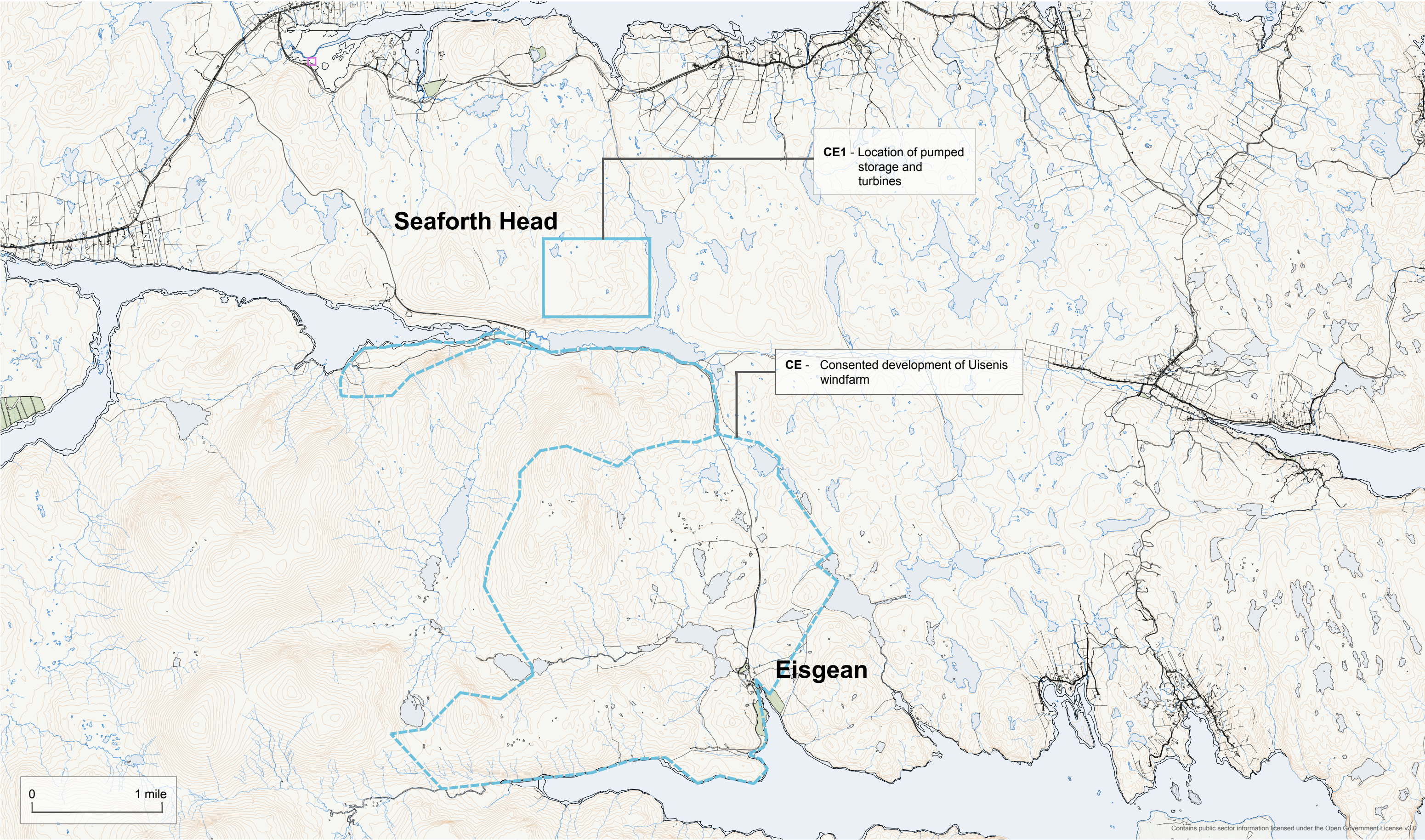
Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C6	Picnic area	CnES; landowners; Pairc Trust
C6	Walk along Druim Anish and back through Marvig village	CnES; Landowners; Pairc Trust; Walking Scotland
C6	Open up historic routes between Cromore and Marvig	CnES; community council; Walking Scotland; Comunn Eachdraidh na Pairc; landowners; Pairc Trust
CC - Crofting, community growing and aquaculture		
CC2	Community polycrub	Landowners; CnES; Community organisations; Climate Hebrides; SRUC; TSI Hebrides; Habost Development Association
EC - Economy		
EC1	Employer of note (boat yard)	Marvig Boatyard

Fig 20
Seaforth



THEMES Line colours on map are indicative of themes

- CE - Community and Renewable Energy



Seaforth

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
CE - Community and Renewable Energy		
CE1	Location of pump storage and turbines	Pairc Trust; Eishken Estate, Grazings' Committees; SSEN

Fig 21

Steimreway



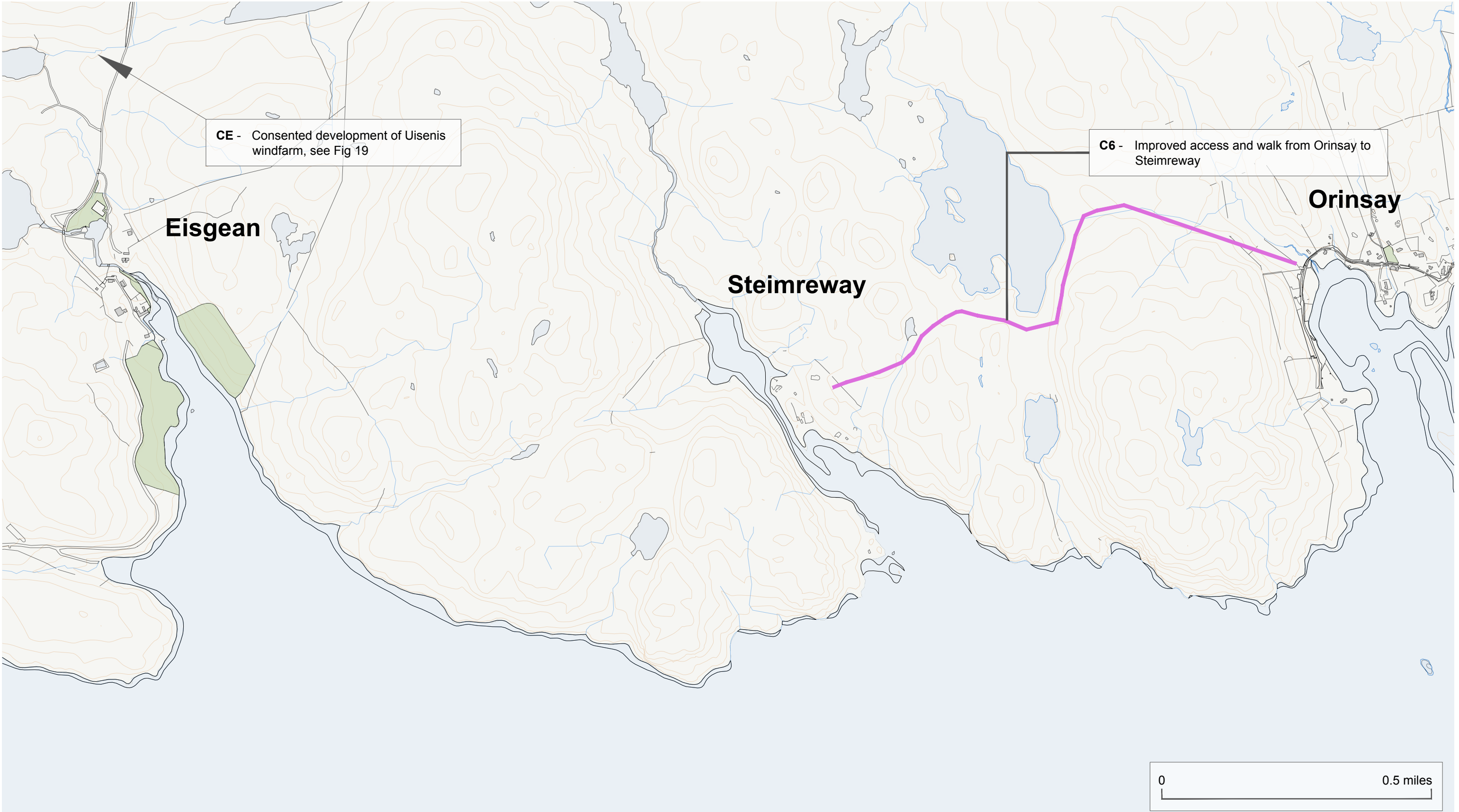
THEMES

Line colours on map are indicative of themes

C - Community Facilities

CE - Community and Renewable Energy

Solid purple line - Footpaths



Steimreway

Theme and sub-theme	Area of future development	Partners
C - Community facilities and local services		
C6	Improved access and walk from Orinsay to Steimreway	Pairc Trust, Grazings' Committees

Appendix 2 - Survey Questions

1. Which locality do you live in? Pairc/Kinloch/North Lochs
2. What do you like about your community?
3. What do you find challenging about living or working in your community?
4. What existing services, facilities, activities or groups do you think are essential for your area?

The local area

5. Housing - Please rate your area for housing (e.g. *housing association, private rentals, lack of housing, opportunity to build, support for new builds, ageing houses, cost, energy efficiency and energy cost, availability, space/ land for houses, etc.*) Tick one.

Could be a lot better/ Could be a little better/ No change needed

What is good about your area for housing now? Please be as specific as you can about what and where

What would make it even better in the future? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

6. Land-use and crofting (including woodland and other croft diversification activities such as tourism, renewables, polycrubs, peat restoration etc). Please rate your area for land-use and crofting. Tick one.

Could be a lot better/ Could be a little better/ No change needed

What is good about land-use and crofting in your area now? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

What would make land-use and crofting even better in the future? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

7. Education and learning opportunities (e.g. primary/secondary schools, higher and further education, adult learning classes, pathways for learning, apprenticeships, Gaelic medium, horticultural and craft courses, etc). Please rate your area for education and learning opportunities. Tick one.

Could be a lot better/ Could be a little better/ No change needed

What is good about education and learning opportunities now? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

What would make education and learning even better in the future? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

8. Jobs and business (e.g. range and salary of local jobs, location, quality and nature of work opportunities, potential for business development and growth). Please rate your area for Jobs and Business. Tick one.

Could be a lot better/ Could be a little better/ No change needed

What is good about your area for jobs and business? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

What would make it even better in the future? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

9. Digital connectivity – please rate your area for digital connectivity (i.e. internet cost, access and reliability of connectivity, mobile phone reception). Tick one.

Could be a lot better/ Could be a little better/ No change needed

What is good about your area's digital connectivity?

What would make it even better in the future?

10. Public transport and moving around (getting about and going to where you want to by walking, cycling, car, bus, including pavements and street lighting, road safety etc.) - Please rate your area. Tick one.

Could be a lot better/ Could be a little better/ No change needed

What is good about public transport and moving around your area now? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

What would make it even better in the future? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

11. Do you have access to a car? Tick one

Yes/No/Sometimes

12. Do you use public transport? Tick one

Yes/No/Sometimes

Please give details

13. Traffic and parking (for example, access to parking, volume of traffic and adherence to speed limits). Please rate your area for traffic and parking. Tick one.

Could be a lot better/ Could be a little better/ No change needed

What is good about traffic and parking in your area now? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

What would make it even better in the future? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

14. Community spaces and areas for play and recreation (e.g. play parks, picnic and seating areas, community halls and centres, and other spaces for socialising). Please rate your area for community spaces and areas for play and recreation. Tick one.

Could be a lot better/ Could be a little better/ No change needed

What is good about community spaces and areas for play and recreation in your area now? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

What would make community spaces and areas for play and recreation even better in the future? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

15. Other facilities and services (e.g. health services, sports facilities and gyms, post offices, banks, shops, library, etc.). Please rate your area for other facilities and services. Tick one.

Could be a lot better/ Could be a little better/ No change needed

What is good about your area for other facilities and services now? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

What would make it even better in the future? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

16. Piers, slipways and harbour facilities and services - Please rate your area for piers, slipways and harbour facilities and services. Tick one.

Could be a lot better/ Could be a little better/ No change needed

What is good about your area for piers, slipways and harbour facilities? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

What would make it even better in the future? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

17. Access to nature (e.g paths and walkways, wheelchair accessible outdoor spaces, ease of access to nature). Please rate your area for open spaces and access to nature. Tick one.

Could be a lot better/ Could be a little better/ No change needed

What is good about your area for access to nature? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

What would make it even better in the future? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

18. Facilities and services for tourists - Please rate your area for facilities and services for tourists. Tick one.

Could be a lot better/ Could be a little better/ No change needed

What is good about your area for facilities and services for tourists. Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

What would make it even better in the future? Please be as specific as you can about what and where.

Looking to the future

19. What other priorities for your local area that have not been covered in this survey would you like to highlight? If there is a specific location where you would like to see this happen, please say.

20. Over the next 5 years, what **one** change, development or improvement would you prioritise in the community? If there is a specific location where you would like to see this happen, please say

21. If you have any further comments, ideas or suggestions, please share them here.

About you

22. What is your age? (please tick one)

Under 16		16-24		25-44		45-64		65 or over	
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23. Which of these best describes you?

I live here most/all of the time	
I am a visitor	
I have a second home here	
I work here and live elsewhere	

24. How many people are in your household?

Age	0-5	6-16	17-30	31-64	65 or over
Number in household					

25. Are you a Gaelic speaker?

Yes		Yes, a little		Learning/would like to learn		No	
-----	--	---------------	--	------------------------------	--	----	--

26. Would you be interested in taking part in a survey about Gaelic in the Lochs area? If so, please provide your name and contact details:

If you have children, we have a short survey to help collect their perspectives. You can find this here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Lochsyounge> We will also be working with local primary schools to collect feedback from young people.