



**Community Vision
and Action Plan**

live
Life
Morvern

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the many local residents, community groups, businesses and organisations who committed so much energy and enthusiasm to produce this plan.

Funded by:

[The Rural Communities Ideas into Action Fund.](#)

Additional funds provided by Morvern Community Trust and Highland Council Discretionary Fund.

Commissioned by:

Morvern Community Council, Morvern Community Trust and Morvern Community Development Company.

Facilitated by:

PAS (Planning Aid for Scotland). This work was undertaken according to PAS's engagement principles by a qualified SP=EED practitioner.

The Live Life Morvern Steering Group consisted of Douglas Taylor and Annie Tordoff (MCC); Amy Stammers and Sarah Jones (MCDC) and David Campbell (MCT). Bonny Mealand was employed part-time as a Local Associate for the project.

Particular thanks to Annabel Lawrence, Steve Hardy and Jennie Robertson who each wrote one of the three context chapters on Morvern's maritime, natural and human history respectively. And Lilia Dobrokhodova of MCDC for her support with administration and fundraising.

Acronyms

A select list of commonly used acronyms in this document

CAOLAS	Community Association of Lochs and Sounds
CC	Climate Conversations
CGP	Community Growth Plan 2011 (for Morvern)
CLAM	Community Land Association Morvern (Allotments)
DCB	Drimnin Community Broadband
DH	Drimnin Hall
EV	Electric Vehicle
FLS	Forestry & Land Scotland
LOPA	Lochaline Old Pier Association
LLM	Live Life Morvern
LPS	Lochaline Primary School
MCC	Morvern Community Council
MCDC	Morvern Community Development Company
MCT	Morvern Community Trust
MCTC	Morvern Community Transport Company
MCW	Morvern Community Woodlands
MDMG	Morvern Deer Management Group
MGGW	Morvern Games and Gala Week
MHS	Morvern Heritage Society
SWT	Scottish Wildlife Trust Rahoy Reserve Committee

Has Your Voice Been Heard?

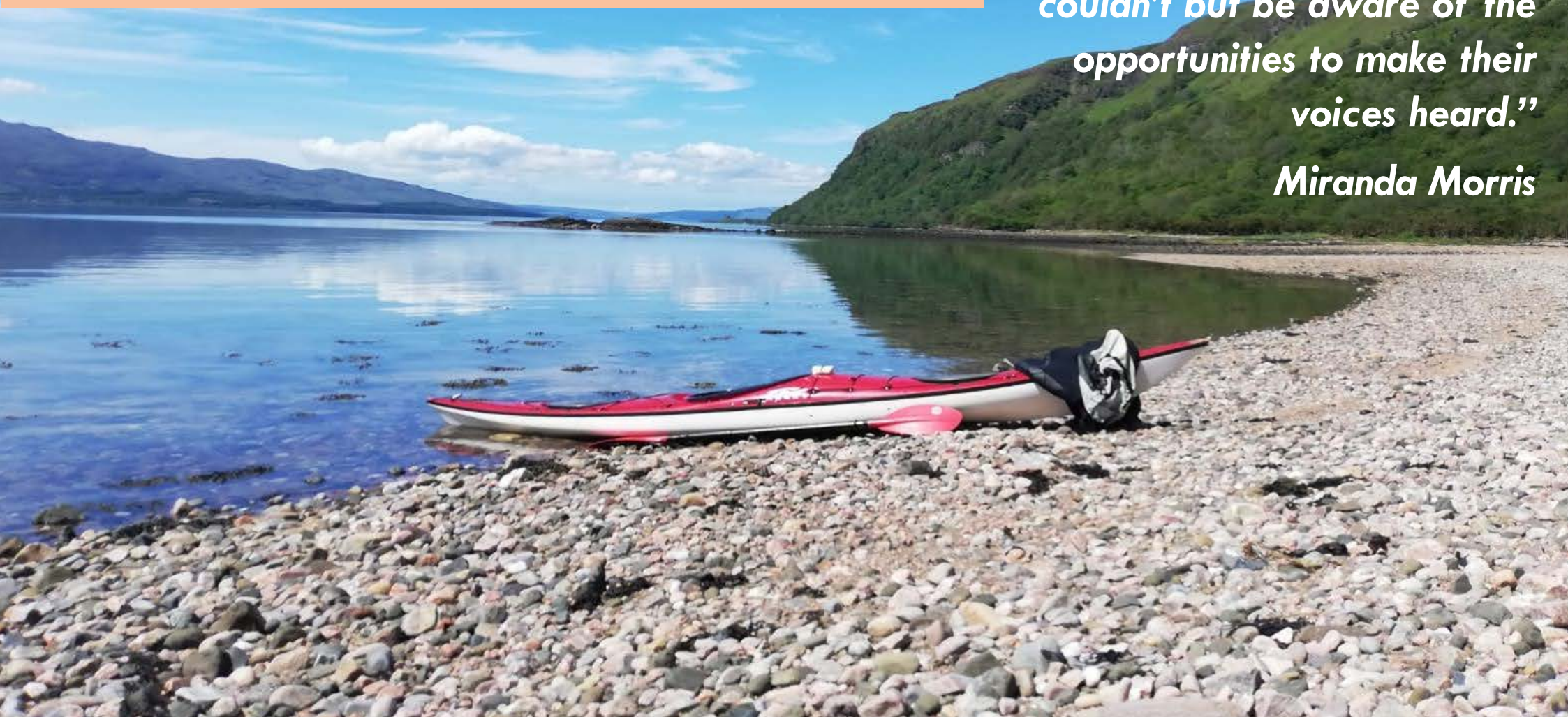
A variety of routes and opportunities to participate were made available to give everyone a chance to contribute their views. The LLM Steering Group spotted under-represented parts of the community as we went along and quickly set up new channels to reach out to them. These included displays at meeting points, targeted get-togethers and open drop-in sessions.



Display boards of the emerging LLM vision in the Mine Office welfare area for people to comment.

“The consultation process and workshops were very widely publicised in a number of ways so that everyone couldn’t but be aware of the opportunities to make their voices heard.”

Miranda Morris





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Introduction

01



Live Life Morvern

Welcome and Introduction

It's now over ten years since the Community Growth Plan was developed in 2011 for Morvern Community Development Company. In 2020 it was realised that many of these original goals had been achieved and Morvern needs a new plan for the next 10 years. This Action Plan lays out our community's own long-term vision for the next decade - and the steps we need to take to get there. The plan is intended to be dynamic, not exclusive, with regular updates as circumstances change. It is anticipated and encouraged that other additional initiatives will and should emerge over time.

Overview of Brief

Morvern Community Council (MCC), Morvern Community Trust (MCT) and Morvern Community Development Company (MCDC) sourced funds and formed a joint steering group to develop the Community Action Plan. The steering group selected an independent team to work with the local community from an organisation called PAS (Planning Aid Scotland). PAS is a charity and social enterprise that helps individuals and groups across Scotland to engage with the planning system and influence the future of their place. This includes working with communities to develop community action plans and local place plans. PAS brings an impartial outsider perspective and a wide range of design, facilitation and project management skills to support the process.

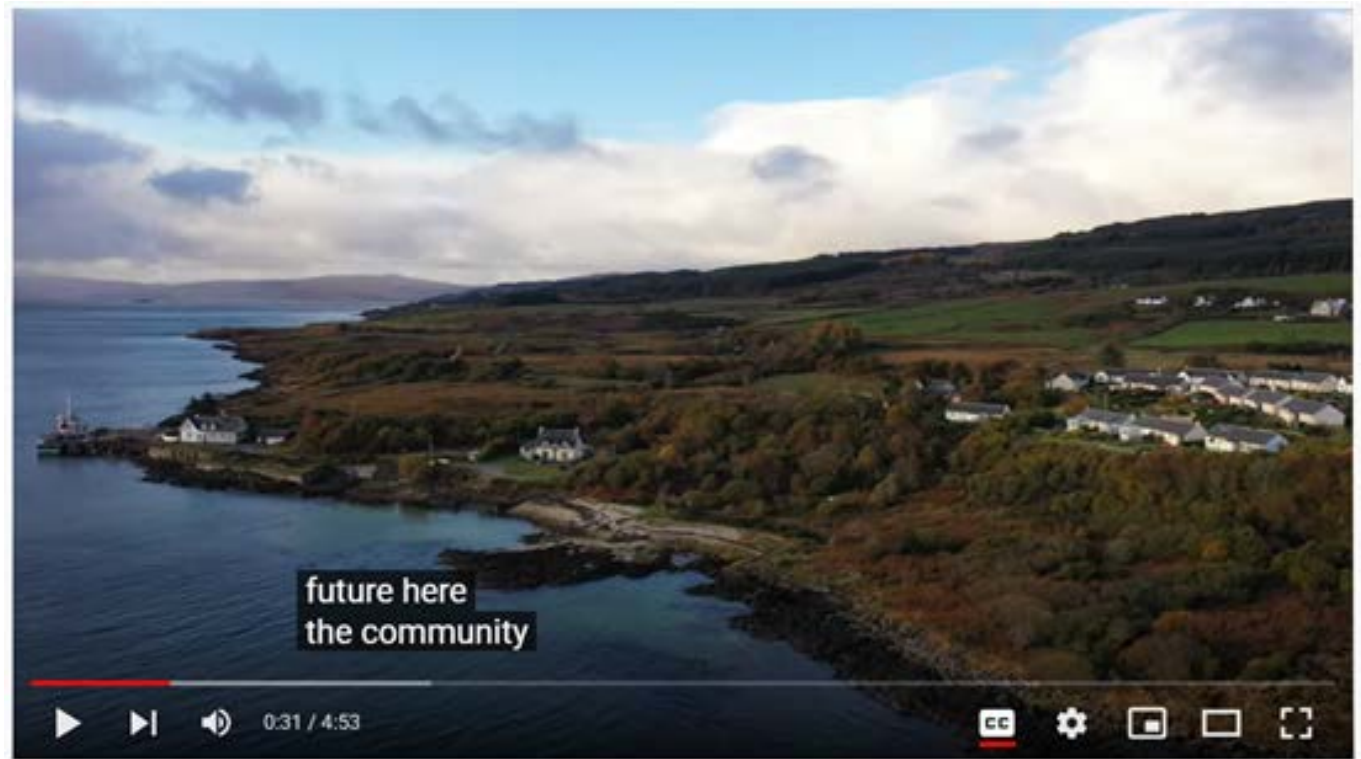


Figure 1 [Link to Live Life Morvern Promotional Video \(click on the image\)](#)

Live Life Morvern (LLM) was the name selected for the six-month action-planning process.

A video was created by local volunteer Jim Manthorpe to explain the motivation and goal for developing the Action Plan – click on the image below to watch. At the end the shout “Live Life Morvern!” becomes a rallying cry from the up-coming generation, encouraging the whole community to embrace a vision of life and a flourishing community.

Why develop a Community Action Plan?

This community action plan aims to:

- Help initiatives by the local community to tap into funding and support by showing how their work fits the context of wider community aspirations.
- Enable the local community to work together towards a common purpose.
- Enable the community to deploy resources towards widely supported projects.

- Help the community focus on the challenge to reduce its carbon emissions.
- Demonstrate to stakeholders and funders how the community's vision for Morvern ties into wider regional and national government priorities.
- Provide a context for dialogue between local community members who own land and the wider community.
- Indicate to wider stakeholders how they can support the goals of the community, including Highland Council, Forestry and Land Scotland, NHS Scotland and other public sector bodies.

The plan is a guide for what we as a community want to achieve over the next 10 years. The initiatives detailed here provide a menu of options that cover a wide range of topics – some will be easier to realise, others will take much longer and require many different people to come together. But just because they are mentioned in the plan doesn't mean that they will all be realised, which is why many of them have been listed as "proposed". This is because delivery never happens in a straight line: it 'zig-zags,' dependent on funding opportunities, local capacity and a variety of other factors. Additionally, community needs and priorities can change over time, which is why we have built a review process into this plan.

The plan aims to give local groups the drive and encouragement to follow through with their plans with the support of the community. The plan indicates a series of priority actions and first steps to build on existing momentum. And by harnessing the skills of the community and using this plan as an indicative route-map, we can have confidence that many of the aims of this plan will be delivered as successfully over the next ten years as during the previous decade.

Structure of the Plan

This plan is in five parts:

- The **Introductory chapter** includes an executive summary, with an overview of how the plan was prepared, its key aims and priorities for action.
- The **Context chapter** describes the history of our community and the current context it finds itself in. Three local authors also provide a rich and deep personal narrative of Morvern as a place.
- The **Vision and Aims chapter** contains our vision for the future of our local community in 2031: what's important to us and what we want to achieve.
- The **Actions and Initiatives chapter** contains all 133 envisioned actions, across 31 action areas organised according to 6 themes. These detail specific ideas for delivering our vision, some already in the pipeline and other's proposals for the future. The themes and actions were developed through the community engagement process described in full in the Appendices.
- A final chapter called **Making it Happen: Implementation** explains how we as a community will work together and collaborate with others to turn our actions into reality. It contains the additional theme 'Organising Ourselves' and five further action areas.
- The **Appendices** give full information about engagement methodology and process that was used, detailed information tables about each action in the plan, information about how the plan relates to other plans influencing decisions in Morvern, summaries and results from the community-wide survey and survey of business groups, and a review of the last decade of delivery of community projects in Morvern.

What was said by the community

Quotations made directly by community members during the process about their feelings and aspirations have been scattered throughout the plan, such as:



How to get involved

If you would like to get involved with any of the proposed initiatives in this plan, or if you have any queries about this document, please contact Morvern Community Development Company (development@morvern.org) or Morvern Community Council (morverncc@gmail.com).

Executive Summary

How we developed our Action Plan

Over six months from October 2021 to April 2022 we issued three questionnaires, ran nine three-hour face-to-face drop-in sessions, hosted ten online workshops, facilitated special group gatherings with families and young people, and held a host of other informal conversations to develop the plan.

“Some community groups don’t always join up with each other.”

“Would like to have more places for teenagers to meet.”

Live Life Morvern in Numbers

The graphic on the follow page spells out the different ways that the community worked together to construct this plan from the bottom up.

GATHERING DATA



Data from 2011 census



Survey Conducted between 25th October and 14th November 2021

156 households contacted

Total surveys responses submitted 134

- 104 submitted online
- 30 hardcopy submitted
- 12 submitted by Children
- 10 submitted by Teenagers



40% of local residents responded*

SPREADING THE WORD



90 people joined the LLM mailing list

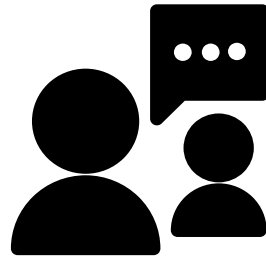
156 households contacted through an initial mail drop with information about how to get involved.

8 e-Newsletters sent to mailing database

48 social media posts on Live Life Morvern Facebook Page (majority reposted to the Lochaline page)

- 1 centre-page spread in De Tha Dol
- 1 week of exhibiting 6 display boards about the community vision at the hub
- 2 weeks of exhibiting 6 display boards at the Mine
- 3 different posters displayed in various different locations around Morvern
- 26 social media posts on Live Life Morvern Twitter Page

HAVING CONVERSATIONS



3 focussed face-to-face sessions with specific groups (teenagers, kids and the parent's council)

18 hour-long interviews with a range of local people and backgrounds

9 3-hour face-to-face drop-in sessions**

110 people connected with at the Hub in Lochaline and Drimnin Village Hall over the lifetime of the project for face-to-face conversations and input from local people

130 Actions suggested for the Action plan (approx.)

36 Community Groups contacted for Community Group and Local Services Survey, with a 44% response rate

41 businesses contacted for Local Business Survey with a 44% response rate

13 community groups attended the Community Group Forum

10 community workshops were held with a total headcount of 128 people

37 community members voted to prioritise actions indicatively

*Typically between 5% and 20% for similar community surveys elsewhere in Scotland

**This included one community survey feedback workshop, two Visioning Workshops, three Action Planning Workshops, one Prioritisation Workshop and one Community Group Forum.

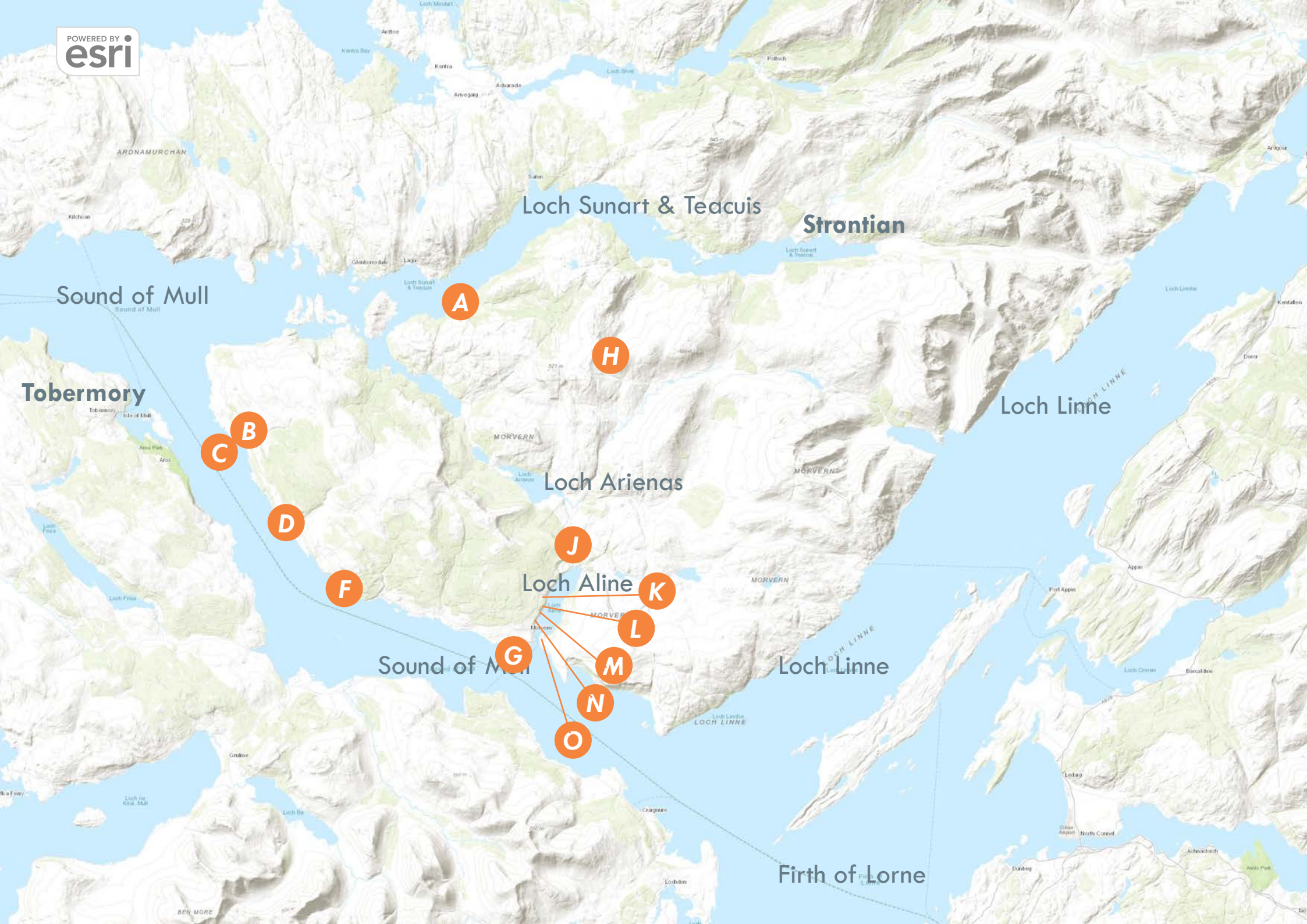


A Comprehensive Action Plan: 133 Actions Peninsula-wide

On the next page is an indicative map of locations for a small selection of the actions in the plan (see chapter 4). As can be seen below, the action plan is intended to cover the whole peninsula

- A. Protecting Morvern's Atlantic Rainforest - proposed RSPB project (99)
- B. Repair and restoration of Drimnin Village Hall (66)
- C. Restart Drimnin water taxi (22)
- D. Repair shelter, all access paths, and boardwalks - Achnaha Wood (91)
- E. Conduct a comprehensive housing survey: local housing needs assessment; housing, land audit; housing conditions survey (42)
- F. Improvement to Drimnin Road (35)
- G. Create Lochaline Sand Mine Trail along former railway (26)
- H. Artist in residence project - Rahoy Hills Nature Reserve (76)
- I. Develop walking routes on the wider peninsula (29)
- J. Larachbeg Telephone Box (St. Kilda Museum) (112)
- K. Develop Workshop/Retail Units at Knock Park (9)
- L. Broadband - Not Spot Fill-in around Lochaline (21)
- M. Lochaline Primary School Wildlife Garden (74)
- N. Protecting and enhancing the heritage of Kiel church and grounds (114)
- O. Create a marine management plan for Loch Aline - including loch wide conservation measures (111)

Numbers in brackets after each action refer to the Action Numbers, not page numbers.





Vision for Morvern in 2031 and beyond

Live Life Morvern established the following overarching vision for Morvern in 2031 and beyond – a challenging and exciting vision of a community flourishing culturally, economically and in its relationship to the environment:

In 2031 and beyond we envisage a Morvern that (in no particular order of importance):

- *is a model carbon-negative community: a leader in renewable energy creation that positively contributes to national net-zero targets.*
- *is a welcoming, inclusive and caring community that works hard to involve everyone in our life together.*
- *has a thriving and positive community spirit.*
- *is a place where people of all ages can remain as they move through each life stage, and people of all ages and stages thrive.*
- *is diverse in many ways: biodiversity, diversity of local businesses and housing, diversity of its social life and the make-up of its population.*
- *is a place that enjoys a rich social life where all generations are able to socialise together.*
- *is a community that is committed to caring for the environment.*
- *is an affordable, economically viable and creative place where people produce goods and services, share resources and spend locally as much as possible.*
- *is an ambitious community, proud of its heritage and achievements.*
- *has an established reputation for sustainability, strong community life and high-quality tourism.*

How we will achieve our vision - Action Areas

To achieve this ambitious vision, over the next 10 years we have developed a plan for action that covers 31 different areas of our life together, arranged according to six themes.

Action Areas	
Economy and Employment	
1	Exploring opportunities for social enterprise
2	Helping people into work
3	Providing accommodation for local businesses
4	Supporting local businesses – large and small
5	Supporting slow tourism
Transport and Digital	
6	Affordable broadband for all
7	Community transport
8	Improve walking, wheeling and cycling
9	Improved public transport
10	Safer, improved transport network
Housing	
11	Affordable housing owned by the community
12	Specialist accommodation
13	Zero-carbon homes for all
Energy, Facilities and Services	
14	Community-owned energy
15	Energy resilience
16	Health
17	Local community hubs

18	Recreation facilities
19	Schools and education
20	Services and childcare
Heritage, Land and Sea	
21	Community Land Ownership
22	Community woodland and natural space
23	Conservation, stewardship & management
24	Heritage
25	Play facilities
Community Life and Local Resources	
26	Buying local
27	Gathering together
28	Promote recreation and creativity
29	Reuse and recycle
30	Sharing our resources
31	Young people

Table 1 Action Areas for the Plan

A 10 year-time frame could involve delivery of a wide variety of actions to deliver our goals – some of which we haven't even imagined yet! But from our perspective in 2022, we have come up with over 130 potential initiatives that might help us deliver our vision, and these are laid out in more detail in chapter 4 and the appendices. Some of these are already in process, some of them remain just the germs of ideas for now. But all of them together represent the collective ambition and hopes of what we can aim to achieve in this time frame.

Community Priorities for Action

Imagining everything we could and should do over the next 10 years is a big task which has resulted in a large range and variety of potential steps and actions that we can take. To help us see the wood for the trees we undertook a prioritisation exercise towards the end of the process. The aim was to help us discern more clearly as a community what the most significant and impactful actions we could take together might be. While this was necessarily indicative at this stage, a total of 12 community priorities for action ('big-ticket items') rose to the top as being particularly important for us to focus on in the next season. This is not to minimise the importance of the many other valuable ideas and actions in our plan, but rather to help us all gain a platform from which to begin to discern a way forward with delivery.

The community priorities for action are laid out below in as much detail as we have so far been able to develop, after the results of an indicative ranking of the relative strength of feeling that the community expressed about them.



Table 2 Community Priorities for Action (indicative) ranked by community poll

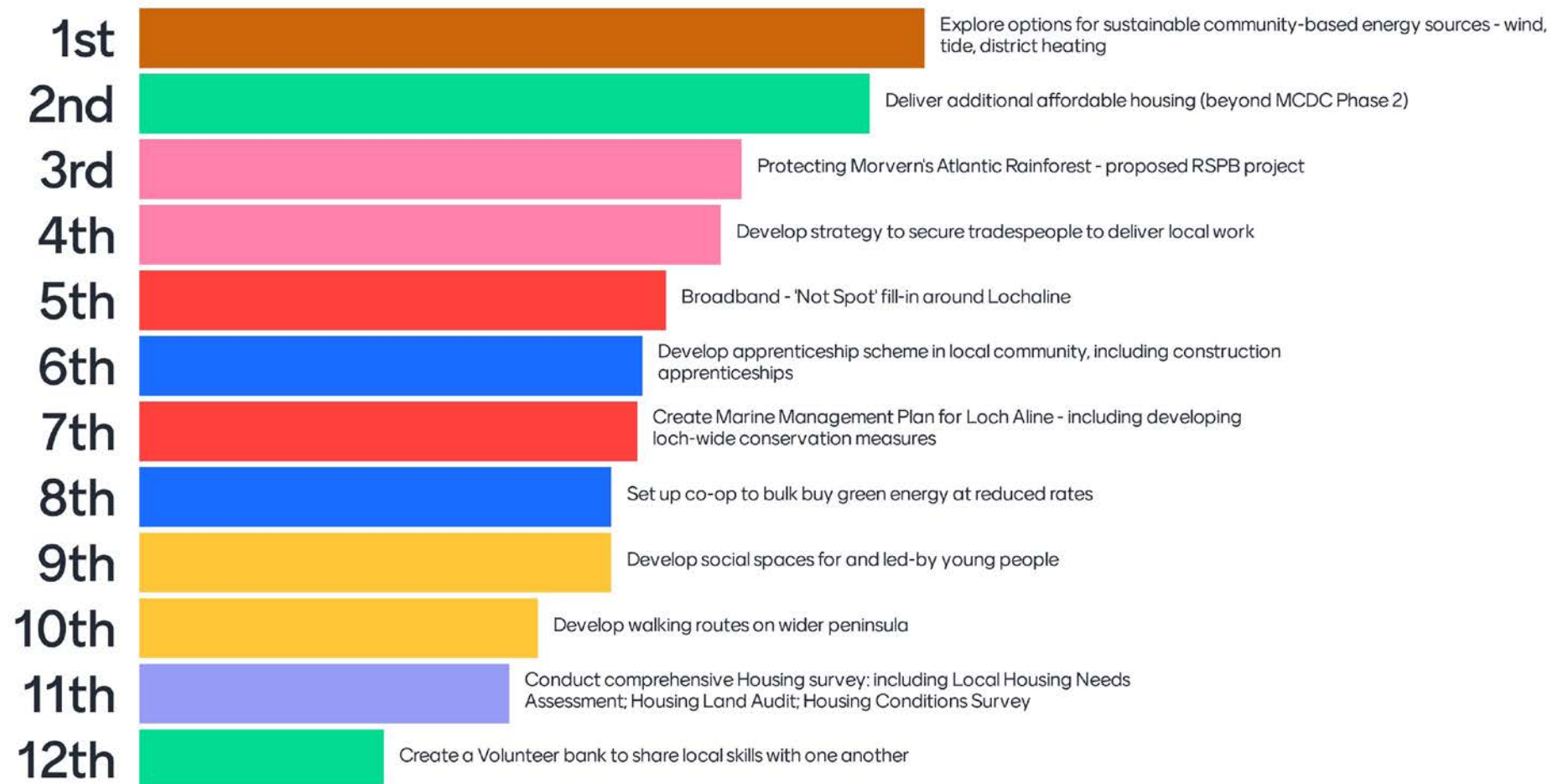


Table 3 Community Priorities for Action – detailed information

* Timeframe: Short (< 6 months); Medium (>6 months <2 years); Long (>2years)

Rank	Action/Initiative	Project Lead	Action Type	Description	Timeframe (*)	Partners identified (actual and potential)	First or next step to progress the project/idea	No. in full Action List	National Performance Framework Indicator
1	Explore options for sustainable community-based energy sources - wind, tide, district heating	MCDC including MCTC and MorVolts	Already Planned	To further aid community sustainability, self-sufficiency and self-reliance.	Long	FLS, Angus Robertson, MGGW, CC, MCW, LPS	Assess various options and engage in feasibility stage. Share good quality information with community (avoid overwhelming with wealth of information available).	52	Energy from renewable sources
2	Plan for delivery of additional affordable housing beyond MCDC Phase 2	MCDC	Proposed	Explore provision of further affordable housing provision beyond MCDC's stage 2. Option of shared ownership between businesses and housing association.	Long	Lochaber Housing, MCDC	Create forum to discuss collaboration and shared contracting of builders/architects. Consider restricted letting. Talk to Communities Housing Trust.	43	Satisfaction with housing
3	Protect Morvern's Atlantic Rainforest - proposed RSPB project	RSPB	Already Planned	Five-year landscape scale woodland restoration programme focused exclusively on the rainforests of the Morvern peninsula.	Long	RSPB, Woodland Trust, Alliance for Scotland's Rainforest, FLS, Scottish Forestry, Ardtornish & Laudale Estates, MDMG, MCW, SWT, MHS, CC, LPS	Secure additional funding. Encourage land awareness / Morvern deer group to engage with biodiversity restoration, Atlantic Rainforest protection.	99	Biodiversity, Condition of protected nature sites, Marine environment
4	Develop strategy to secure tradespeople to deliver local work	TBC	Proposed	Develop strategy to secure tradespeople to deliver work locally. Could include attracting skilled trades to live in Morvern.	Medium	TBC	TBC	10	Productivity, Economic growth, Natural Capital
5	Broadband - Not Spot Fill-in around Lochaline	Drimnin Community Broadband C.I.C	Already Planned	30 Mbps service to selected properties not served by BT Fibre.	Long	TBC	None	21	Access to superfast broadband



Rank	Action/Initiative	Project Lead	Action Type	Description	Timeframe (*)	Partners identified (actual and potential)	First or next step to progress the project/idea	No. in full Action List	National Performance Framework Indicator
6	Develop apprenticeship scheme in local community, including construction apprenticeships	TBC	Proposed	Develop programme to give local young people an option to learn a skill here and remain in the community (apprenticeships).	Medium	Fort William College, local businesses e.g. Whitehouse restaurant, CLAM, MCW	Identify funding. Demonstrate links to further, higher education available through UHI (West Highlands/(Lochaber College), and development of modern apprenticeships.	7	Income inequalities, Work-place learning; Skill shortage vacancies
7	Create Marine Management Plan for Loch Aline - including loch-wide conservation measures	TBC	Proposed	Explore possibility of a shared loch management plan for Loch Aline.	Medium	CC, LPS, MHS, CAOLAS	Encourage divers to collect data (underwater videos) to inform plan. Consider wider catchment area.	111	Biodiversity, Condition of protected nature sites, Marine environment,
8	Set up co-op to bulk buy green energy at reduced rates	TBC	Proposed	To bulk-buy discounted green energy off the grid.	Medium	CC	Needs an admin aide to manage on a daily basis.	54	Energy from renewable sources
9	Develop social space for young people	Local young people, LPS	Proposed	Space managed by and for young people to hang out in.	Medium	LPS, MCW, SWT, CAOLAS	Ensure autonomy for young people to drive the project - let them lead. Use former building in the woods which was previously used as a temporary nursery. Liaise with existing venues to prevent unnecessary duplication - feasibility study.	132	Young people's participation, Children's voices

Rank	Action/Initiative	Project Lead	Action Type	Description	Timeframe (*)	Partners identified (actual and potential)	First or next step to progress the project/idea	No. in full Action List	National Performance Framework Indicator
10	Develop walking routes on wider peninsula	TBC	Proposed	Enable use of FLS walking routes, improving access, wayfinding and publicity.	Medium	Forestry & Land Scotland, CC, MCW, MHS, SWT, DH	Establish relationship with FLS. Create social event for route clearing. Create database of routes. Joint funding bid to maintain/improve paths (all groups).	29	Carbon footprint, Physical activity, Journeys by active travel
11	Conduct comprehensive housing survey: Local Housing Needs Assessment; Housing Land Audit; Housing Conditions Survey	TBC	Already Planned	Audit of existing housing provision, quality and future needs, including map. Include insulation survey and windows, renewable sources of heating/insulation to help community-wide programme of work.	Medium	MCDC, Lochaber Housing, local community, architects, builders	Lochaber Housing working on Housing Needs Assessment. Map sites with willing landowner/existing servicing.	42	Satisfaction with housing
12	Create a volunteer bank to share local skills with one another	TBC	Proposed	Create a volunteer bank of retired craftspeople/professionals and mentors.	Medium	Drimnin Hall	TBC	128	Social capital

* Timeframe: Short (< 6 months); Medium (>6 months <2 years); Long (>2years)



How the plan will be used by MCC, MCDC and MCT

The plan is intended to provide support for community groups pursuing priority projects and to strengthen their applications for funding. The hope is that it will also facilitate partnerships between local groups to enable more effective delivery.

The plan will help guide the decisions and priorities of MCT, MCDC and MCC (the three sponsoring organisations) over the next period:

- MCDC are delighted to have this resource and having a better understanding of the community priorities. MCDC will work with other community groups in delivering on the community's priorities and building on the momentum of the Life Life Morvern report in the next 10 years of our development.
- MCC will continue to facilitate collaboration and opportunities with local people and interest groups to realise the plan over the next 10 years and beyond. MCC will also take initial responsibility for reviewing and updating the plan annually.
- When considering grant applications, MCT will give weight to whether the initiative is given priority in the plan (as updated from time to time) or not.



“There is a lack of investment in infrastructure”

“Helping ensure the viability of local businesses”



Context

02



An introduction to Morvern

The Morvern peninsula is defined by its remote rural and coastal position, located on the north-west coast of Scotland. It covers 330 sq. miles and forms part of the ward of Fort William and Ardnamurchan. The official boundaries of the Live Life Morvern process were the same as those of Morvern Community Council. However, some proposed actions (such as the deer count) need to be enacted across the whole wider peninsula to be effective.

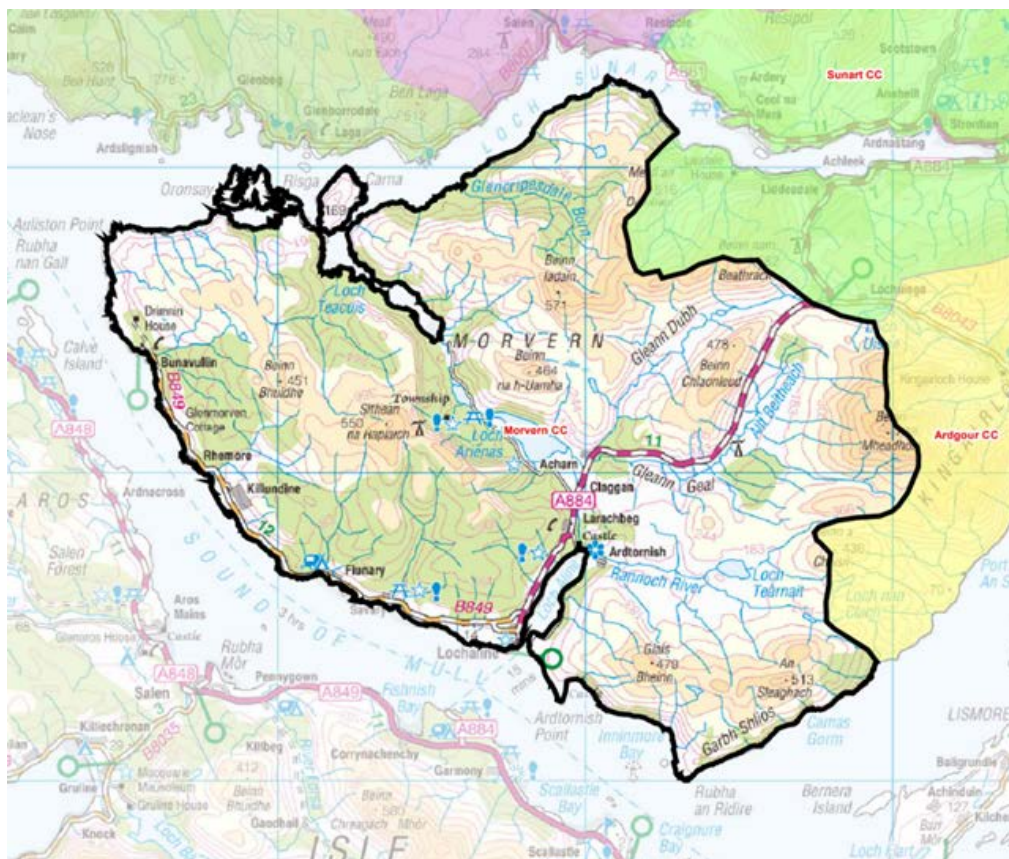


Figure 2 Boundary of Morvern Community Council

The landscape of Morvern includes mountains, moorlands, and large areas of forest including coniferous plantations and native woodland, including one of the only remaining stretches of Atlantic rainforest in Europe.

The village of Lochaline is the largest settlement in Morvern, located on the west side of the entrance to Loch Aline. Located 11 miles to the north-west, the village of Drimnin comprises the other main settlement. There are several large local estates on the peninsula, including Drimnin, Killundine and Ardtornish.

Morvern's coastline stretches along the sound of Mull, with views from Lochaline and Drimnin over to Fishnish and Tobermory on Mull itself. To the north, overland routes link to the town of Strontian where Ardnamurchan High School is located.

The population of the area is 317 (Census 2011). This does not include changes in the last decade, and we must take account of around 30 new homes and the potential for a shift towards more part-time residents. This notwithstanding, Morvern's demographics reflects the Scotland-wide trend of an ageing population.

The main employers in Morvern are NcNear Distillery, Calmac, aquaculture businesses, the sand mine and local estates, such as Ardtornish and Drimnin. In addition, there are a number of small enterprises and a range of self-employed individuals.

Despite often being overlooked for resources and investment, significant developments have been achieved by some very proactive and committed community organisations and individuals. These projects include the establishment of a petrol station in Lochaline, securing funds for and opening the hydro scheme at Barr (July 2021), the opening of visitor pontoons and the provision of superfast broadband connectivity.

Its natural heritage and local history make Morvern a unique place to live, work and visit.

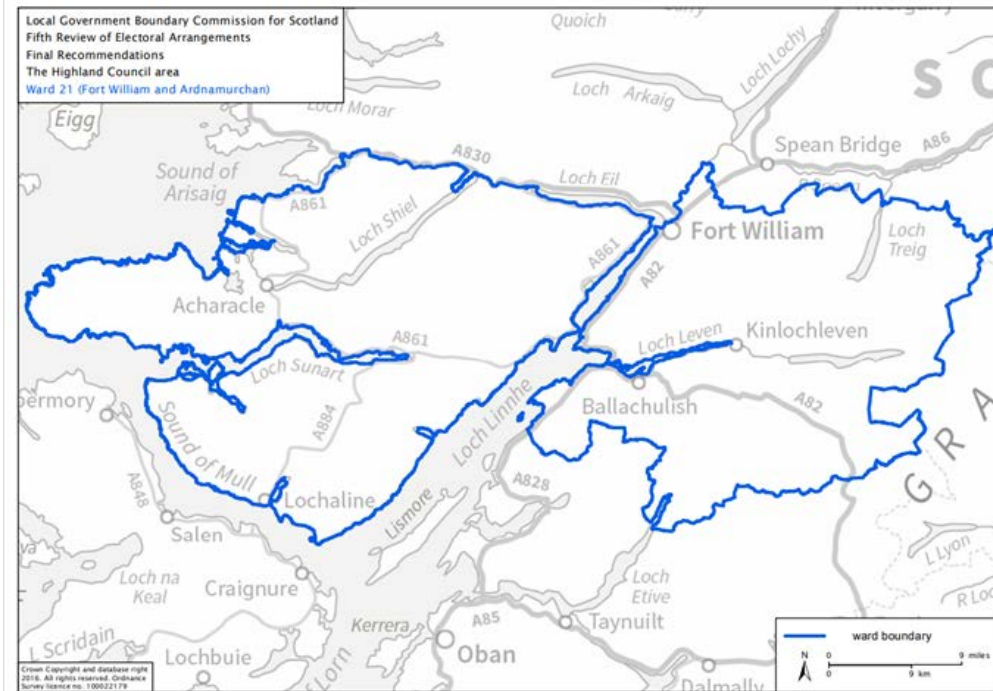


Figure 3 Morvern – Highland Council Ward 21 Fort William and Ardnamurchan

Facilities and amenities in the local area

The local primary and nursery schools are housed in a new building, opened in 2013 in the heart of the village. The school roll is 13 for the year 2021-2022 (School Handbook 2021-2022). The number of pupils reached a peak of 75 in the early 70s when surrounding village schools closed. The falling school roll is a particular concern to the community.

Local amenities and services located within Lochaline include a village shop & post office, hotel, restaurant, fuel station, doctor's surgery, church, cafés, village hall, hub/community building and visitor pontoons. A ferry terminal provides a transport link to Fishnish on Mull.

Transport & Accessibility from and within Morvern

As a remote rural location, Morvern's closest towns are Fort William (30 miles by road from Lochaline, 40 miles from Drimnin) and Oban across the Firth of Lorne (67 miles by road from Lochaline). The area is accessed by the (single-track) road A884 from the Corran ferry near Fort William, or by ferry from the Isle of Mull to Lochaline. There are an average of ten ferry crossings per day bringing traffic to the area. Timetables for the various means of public transport do not always easily connect with each other.

A local bus service, operated by Shiel Buses runs from Lochaline to Fort William from Monday to Saturday. A bus service also runs from Craignure to Fishnish every day of the week for those approaching Lochaline from the Isle of Mull. There is no dedicated cycle infrastructure in Morvern.



“There is very limited availability of basic services: cleaning, car maintenance, plumbing, electrician etc.”



Morvern's Coastal Waters

What makes Morvern's coastal waters special?

The 104km inshore coastal waters around Morvern are home to a variety of species and habitats of national and international importance. Morvern has relied on the sea for generations for transport, commerce, provisioning and day-to-day life. Our coastal waters support jobs in fishing, aquaculture, transport, tourism and could provide us with green/blue energy and blue carbon storage.

Fishing

Commercial fishing continues in the inshore waters around Morvern, with many of the vessels from outwith our area. Across Scotland fishing contributes only 0.21% to the economy. Alternative high value, low impact sustainable fishing, appropriate for our designated inshore areas, could provide employment for residents of Morvern and enable us to benefit from the resources close to home. In terms of food miles and quality, the Sound of Mull is our marine larder.

Much of the fishing in our coastal waters is for shellfish. Prawns are trawled, scallops are dredged, and this is known as the [mobile gear sector](#).

Other types of fishing are more sustainable and have less impact on the seabed and are more selective in what is caught. This is known as the [static gear sector](#). Creel fishing makes up 74% of the inshore fishing fleet in Scotland.



Figure 4 Morvern's Coastal Waters

Aquaculture

Twenty-four per cent of farmed salmon is produced along the west coast. The aquaculture sector plans to expand. Salmon farming has both direct and indirect benefits and negative on our coastal waters. The Scottish Association of Marine Science [report](#) on the environmental impacts of salmon farming in Scotland explains more. A [report](#) by the Sustainable Inshore Fisheries Trust reviews the economic contribution of aquaculture to Scotland. The [National Planning Framework 4](#) also has a section on aquaculture.

All these reports offer a better understanding of the benefits and impacts of open cage salmon farming. As a community we are able to voice our views through the Highland Council planning system.

Tourism

Along the west coast there is a concentration of facilities and destinations that support this sector. In 2020 research showed that there are 280 points of marine tourism access and egress along the west coast, 354 operators involved in marine tourism and 134 hubs with facilities.

A report on the [West Coast Marine Tourism Collaboration](#) found that there is an appetite to develop marine and coastal tourism. The culmination of this research has been advanced through the [West Coast Waters](#) initiative and the [Year of Coasts and Waters](#).

Projects like [Maramap](#), [PERICLES](#), [The Coast that Shaped Us](#), [Northword](#) are all examples of how our connection to the sea inspires creativity and opportunity.

Transport

The Lochaline to Fishnish ferry is our gateway to the islands and to Oban. A number of school children choose to go to Tobermory High School on the Isle of Mull. Friendships formed at school often remain into adulthood. A strong connection between Morvern and our closest neighbours is important to maintain. CALMAC has created many employment opportunities for residents of Lochaline, who work on the ferries. Improved connectivity by sea directly from Lochaline to Oban, Fort William and Ardnamurchan would be welcome. The existing provision for the Lochaline to Oban route via Fishnish using public transport is inadequate, insufficiently coordinated and too inconvenient to offer real competition to the alternative route by road.

Culture

The inshore waters around Morvern have some of the most significant [maritime archaeological sites](#) in the UK. Collectively these sites are a connection to our maritime past. These sites, along with our biodiversity, make our coastal waters a potential hub for biodiversity restoration to combat the nature crisis, for climate change mitigation, economic growth and community benefit.



The reliance of coastal communities, like Morvern, on their inshore coastal waters has a long and rich history, remnants of which can be seen along the coast, the shore and the seafloor. Knowledge, understanding and appreciation of our marine resource provide a basis for its sustainable use which can then help support a growing and thriving community. The national importance of our coastal waters is confirmed by the presence of The Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura Marine Protection Area (MPA) which is designated for both biodiversity and geodiversity features. Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura supports a number of resident mature common skate that may also be breeding in the area.

Education, citizen science, and biodiversity restoration

The seas around Morvern have remarkable marine life all of which present opportunities for education, citizen science, and biodiversity restoration.

Seaweeds

Crofter's wig is a very distinctive form of the common egg or knotted wrack, which lives unattached on the shore in very sheltered corners. This seaweed is only found in west coast sea lochs and nowhere else in the world.

The abundance and variety of marine life found locally is important to monitor and improve. The marine environment is under lots of pressure from human activities. An understanding of the condition of the marine environment and the cumulative impacts upon it is essential if we are to ensure a blue future for Morvern.



Skate: on the Critically Endangered List

The Lochaline Native Oyster Restoration Project has been established by CAOLAS in collaboration with Seawilding and Morvern Community Development Company. Here we are recording the growth of the oysters at the community-owned pontoons.

The benefits of blue space have been recognised even more during the Covid 19 Pandemic. Mental health and wellbeing can be helped through exercise, being outside in the fresh air and meeting up with friends.

We could make more of our coastal environment. Coastal paths would encourage us to explore this liminal space between land and sea. Such a path would need to be inclusive for all users of all abilities.



Underwater reefs: covered in life



Figure 5 Potential benefits of quality blue space

Tourism and destination creation

Already a destination for recreational diving experiences, [marine wildlife](#), sailing, kayaking, snorkelling, sea angling and all things [outdoors](#), this area is under consideration as a [National Marine Park](#). An industry-developed, Scottish Government-backed [strategy for marine tourism](#) in Scotland places the environment and host communities at its heart.

The submerged cultural heritage of the inshore waters attracts around 3000 divers to the Sound of Mull every

year. Recreational diving has been part of the local economy since the 1980s when the original Dive Centre was opened. There is a remarkable, unique and well-preserved collection of shipwrecks dating from 1653.

A land-based trail to spot whales has been developed by the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust - [Whale track](#) Other charismatic marine mammals are plentiful in Morvern, including the otter which is also the logo of Lochaline Primary School.

What is happening in our coastal waters?

Our coastal waters provide us with many benefits, but they are also under extreme pressure. Once healthy, productive areas of the seabed are reduced to areas devoid of life. In the case of the war grave, part of the site has been dragged away by mobile fishing gear, evidenced by the tram lines on the seabed.

[Scotland's Marine Assessment 2020](#) concludes that climate change is the most critical factor affecting Scotland's marine environment. Recent evidence on ocean acidification shows that it has the potential to have an

impact on shellfish and other marine invertebrates in Scotland's seas. This, along with pressures associated with bottom-contacting and pelagic fishing, continue to be the most geographically widespread, direct pressures across most Scottish marine regions, including the coastal waters around Morvern. Our marine environment requires better management, more protection and community involvement. Other marine regions are developing [Marine Planning Partnerships](#) to ensure all stakeholders are involved in future management decisions.

How can the marine environment help tackle climate change?

[Current research](#) demonstrates the potential for the marine environment to help combat climate change as the seabed stores and sequesters CO₂. However, we need to tackle unsustainable practices that impact on the ability of the marine environment to deliver carbon storage and all the other [ecosystem services](#) we rely on.

Research by [Historic Environment Scotland](#) has highlighted the threats of climate change to our built and cultural





heritage. As a community we can come together to make the most of this environment for the benefit of nature, climate and people:

Examples of how we as a community can achieve this can be found in the current [Lochaline Native Oyster Restoration Project](#). Through this project we are learning about our loch, about the biodiversity and the impacts. If successful in restoring this key habitat, we can support the wider improvement of the marine biodiversity in our coastal waters.

There are different management models for community engagement and agency. We can explore these as a community. [Marine Planning Partnerships](#) are one way to be more involved in the [future management](#) of our coastal waters. Community action can come in many forms. The [Coastal Communities Network](#) brings coastal communities together to share knowledge and best practice, the [Our Seas Coalition](#) is campaigning for seabed management reform for inshore coastal waters, the Argyll Coast and Islands [Hope Spot](#) celebrates our coastal waters and Open Seas is campaigning to end [greenwashing](#) of seafood sold in UK supermarkets.

There is also a move towards ensuring everyone has the confidence to talk about the marine environment. Initiatives like [Ocean Literacy for All](#) could be made available throughout our community.

Annabel Lawrence

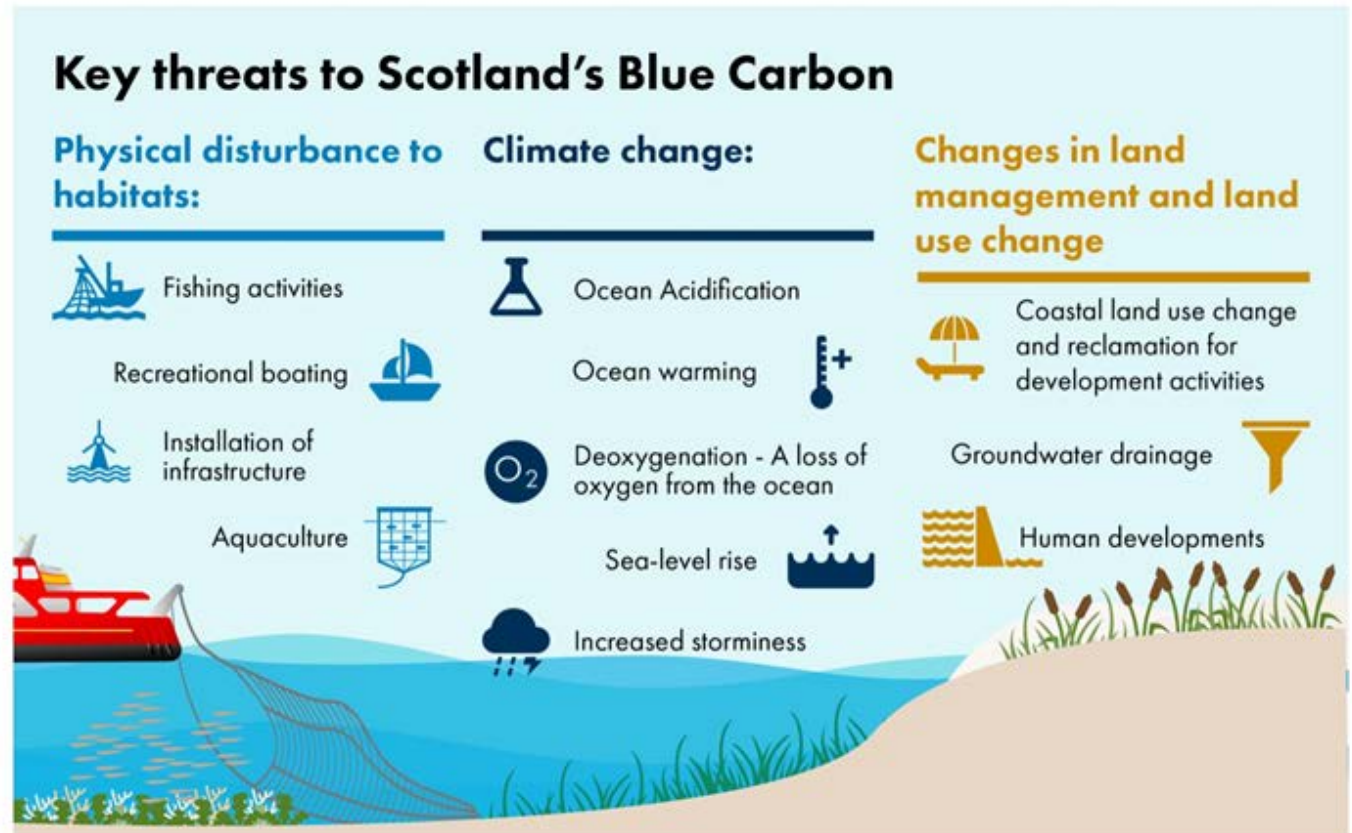


Figure 6 Key threats to Scotland's Blue Carbon

Morvern's Landscape

What makes Morvern's landscape special?

Because Morvern has such a varied landscape, of coast, woodland and upland, it has a great variety of wildlife that thrives in these different habitats.

This amazing richness of natural life – biodiversity – attracts many visitors who come here specifically to enjoy this wildlife and wildness. There are a number of special habitats here, including what's called [Atlantic rainforest](#), hazel and oak woodland remnants that exist along our shores, along lochsides and in some glens. These woods are rich in lichens and mosses, and populated by a variety of woodland bird species, including wood warbler and redstart, and mammals such as pine marten and badger. More of this special woodland can be found in a number of river gorges, such as the Black Glen Gorge that run down through them. Here grow nationally and internationally rare species of bryophytes, as well as the now very scarce and protected freshwater pearl mussel, about which children from Lochaline primary school made [this video](#). Another very special habitat that we have at higher altitudes is our basalt ringed mountains. Basalt is a crumbly rock that is nutrient rich, and these nutrients enrich the soil high on these hills, and because of this communities of rare alpine plants can be found here, such as [arctic sandwort](#), [hairy stonecrop](#), and a number of [mountain saxifrages](#). And of course, there is Morvern's coast, that almost encircles it, and supports a healthy population of [otter](#). Many species of wader and wildfowl winter in the sea lochs of Loch Aline and Loch Teacuis. Loch Teacuis is also notable for its [serpulid reefs](#).



What is happening in our landscape today?

The health and state today of this rich natural history have been shaped and influenced by the activities of humans going back many centuries, and more recently and going into the future, by climate change.

If we go back 10,000 years to after the last ice age, we find a Morvern covered mostly by woodland, frequented by animals now long gone, such as wolves and brown bears. These woods and animals began to decline and disappear with the arrival of humans, from about 7,000 years ago. To begin with, when there weren't too many people here – those being hunter gatherers, there was for a while a balanced co-existence. There was a bountiful source of natural food available to hunt and gather for those not too many people. Over time people began to settle, numbers increased, and woodland areas began

to shrink. However, the most significant and devastating change for both the people and wildlife of Morvern didn't occur until as recently as around 300 years ago – that change being the [Highland Clearances](#). People were evicted from settlements throughout Morvern and the Highlands to make way for vast flocks of sheep that were put onto the hills. There were as many as 29,000 sheep here, and it's those sheep and the following decades of over-grazing that have made our hills what they are today - bare hills. The clearances were not just an eviction of people from the land, but the beginning of a removal of natural life from Morvern's hills too.

An animal that has also played a huge part in shaping today's natural history in Morvern, is the [Red deer](#). A hundred and fifty or so years ago sheep numbers began to reduce, red deer increased when deer stalking and sport shooting began, and high red deer numbers were maintained for these purposes. The remaining high numbers of sheep and the increased and unnaturally high numbers of deer meant [even more pressure](#) on the vegetation of our woodlands and uplands, leaving today bare hills and only mature trees in our diminished woodlands, as any young trees were browsed and unable to grow.

Over the past century people began to realise the value and importance of wildlife and the natural habitats on which it depends, and the nature conservation movement was born. In more recent decades across the world, we've realised that we have a dependency on the natural world, and that the health of that natural world will determine our future.



Nature across the world is struggling, from the effects of humans and now seriously so from climate change. Morvern's wildlife has not been protected from this despite its remoteness and wildness.

Today Morvern's special wildlife, along with most of our flora and fauna, is really struggling. A good illustration of this is Morvern's population of [Golden Eagles](#), a top of the food chain predator. How animals are doing at the top of food chains tells us how the rest of life is doing in that chain, and if those at the top are struggling then so is all life in the chain. Until very recently we had nine breeding pairs of golden eagles in Morvern. In the last few years this has declined to just one or two pairs attempting to breed each year. The prey on which they depend has declined, because the vegetation that their prey depends on has disappeared. Add to this the effects of climate

change - a string of exceptionally cold late springs has meant that bird prey, that would normally return to the hills and coincide with the eagles having young chicks in their nests, has not arrived until some weeks later, too late for our eagles. Also, on the Scottish Wildlife Trust's Rahoy Hills Reserve in Morvern, one of the nests of its pair of golden eagles was literally washed away, ledge and all, by water running off the hill following torrential rain. Rainfall of this kind is now a regular occurrence.

Another example is that our arctic alpine flora is in decline, not just here but nationally. Because of milder weather other plant species are now able to grow at higher altitude, and these commoner species are crowding out the rarer alpines that can only exist on the higher slopes of our hills, slopes they used to have to themselves.

How can our landscape and wildlife help us tackle climate change?

But all is not lost, and it's not too late. Nature is resilient, it is holding on, and we now have an opportunity, a duty, to help restore nature's health, which won't be the only aim or reason for doing it. We know we depend on nature being healthy, that realisation is galvanising people across the world into taking action to put an end to the destruction of the natural world, because without it there won't be a healthy world for us to live in going into the future.

People often feel overwhelmed and daunted by the scale of climate change, wondering what they can do, and thinking that what little they can do won't make any difference. But what we can do is what we can do together, as communities, where we are. If we can work together to make our local environment as healthy as we can, we will have made a significant contribution, and if all communities did the same, then those healthy environments would all join up and spread across the land, returning it to health.

But how would this help mitigate climate change? Restoring the natural life that should be here would make Morvern a huge carbon absorber. It's not just about trees, as important as trees and woodland are, it's about all natural life and every natural habitat being as healthy as they can be, including the sea.

So how do we do this? Rewilding is a term that has been around for a while now. There is some uncertainty around what it really means. For some it means bringing back individual species that we've lost, such as beavers, or wolves. For others it's a keep out and let nature take over thing. For some the word rewilding has become controversial, with some even calling it a second Highland clearance, which is certainly not what anyone wants. The process is therefore best described as ecological restoration, aiming to reharmonise, rebalance, and rekindle our dependency on the natural world.

Achieving this begins with having an awareness of the need for this dependency. Many people just want to live

normal everyday lives and aren't really into nature. We, our community, just need to talk, to engage and encourage one another to see why we have to look after the nature that surrounds us, for nature's and for our sakes. Once that awareness is there, we're on the right track. There are many examples of how this has been done and is being done elsewhere in Scotland, throughout the UK and the world, and we have so many local people with skills and know how. We just need to work together, and for all within the community to see the benefits of doing this. An excellent example of a community partnership project with a vision of this type is the [Living Landscape](#) project in Coigach and Assynt. Could something similar happen here in Morvern?

But things are already happening here: changes have begun and are already making a difference. Sheep have been removed from huge areas of land, including from Morvern's [Rahoy Hills Wildlife Reserve](#), and deer numbers are being reduced which will be key for the future. Continuing to explore a [conservation approach to deer management](#) could offer a number of benefits for increasing biodiversity.

Already the hills are showing signs of recovery. Plants are able to flower and go to seed, which benefits insect life. Butterfly numbers have increased, and more flowering plants are just what pollinator insects, such as bees, need. This increase in plant and insect life will mean more birds on the hills... which in the longer term will help our struggling eagles. As we improve biodiversity locally, the community

and school children can record this change, keeping records of species seen, and numbers, documenting the return to health of our local natural history.

Perhaps most importantly, the ecological restoration, rewilding, of Morvern's natural life, should not be feared as another clearance of its people. It wouldn't be a barrier to the chance of increasing Morvern's population, it wouldn't mean an end to farming, or stalking, or tourism. It just means change. It would be a reharmonising of people and nature, an amazing opportunity for the people of Morvern to live in a healthier, more sustainable environment where more people could live and thrive. It would create more and new jobs and would make Morvern a place where more people would want to come and stay.

Climate change is happening, and it will affect all of us. The natural world is struggling, and this is making climate change worse. We can do something about this, together, as a community, starting now, for its future.

Steve Hardy

Morvern's History

What's special about the history of Morvern's people?

A wealth of archaeological and historical sites, illustrating the story of Morvern, can be found scattered throughout the peninsula. Each period of history has left its mark on the landscape since the first settlers arrived in the Mesolithic (Middle Stone) Age, maybe 10,000 years ago. The sites range from Bronze Age burial cairns, Iron Age forts and medieval churches and castles to 18th/19th century deserted villages and remains of charcoal burning and lead mining. They include 32 [scheduled monuments](#), considered to be of national importance, and 53 [listed buildings](#), which are deemed to be of "special architectural or historic interest". Some are accompanied by unique or unusual stories, which set Morvern apart:

1. In the 6th century, St Columba is said to have selected the site for Kiel Church and travelled across Morvern, possibly on the path marked by [St Columba's Stone](#). The collection of medieval grave slabs and high cross on display at Kiel is of national importance.
2. Ardtornish Castle. [The Castle](#) was a seat of the Lords of the Isles but stands out particularly as the scene in 1411 of the muster of hundreds of boats en route to the Battle of Harlaw and as the location of the Treaty of Ardtornish in 1462.
3. Morvern has one of the few first-hand accounts of an eviction during the Highland Clearances: the story of Mary of [Inniemore](#). The great number of cleared townships and the survival of the remains is an important strand in Morvern's story, reminding us of the strong Gaelic culture and affinity with the land.



- Key:**
-  Medieval chapel
 -  Iron Age fort
 -  Neolithic or Bronze Age burial cairn
 -  Castle
 -  Main deserted settlement

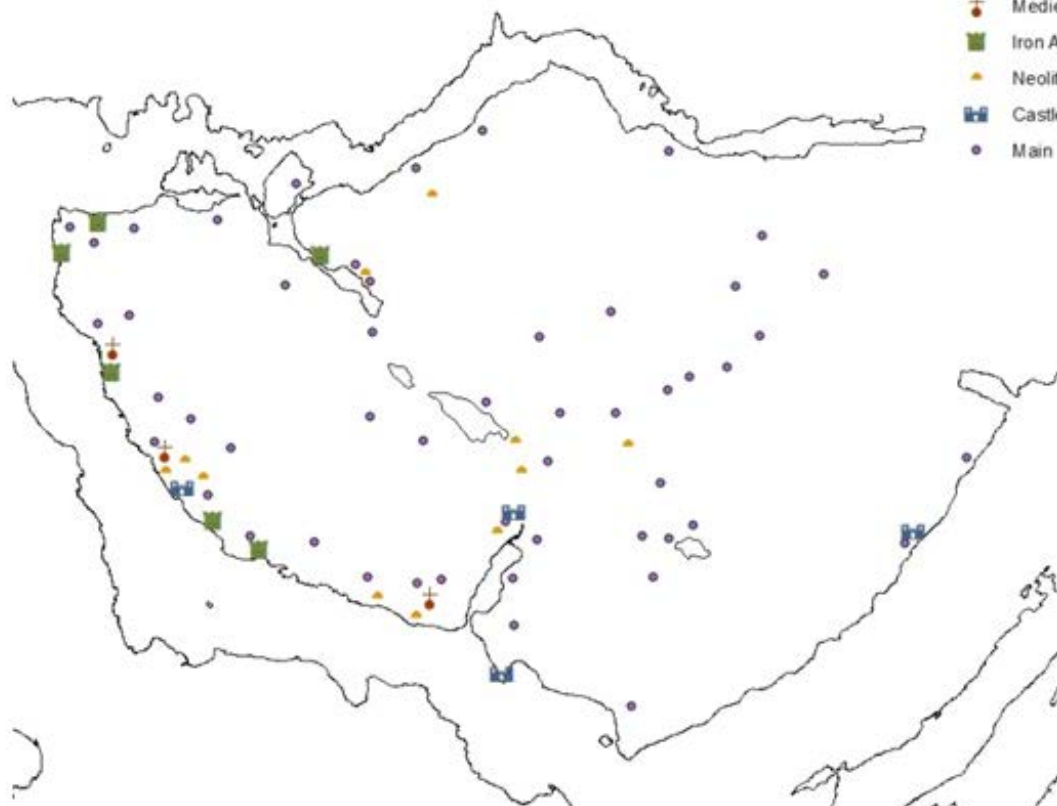


Figure 7 Map of Morvern's Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings



4. Nineteenth century estates contributed innovative structures to the built heritage, such as the earliest concrete buildings in Scotland at [Ardtornish](#) and [Glencripesdale](#), as well as an early single strand [suspension bridge at Acharn](#).
5. A unique chapter in our history began in 1930 when 28 of the 36 people evacuated from [St Kilda](#) arrived in Morvern, where jobs in the new Fiunary Forest and houses were available. Further refugees were welcomed to a [Displaced Persons camp](#) after World War Two.
6. Lochaline Sand Mine has had a major impact on the landscape and society of Morvern and contributes a thriving industrial aspect to an otherwise rural coastal village. [The mine](#) benefits from very high-quality silica sand deposits, which were first exploited in 1940 for the production of glass in the war effort.

The first arrivals in Morvern were nomadic Mesolithic hunter-gatherers. They favoured coastal areas, so that they could exploit the resources of the land, sea and seashore and lived on fish, shellfish, sea and land mammals, nuts and berries. Remains of their flint and quartz tools have been found at [Acharn](#), [Barr](#) and the island of [Risga](#) in Loch Sunart, where they may have built a windbreak-like structure for short-term occupation. Even from this earliest time, people began to modify the natural landscape and woodland was reduced.

More serious attacks on the woodland occurred in the next phase – the Neolithic period in which a nomadic hunter-gatherer lifestyle was replaced 4,000 – 3,000 BC, by a sedentary farming one, probably introduced by a new group of people. The only evidence in Morvern is a chambered burial cairn at [Carn Liath](#), Rahoy - the oldest manmade structure in the peninsula. There are no other Neolithic remains but research elsewhere in Scotland

suggests that they probably lived in timber houses, cultivated relatively extensive areas and managed herds of cattle, sheep, goats and pigs.

By the Bronze Age, around 2,000 BC, settlement seems to have spread through the peninsula. The remains of a roundhouse at [Achleanan](#) near Drimnin may date to this period but the rest of the evidence consists of burial cairns, such as at [Claggan](#), [Acharn](#), Achabeg, Glencripesdale and [Carnacailliche](#). Analysis of pollen indicates a considerable reduction in tree cover and suggests an agricultural economy based on some cultivation but concentrating on the growth of grass for pasture. This is a model which was, therefore, established before 1,000 BC and maybe even as far back as the first farmers at Rahoy about 4,000 BC. It continued until the end of the 18th century - a farming practice of at least 3,000 years.



Climatic deterioration which began in the Bronze Age may have led to deterioration in soils so that by the Iron Age, beginning around 700 BC, there may have been pressure on land. All the Iron Age sites in Morvern are fortified, suggesting a need for defence and competition for resources. Forts and duns, such as [Rahoy](#), [Eilean Uillne](#) and [Port Mor](#) are situated on the seaways, which were the motorways of the day.

Evidence is limited for the Early Christian and Medieval periods. There are no remains of any church at Kiel built in St Columba's time, though 6th century cross-inscribed stones were found at [Killundine](#). The earliest surviving church at [Kiel](#) dates to the 14th century and the Medieval period is otherwise represented by a series of castles, concentrated, as with Iron Age forts, along the seaways. These include [Ardtornish Castle](#), [Glensanda](#), [Kinlochaline](#) and [Caisteal nan Con](#). The crannog in [Loch Tearnait](#) may also have originated in medieval times, when it was known to be a safe haven for fugitives from the Lord of the Isles.

Medieval and earlier remains are probably limited because they were obliterated by later development. The success of the early agricultural model led to expansion of settlement all over the peninsula, particularly on the basalt soils of the southwest coast. The population peaked at 2137 in 1831. It is worth noting here the strong feeling for the natural environment embedded in the Gaelic culture. Nature features strongly in the work of Gaelic bards of Morvern and the knowledge and appreciation built up over thousands of years is evident in the careful use of all the resources and in the custodianship of the land.



In the 18th century, Morvern was still a pastoral economy, rearing black Highland cattle, which were sent to markets via drove roads. Any crops tended to be unenclosed, so cattle were watched and taken in summer to the [shielings](#) where butter and cheese were made. In 1791, the [minister reported](#) that oats, barley and potatoes were the main crops, though "always a precarious business." The remains of townships are scattered all over Morvern, notably at [Auliston](#) (the biggest), [Inniemore](#), [Uladail](#), [Savary](#), [Arienas](#) and extensive agricultural landscapes survive at Achranich and Glensanda.

Large-scale sheep farming began in the 1770s with the introduction of the blackface and Cheviot breeds. After 1820 every property in Morvern changed hands and the incoming owners saw sheep farming as the way to profit. Entire townships were cleared, such as at Inniemore in 1824, Uladail in 1840 and Auliston in 1855, while Lochaline village was established in c. 1830 for the dispossessed. By 1843, there were 29,000 sheep



and only 690 cattle in the parish. The stark result of this emigration is clear on the maps overleaf, comparing the number of permanently occupied houses in 2000 with the number of houses found in the now deserted settlements of 1800.

How can this heritage benefit the community?

Morvern's heritage is of considerable help to the community. It can provide a sense of place and develop a sense of belonging for schoolchildren and incomers, root us more deeply in our cultural identity, and open up the meaning of local and Scottish history to visitors.

How can the community sustain this resource?

The community can support projects currently in the pipeline. For example, Morvern Heritage Society (MHS) is undertaking the renovation of the Larachbeg telephone box into a St Kilda Museum to celebrate Morvern's connection with the St Kilda evacuees. MHS is also collaborating with MDCD to create a trail celebrating the sand mine and using the route of the old railway line which originally transported sand from the mine to the West Pier. Information panels on Morvern's story are also to be displayed in the Hub.

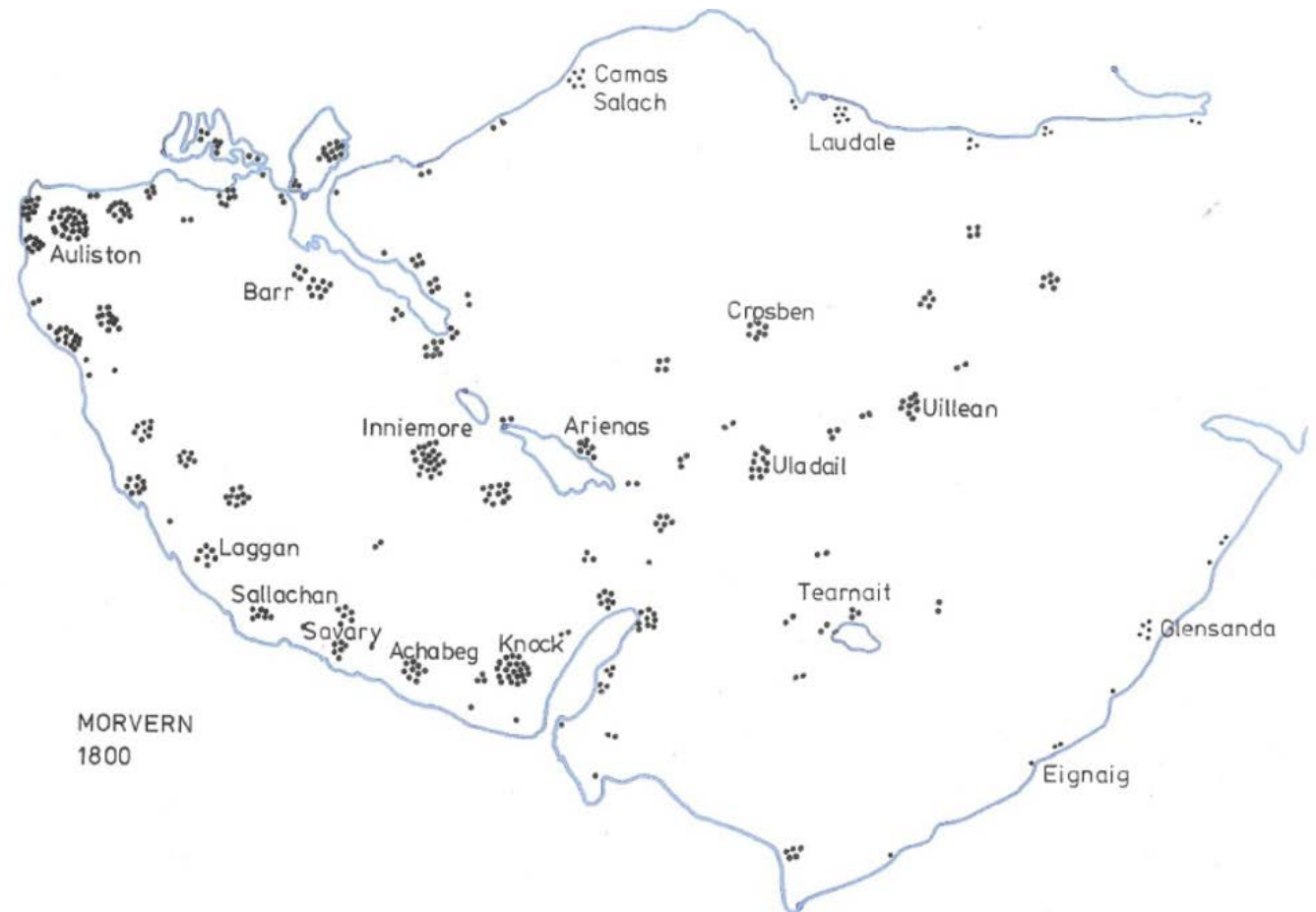


Figure 8 Map of settlements in Morvern in 1800

In the longer term, it is necessary to safeguard our archaeological heritage. Many archaeological sites are at risk from encroachment of vegetation. Some are situated within Fiunary Forest and have endured a crop of conifers, but it is notable that many fare even worse once the trees are harvested. Accepted practice is to leave important sites unplanted but, if a site is not grazed, natural regeneration ultimately swamps the remains. Barr House and barn are now colonised and endangered by self-sown birch. Savary and Inniemore townships, which for a time were grazed by Highland cattle, are becoming increasingly overgrown. Widespread reduction of grazing animals elsewhere will threaten the remains of townships, such as Auliston, Uladail and Arienas, shielings, such as those at Fiddlers' Burn, and old roads including Salachan Bridge. Any plan to increase woodland will need to take account of the archaeological heritage. It must always be remembered that the Gaelic culture led to an excellent custodianship of the land and that any future plan must focus on the people. We must learn from the past and rekindle the bond between land and people.

Jennie Robertson



Figure 9 Map of settlements in Morvern in 2000



Morvern's Demographics

In the early stages of the process, PAS engaged in a desktop analysis of existing data available about Morvern. Certain select results of the research are presented below.

Economy

The main industry sectors and employment data

Currently the main employers are Calmac, Lochaline Quartz Sand Ltd, Nc'Neen Distillery and the estates at Drimnin and Ardtornish which conduct a mix of tourism and agriculture. There is a wide variety of self-employment. Forestry operations on Morvern tend not to offer a significant number of local jobs owing to the specialised nature of the work.

Morvern and the tourism industry - accommodation and food services

In Scotland as a whole, 70% of businesses in the tourism industry report reduced turnover since June 2020 (the cross-industry average is 45%). Tourism was devastated by the pandemic – international arrivals fell by 97% in April 2020 compared to April 2019 (COVID-19 and Scottish Tourism in 2021, [Fraser of Allander Institute](#)). New trends such as adaptable adventures, 'workcationing' and wellness are now helping tourism to recover across Scotland. (Insights - navigating the new normal, [Visit Scotland](#)).



“Great place to bring up my children.”

In 2020, the share of businesses in the tourism industry exceeds 10% in the Highlands area, whilst the Scottish average sits around 8% (Source: Scottish Government and ONS). These data suggest more reliance on tourism hence more vulnerability to the economic impact of COVID-19.

Lochaline's award-winning restaurant has now reopened and (March 2022) and a relaunch of the hotel is also planned. Visitors may also take advantage of the café and take away facilities in Lochaline.

Tourism activities in Morvern include wildlife and outdoor sports such as fishing, walking and stalking. The coastal location and marine environment allow for activities such as boating, yachting and nationally recognised dive sites, which form a large part of the visitor base alongside the boats during the summer season. The visitor pontoons provide 24 berths. There is a mix of tourist accommodation available locally including self-catering.

Accommodation is available at Ardtornish and Drimnin Estates and through a hotel and B&Bs. With the recent closure of the camping and caravan site, there is now no official location for camping or mobile homes.

The Nc'neen distillery in Drimnin is Scotland's first organic, net-zero distillery. Finally, Morvern is part of one of the island-hopping tours of the West Coast as part of the Oban -Craignure, Finnish-Lochaline route.

Digital connectivity

Fast fibre broadband is supplied by BT to the core of Lochaline and a lesser service to many of the other outlying houses. In many cases the service outside the core of Lochaline falls below the minimum standard for fast broadband. In the more remote community of Drimnin, Drimnin Community Broadband (DCB) provides high speed broadband to about 35 properties. DCB also plans to

expand to Achabeag and other pockets of housing which can be reached by their service. There is patchy mobile phone 4G connectivity on Morvern.

Population and demographic trends

Morvern is home to a high percentage of people over 60 years of age - 30% of the population against 26% overall for Scotland. The Highland Council area as a whole has 5% fewer children aged 0 – 15 than the Scottish average.

Across the Highlands communities face demographic challenges due to an ageing population. Projections to 2026 published by the National Records of Scotland in 2016 show:

- Age 75 and over is projected to increase by +38% (Scottish average +27.3%).
- Pensionable age and over to increase by +7% (Scottish average +5%)
- Children aged 0 to 15 to decrease by -5% (Scottish average +2%)

Rural areas and deprivation indices

Although no specific data set records poverty and deprivation in rural areas, recent evidence suggests that people living in rural areas experience deprivation differently from those living in towns and cities. Issues in rural areas include:

- higher consumption of fuel for heating and transport
- less accessible key services including healthcare, childcare and broadband
- limited opportunities to earn adequate income compared to urban areas.

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

The SIMD is designed to identify concentrations of multiple deprivations throughout Scotland. Morvern is located within the Lochaber West (part) data zone. The latest high-level SIMD data (January 2020) suggests that Lochaber West largely falls mid-range in terms of overall indices of deprivation. It is important to note that the reality of rural households on the borderline can be hidden by aggregating the data on this scale.



Figure 10 SIMD Data Zone for Lochaber West



Assets

Characteristics of the natural and build environment

Morvern is home to several native woodland areas classed as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and lies within a Special Landscape Area (SLA) & National Scenic Area, designated for its alpine and sub-alpine heath habitats. The local Morvern Community Woodland group ran a survey in 2020-21 to gather new ideas for enhancing the woodland and making it more accessible to the community.

Lochaline is also recognised for its good quality agricultural soil and active crofting.

Parts of the Berriedale and Langwell Waters are designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) for their population of Atlantic salmon.

The area has 32 scheduled monuments and 53 listed buildings. Rahoy Hills is a nature reserve managed by the Scottish Wildlife Trust in association with the Ardtornish Estate. Knock Park, also known as the Byre, is a well-used community and recreational facility. Community ownership of the park and its surrounds was secured through the Scottish Land Fund in March 2022, looking at enhancing the area with permanent sport facilities and associated logistics.

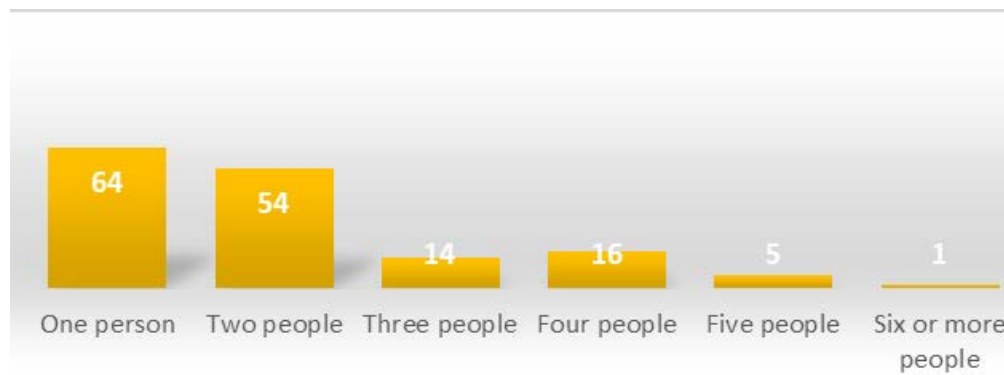


Figure 11 Occupied household structure (154 households) - Census 2011

Housing needs, availability and constraints

The Census 2011 records a housing stock of 220 with a high percentage of second or holiday homes (22.8%). The Scottish average is 1.5% and the Highland average 5.7%.

Overall, the census records 7.6% vacant homes. For comparison the nearby community of Acharacle has 344 households, 23.3% second or holiday homes and 1.6% of vacant homes. According to the West Highland Council LDP, water and sewage infrastructure is limited in the local area, which may limit the scope for development.

A survey in 2015 recorded 26 social rented homes and evidences the need for more social housing, plus an interest in self-build options. Plans for affordable housing units at Achabeag have progressed, enabled by local landowners.

The survey also highlighted the large number of elderly single households in the community, some of whom may

need alternative housing provision in the future. The Census (2011) records the structure of the 154 occupied households as shown in the diagram below.

Climate Change

Climate emergency and net zero targets for Scotland by 2045

The Climate Change Scotland Act 2019 sets targets to reduce Scotland's emissions of all greenhouse gases to net-zero by 2045 at the latest, with interim targets for reductions of at least 75% by 2030, 90% by 2040. Net zero means a balance between the carbon emitted into the atmosphere and the carbon removed from it.

The latest data estimates that per capita emissions are higher in the north of Scotland ([Economic Commentary, 2021, Fraser of Allander Institute](#)). The variation of greenhouse gas emissions per capita has dropped by only 3% in the Highland Council area from 2005 to 2019

compared to 8 to 9 % in central and southern Scotland local authorities (Scottish Government).

Transport, business and agriculture, including farming and forestry – Morvern’s prime resources - remain the main sources of emissions in Scotland. Minimising these will be important for the area to achieve Scotland’s net zero target by 2045.

Sea levels

[The Met Office](#) has calculated anticipated changes in sea level for the West Highlands based on averages from 1981 to 2000. Three scenarios have been envisaged with low, medium and high carbon concentration pathways, as illustrated below.

Sea level change and coastal erosion

Coastal erosion is one of the impacts of climate change that may affect the Morvern coastline in the future with no definite conclusions. For the time being, measurements of social vulnerability - impacts on people - in relation to coastal erosion are gauged as moderate for the local area.

On average, the coastal erosion on soft shorelines affects 50% of the coast. This is expected to increase under all emissions scenarios. Under a high emissions scenario, 75% of soft coasts are expected to have eroded by 2050. Under a low emissions scenario, the extent, rates and risk of erosion are lower, but they remain significant. The Centre of Expertise for Water recommends natural coastal defences to reduce this risk.

	Low level			Medium level			High level		
West Highlands	0.17	0.32	0.58	0.23	0.41	0.69	0.37	0.61	0.98
Global Mean	0.29	0.44	0.66	0.38	0.54	0.79	0.56	0.78	1.12
Scotland	0.14	0.30	0.55	0.21	0.39	0.67	0.35	0.59	0.96





Community Groups in Morvern

Morvern is served by a wide variety of active community bodies which adopt a variety of forms such as limited companies, charities and simple voluntary groups.

<i>Achabeg Community Company</i>	<i>Coastguard</i>	<i>Drimnin Village Hall</i>	<i>Moorings Association</i>	<i>Morvern Community Woodlands</i>	<i>Morvern on the Move</i>
<i>Ardnamurchan Parent Council</i>	<i>Community First Responders</i>	<i>Lochaline Village Hall</i>	<i>Morvern Community Council</i>	<i>Morvern Deer Management Group</i>	<i>Morvern Sailing Club</i>
<i>Burach (Gaelic Choir)</i>	<i>Community Land Association Morvern (Allotments)</i>	<i>Lochaline Primary Parent Council</i>	<i>Morvern Community Development Company</i>	<i>Morvern Games and Gala Week</i>	<i>MorVolts</i>
<i>Community Association of Lochs and Sounds</i>	<i>Country Dancing</i>	<i>Lochaline Primary School</i>	<i>Morvern Community Trust</i>	<i>Morvern Gun Club</i>	<i>Social Club</i>
<i>Climate Conversations</i>	<i>Drimnin Community Broadband</i>	<i>Lochaline Toddler Group</i>	<i>Morvern Community Trading Company</i>	<i>Morvern Heritage Society</i>	<i>SWT Rahoy Hills Nature Reserve Committee</i>
<i>Kiel Church (Church of Scotland)</i>	<i>Drimnin Sealink</i>	<i>Lochaline Old Pier Association</i>	<i>Morvern Community Sawmill</i>	<i>Morvern Medical Practice</i>	<i>Tobermory Parent Council</i>



Vision and Aims

03

Exploring a Vision for Morvern in 2031



This chapter contains our vision for the future of our local community in 2031: what's important to us and what we want to achieve. In December 2021 25 participants split up into four different groups to explore what we wanted and needed Morvern to look like in 2031.

Each group considered a set of assumptions that could affect Morvern in the next decade. The goal was to design a vision of what Morvern could look like under those conditions. The assumptions were rooted in desk-top

research, the community survey, the reflections of the Live Life Morvern (LLM) steering group and community survey conducted in November 2021 (130 responses).

Group 1 focused on assumptions that there could be a tourism boom nationally, while government support for rural affordable housing increases. The picture they painted was titled *Local people at the heart of Slow Tourism and a thriving economy*

Group 2 focused on assumptions that there could be a wider, more general economic boom, even as energy prices increase nationally and there is a strong move away from fossil fuels. The picture they painted was titled *Blue Green Futures*

Group 3 focused on assumptions that opportunities to access land for community-led development could increase, even as sea levels rise up to 1m, rainfall increases 20-30%, and summer droughts increase. The picture they painted was titled *Green, Growing and Diverse*

Group 4 focused on assumptions that government investment in digital infrastructure increases, while the population of Morvern grows older and we face associated access and health issues. The picture they painted was titled *Zoomer Zimmers*

PAS and the LLM Steering group then created a fifth preferred vision which combines the best elements of all these ideas, which was revised following further feedback from the community..

Local people at the heart of Slow Tourism and a thriving economy

In our vision of Morvern in 2031 we took seriously the possibility that there could be another nation-wide tourism boom, even as government support for rural affordable housing increases.

So we imagined that more properties used for hospitality and tourism related business might increase, but affordable and other housing would also become more available.



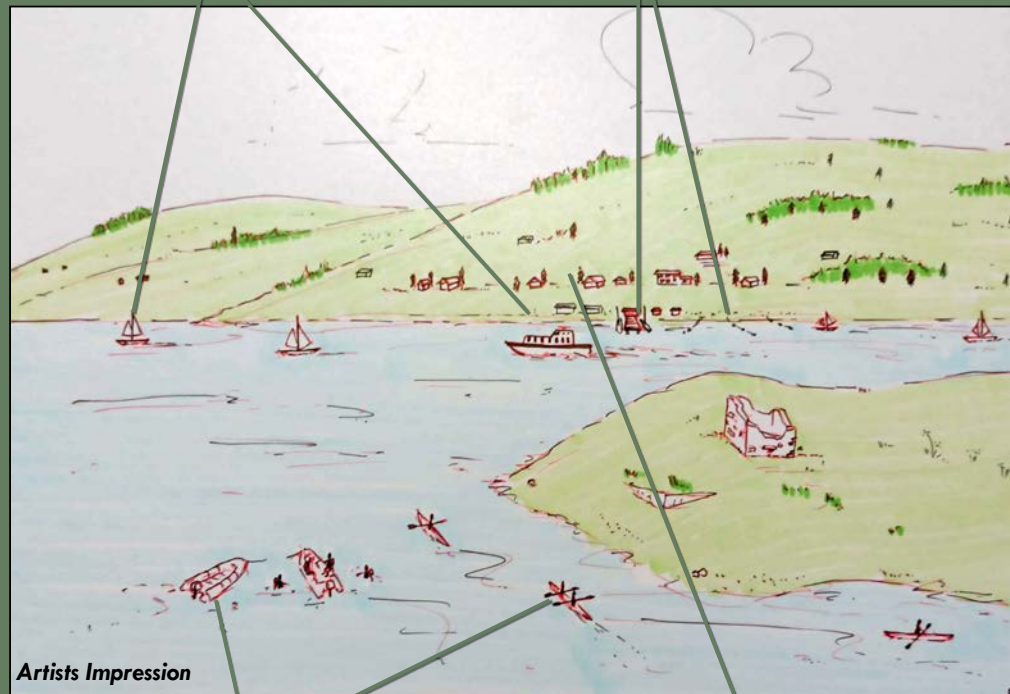
Vision

By 2031:

- Morvern has seen a growth in affordable and other housing, both to rent and buy.
- Morvern is an exemplar of sea eco-tourism.
- It is a 'get away from it all' choice for family holidays.
- Visitors are spending time and money in Morvern, and not just passing through.
- Extra sea-based access points provide improved ferry and recreational opportunities.
- Sailing, kayaking, and diving have all been further developed.
- Local foraging tours are arranged.
- People able to live in Morvern as they move through all life stages.
- Housing and employment choices are available to local people.
- Housing is an attraction not a limitation.

Activating the waterfront with sailing and boat tours

Providing facilities for tourists to dock their boats and remain in the area



Artists Impression

Offering tourism opportunities with activities like kayaking and scuba

The mine continues to thrive and other local businesses are started

- Existing social housing upgraded.
- New affordable housing is managed, through eg housing association or local authority golden share, to ensure that it retains its affordable status.
- The balance between first homes and second homes has not deteriorated, ie proportion of second homes has not increased
- Key roads upgraded.
- Tourism developed as one of several thriving business sectors.
- Barriers to entrepreneurship and investment addressed.
- New business and tourism opportunities are widely distributed throughout Morvern.

Blue Green Futures

In our vision of Morvern in 2031 we took seriously the possibility that there could be a nation-wide economic boom, but also that energy prices could increase nationally alongside a strong move away from fossil fuels.

So we imagined that our kids might get more opportunities to start businesses and find good jobs in local industry, but also that oil prices go through the roof, forcing us to find other sources of energy to heat our home.



Vision

By 2031:

- Morvern is a model of a sustainable, carbon negative community.
- We see a Morvern with increased biodiversity including more wildlife on the hills.
- We see more vibrant landscapes for wildlife and for people with more people living on the land, perhaps in townships.
- We see people making more (sustainable) use of the environment, land and sea, especially for outdoor activities.
- Our buildings are much better insulated and energy supplies are consistent, drawing on a mix of local sources including hydro, tidal and wind.
- We see local skills developed and supported with an emphasis on local enterprise and high quality crafts. Morvern the brand is recognised for its quality.
- There are more local tradespeople and apprenticeships available for young



people. Local businesses are playing a role in offering apprenticeships.

- Morvern is now better connected by sea including to Oban, Mull and other islands (to support its social and economic development).
- We see housing and improved care services playing an important role in supporting the community.
- There is more housing, especially affordable housing for young people, which is helping to retain people in the community and supports the economy.
- There are improved care services, especially services for the elderly (in the second workshop people felt that childcare also needed to be improved and there was a comment on potential for 'volunteer grandparents').
- We enjoy improved access to the land for the community.
- We have established mechanisms through which local people have a say in the management of the land and the surrounding sea.

Green, Growing and Diverse

In our vision of Morvern in 2031, we took seriously the possibility that opportunities to access land for development increase, but also that (as a result of climate change) sea levels rise 1m and rainfall increases 20-30%, as well as increased summer drought.

So we imagined that low lying ground, including the Drimnin road, is always flooding. But also that opportunities to buy and access land increase.



Vision

By 2031 there will be:

- A range of housing to meet all the community's needs. From affordable (really affordable, to buy as well as rent) to luxury rented and owned, both new and converted stock.
- Housing that meets needs of all and designed to reflect changing climate. It will be resilient, carbon neutral and located to maximise factors such as solar gain, shelter and flood avoidance.
- Ongoing retrofitting of existing properties to meet new standards. This may be challenging but existing properties will form the majority of homes and businesses.
- Small business units for new and existing businesses creating opportunity for existing and future residents.
- Small areas of land available for food growing and forestry, supporting local jobs whilst benefitting the environment.

Small parcels of land for food production

Housing is built to accommodate residents of different income levels



Artists Impression

Ferry connectivity improved to increase connections with nearby communities

Atlantic rainforest has been enhanced

- Atlantic rainforest has been enhanced to provide corridors supporting increased biodiversity and perhaps reducing impact of rainfall events. This forest is one of the area's 'hidden gems'.
- A green tourism sector supporting facilities and providing jobs, including for young people.
- More tourist accommodation separate from housing stock.
- Purpose built small business units/workshops.
- More places for socialising for young people.
- A forum for the community, with land owners, local authority and others to identify and acquire land. (This will be to meet identified opportunities not speculative proposals)
- Community based land acquisition, but at a scale and pace the community feel comfortable with - demonstrate ability to deliver.

Zoomer Zimmers

In our vision of Morvern in 2031, we took seriously the possibility that Government investment in digital infrastructure could increase, even as the population of Morvern grew older.

So we imagined that we've got reliable access to superfast broadband but the community is getting older with all kinds of health, mobility and access issues to deal with.



Vision

By 2031 we see:

- Infrastructure to support the ageing population.
- A supply of high amenity flexible housing for those with changing health needs
- A population that is balanced across the ages and diverse, including young people staying or coming back.
- A centre you can go to in Lochaline, as there is now, with the ability to see a doctor and pick up prescriptions, but also making excellent use of telemedicine for specialist appointments, accessing the best of healthcare from around the country
- Excellent connectivity continuing to support work from home and a good range of jobs overall.

Public transport that facilitates better mobility for older residents

New sheltered housing areas to allow older residents to transition out of the existing housing stock

Tech infrastructure built to encourage people to move to the area



Next to designated swimming area a managed space is created for young people to hangout in

Improved road infrastructure

- Technology bringing creative people to the area – some young people are already making a living this way – we see more of this!
- An interesting social scene for young people, easy connections to the cities, live music in the hall
- Regular Saturday evening boat to Tobermory to go to the theatre
- Locally generated energy – not going into the national grid but straight into Morvern homes
- Public transport both for Drimnin and Lochaline, ways to get to the medical centre
- Better transport to cities and Fort William

Our Preferred Future - Aims

In 2031 and beyond we envisage a Morvern that (in no specific order of importance):

- is a model carbon-negative community: a leader in renewable energy creation that positively contributes to national net-zero targets.
- is a welcoming, inclusive and caring community that works hard to involve everyone in our life together.
- has a thriving and positive community spirit.
- is a place where people of all ages can remain as they move through each life stage, and people of all ages and stages thrive.
- is diverse in many ways: biodiversity, diversity of local businesses and housing, diversity of its social life and the make-up of its population.
- is a place that enjoys a rich social life where all generations are able to socialise together.
- is a community that is committed to caring for the environment.
- is an affordable, economically viable and creative place where people produce goods and services, share resources and spend locally as much as possible.
- is an ambitious community, proud of its heritage and achievements.
- has an established reputation for sustainability, strong community life and high-quality tourism.





Economy and Transport

Morvern in 2031 will have a productive economy built on:

Business and jobs

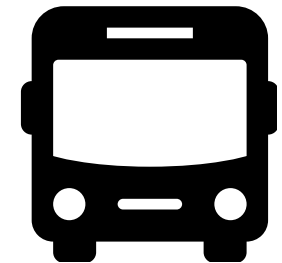
- quality year-round work in a variety of employment areas including existing sectors of mining, farming, transport, aquaculture, forestry, education, health, manufacturing, hospitality and other services.
- expanded opportunities in existing sectors, but especially in sustainable local green jobs, high-quality craft skills, work connected to the sea, and the trades.
- the ability to offer and access apprenticeships in trade skills to local people.
- local enterprise that gets the support it needs to thrive and fit for purpose accommodation.
- working closely with colleges and universities for training and upskilling
- high quality digital infrastructure enabling home-working and participation e.g. in global service industries.
- new people being attracted to work here, including families.
- new local creative networks and industries, including artists and crafts people.

Tourism

- sensitive and slow tourism in winter and summer including responsible marine and land-based eco-tourism
- tourists who see Morvern as a destination not a drive-through.
- more tourist accommodation being available, in addition to housing stock made available for local residents.

Transport

- quality road infrastructure to support tourist and business access.
- better public transport to Fort William and other Scottish cities.
- quality sea connections to Tobermory, Fishnish, Oban and further afield.
- improved access points to the sea alongside improved ferry services.



Housing and Energy

Morvern in 2031 will be a resilient place rooted in:

Housing

- a diverse range of housing types catering to all life-stages (for purchase and rent, privately owned and in public and shared ownership), including: affordable housing, family housing, self-build, and high amenity flexible housing for those with changing health needs.
- new affordable housing for future generations that is managed to ensure that it retains its affordable status.
- access to housing for care staff supporting older people
- a sustainable balance of second homes and primary residential stock.
- well-located low-carbon housing that is resilient to climate change
- the re-purposing of derelict or under-utilised buildings.

Energy

- a reduction of energy use, e.g. by upgrading existing housing to minimise energy expenditure.
- affordable locally-produced energy supplies resilient to wider weather and supply shocks.
- exploring options and developing a diverse range of energy sources - hydro, tidal and wind.

Facilities and Services

- upgraded local venues in Morvern
- a dedicated youth venue run by and for local young people
- excellent childcare facilities.
- a local health centre with dispensary and telemedicine for specialist appointments.
- care staff based locally to support older people with care in their own homes.
- high quality, consistent and accessible education at all life stages





Community Life, Sea and Land

In Morvern in 2031 we see a thriving environment where:

The Land and Sea

- the Atlantic Rainforest corridor is nurtured and expanded to encourage biodiversity (and tourism) and help reduce the impact of rainfall events.
- increase in biodiversity including more wildlife on the hills and in the sea.
- opportunity to live sustainably on the land and from the sea.
- we have access to more learning around the environment and sustaining our wilderness
- we keep the wildness of Morvern, nurturing it gently with non-invasive methods.
- the management of the inshore coastal waters around Morvern is effective and equitable.

Sharing, owning and growing our own local resources to use locally.

- we have a culture of trust and sharing across the community.
- we proactively support one another.
- opportunities for owning small parcels of land by community members are readily available e.g. for local food production and forestry, and for housing or projects within immediate villages of Lochaline and Drimnin
- we maximise the potential of existing local resources to help reduce cost of living.
- we encourage the sharing of our skills, equipment and resources.
- we commit to spending locally and buying local produce.

Social life

- we warmly welcome new people to the community and help them find a way to contribute their skills to local life (e.g. returning children, migrants from outside Scotland).
- we enjoy a rich social life together between and across generations including local live music and events and easy connections to the cities for entertainment.
- there is an interesting social scene for young people.
- there are year-round opportunities for people to fulfil their leisure aspirations.





Actions and Initiatives

04



Introduction

This chapter contains 133 actions arranged according to 31 action areas, split over six themes. This chapter is therefore separated into six sections (see next page). Each action area offers specific ideas for delivering the vision for Morvern in 2031 and beyond, some already in the pipeline and other proposals for the future. The themes and actions were developed through the community engagement process described in the introductory chapter.

Planned and Proposed Actions

Actions listed in this chapter are all designated as either already planned or proposed.

“Already planned” actions are ones which community groups fed back to us during the community survey as being already planned. These are already “owned” by a group and have some level of momentum behind them.

Actions listed as “proposed” have mostly been suggested through the consultation process. They remain tentative proposals at this stage and will only happen in the future if and when feasibility has been assessed, there is enough energy in the community to make them happen, and resources to do so become available.

Please note that just because actions are listed in the plan doesn’t mean that they will all be realised. This is because delivery never happens in a straight line: it ‘zig-zags,’ dependent on funding opportunities, local capacity and a variety of other factors. Furthermore, community needs and priorities can change over time, a key reason a review process has been built into this plan.

Timescales, First steps, Partners and Costs

Each action is numbered for ease of identification. This enables easy cross referencing with the Appendix B where a full list of information is detailed against each action. This full table identifies a delivery lead, likely timescales, potential partners and indicative first steps where they are known. Within the lifetime of the project, it has not been possible to fill out all these categories for every action: separate discussions will be required as delivery moves forward to pinpoint potential delivery leads, first steps and costings for these. Proposed timescales have been used to form an indicative table of milestones that can be found in chapter 5.

Proposals for Combating Climate Change

The action planning phase was structured around questions presented in the climate lens version of the [Place Standard Tool \(PST\)](#). Each section therefore articulates how delivery of the plan can both enable adaptation to prevent the causes of climate change and mitigate its consequences. By implementing these ideas and others besides, the action plan can help the community move towards national net zero targets and increasing local climate resilience.

Overview of Action Areas by Theme

Action Areas	
Economy and Employment	
1	Exploring opportunities for social enterprise
2	Helping people into work
3	Providing accommodation for local businesses
4	Supporting local businesses – large and small
5	Supporting slow tourism
Transport and Digital	
6	Affordable broadband for all
7	Community transport
8	Improve walking, wheeling and cycling
9	Improved public transport
10	Safer, improved transport network
Housing	
11	Affordable housing owned by the community
12	Specialist accommodation
13	Zero-carbon homes for all

Energy, Facilities and Services	
14	Community-owned energy
15	Energy resilience
16	Health
17	Local community hubs
18	Recreation facilities
19	Schools and education
20	Services and childcare
Heritage, Land and Sea	
21	Community Land Ownership
22	Community woodland and natural space
23	Conservation, stewardship & management
24	Heritage
25	Play facilities
Community Life and Local Resources	
26	Buying local
27	Gathering together
28	Promote recreation and creativity
29	Reuse and recycle
30	Sharing our resources
31	Young people

An Indicative Delivery Strategy

The results of the polling undertaken at the prioritisation workshop are included in each section. These are designed to highlight the relative strength of feeling placed by a community on various actions under each theme.

Please note that other listed actions not part of the polling process were mostly either actions that are already in process, actions unlikely to be delivered in the first few years of the plan, or actions about which local strength of feeling was already possible to gauge. While it was not possible to rank every action in the plan, those not ranked remain valuable and should still form part of any assessment of delivery over the coming 10 years. The last column of each table shows which actions were included in the ranking poll.

Possible first steps to deliver community priorities for action are also detailed.



Economy and Employment

Economy and Employment Objectives – Overview

Our vision for Morvern in 2031 pictures Morvern as a place with a diverse and successful economy rooted in a variety of sectors, from manufacturing to farming, aquaculture to tourism. It anticipates a community with jobs available for all who want them, promoting green jobs in particular as part of a new sustainable, net zero economy. Local businesses would have everything they need to thrive, from appropriate accommodation to functioning transport networks enabling supply chains and skilled trained local workers creating a circular local economy. High quality tourism would thrive but be responsible and sustainable: a “slow tourism”, which is defined as an alternative tourism choice in contrast to mass tourism, different from mainstream tourism in that it is characterized by reducing mobility and by taking time to explore local history and culture, while supporting the environment.

This section contains 18 proposed actions arranged according to five action areas:

1. Exploring opportunities for social enterprise
2. Helping people into work
3. Providing accommodation for local businesses
4. Supporting local businesses – large and small
5. Supporting slow tourism

Tailoring our actions to combat climate change

The concept of slow tourism attracting a new type of tourist positions Morvern as a location of choice for families and long stays. We want Morvern to be a ‘destination not a drive-through’. The proposed new motorhome stop-over at Knock Park would ideally encourage longer stays by such travellers, and the development of more visitor attractions will make Morvern more “sticky” for tourists, encouraging them to stay longer and experience new attractions. Showcasing the flora and fauna of the area (such as the Atlantic rainforest, new path networks and a snorkelling experience at Loch Aline’s Eggwrack Forest) will make Morvern an ideal slow tourism destination.

A local economy built around keeping resource production and supply chains as local as possible (see Community Life and Local Resources section) will benefit the environment by keeping travel miles to a minimum. Examples include supporting the local community sawmill.

Local businesses might collaborate through a proposed new Morvern Business Forum and find ways to bulk buy green energy from the grid. New business accommodation proposed at Knock Park could utilise the most recent sustainable building methods using locally sourced timber. Businesses might consider installing new sustainable energy systems, such as solar, where possible.



The following table summarises the Economy and Employment actions proposed, with more detailed information about each to be found in the appendices. Simply search for the number assigned to the action you want to explore further in the appendix.



Table 4 Economy and Employment Actions

No.	Action/Initiative	Action Type	Description	Included in Poll
Exploring opportunities for social enterprise				
1	Feasibility study into various options for community business development (eg Fish farm etc.)	Proposed	Identify a range of possible options for community business development and ascertain feasibility.	Yes
2	Develop a community fishing boat project	Proposed	Develop a community fishing boat project.	
3	Self-storage social enterprise at Knock Park	Proposed	Creation of a self-storage social enterprise at Knock Park.	Yes
4	Explore option of a community-run onshore fish farm	Proposed	On-shore halibut farm providing good local jobs.	
5	Explore option of community-run boatyard	Proposed	Explore development of a boatyard at East Net station. Also potential for a boat storage facility.	Yes
6	Explore option for community-run MoT/service Garage	Proposed	Explore possibility of an MOT garage/car service.	
Helping people into work				
7	Develop apprenticeship scheme in local community, including construction apprenticeships	Proposed	Develop programme to give local young people an option to learn a skill here and remain in the community (apprenticeships).	Yes
Providing accommodation for local businesses				
8	Location for community sawmill at Knock Park	Proposed	Siting of the newly formed community sawmill group.	
9	Develop workshop/retail units at Knock Park	Proposed	Explore options for business units at Knock Park site.	Yes
Supporting local businesses – large and small				
10	Develop strategy to secure tradespeople to deliver local work	Proposed	Develop strategy to secure tradespeople to deliver work locally. Could include attracting skilled trades to live in Morvern.	Yes
11	Create a Morvern business forum and develop a Morvern business directory	Proposed	Develop a Morvern business forum to help defray costs (energy) and collaborate to support one another.	Yes
Supporting slow tourism				
12	Develop visitor centre at the mine	Proposed	Explore setting up tours of the mine for visitors.	
13	Develop motorhome stop-over at Knock Park	Proposed	A financially sustainable, remote access 10-bay motorhome stop-over (Aire) at Knock Park.	Yes
14	Conduct needs analysis of tourist accommodation and explore options for community owned tourism accommodation	Proposed	Explore the option of community owned tourism accommodation that feeds its profits back into the community.	Yes
15	Develop snorkelling experience at Eggwrack forest in Loch Aline	Proposed	Explore option for a snorkel experience at the Eggwrack Forest in the Loch.	Yes
16	Oyster festival	Proposed	Explore idea of an annual oyster festival.	
17	Explore opening new outdoor education centre	Proposed	Explore development of outdoor education facility (Abernethy Centre now closed). Located at West Pier House and Bunkhouse?	Yes
18	Collaborate around tourism issues through SMAATA (local tourist association)	Proposed	Foster links between local tourism businesses and SMAATA (Sunart, Morvern, Ardgour, Ardnamurchan Tourist Association).	Yes



Results of prioritisation ranking poll for selected actions

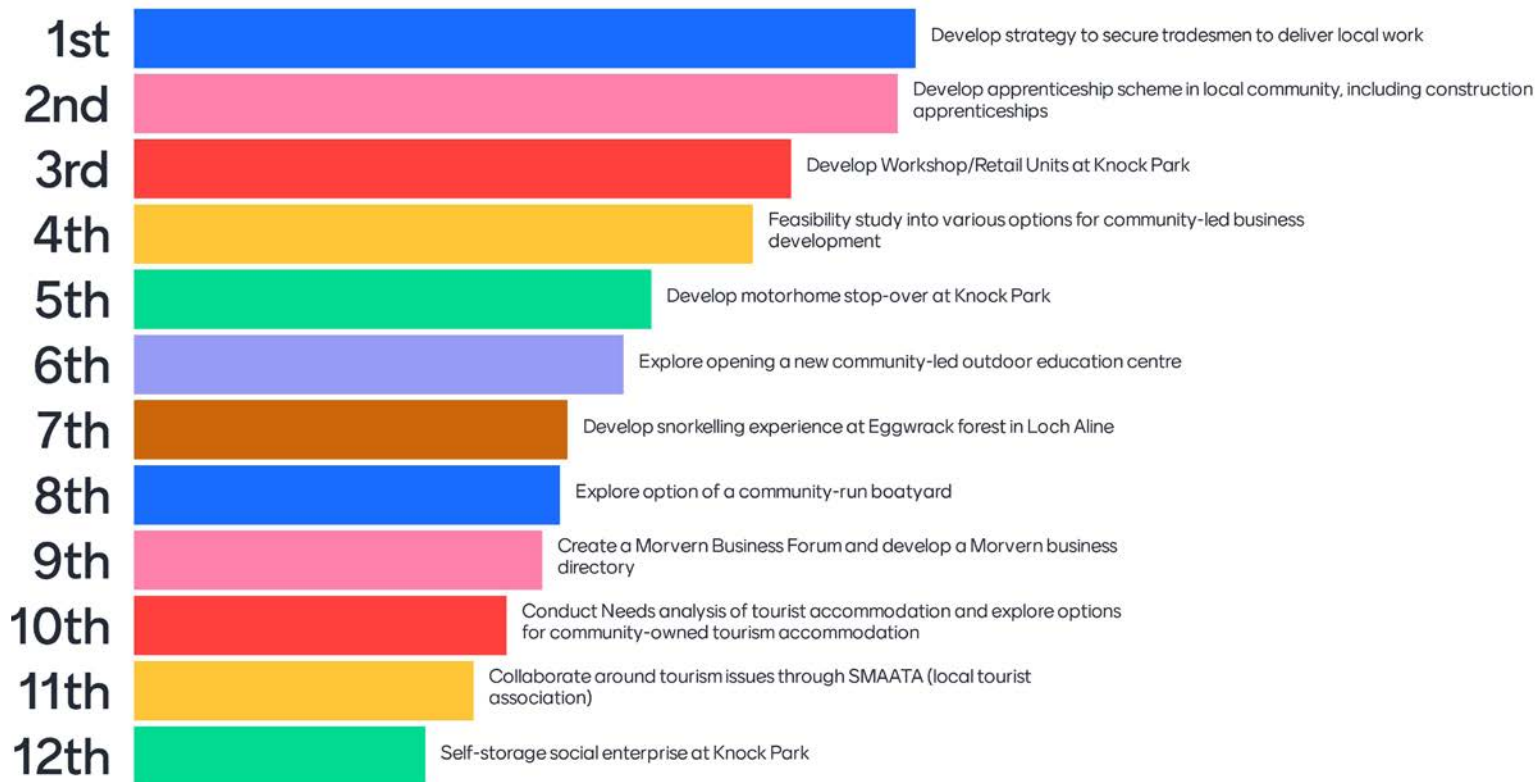


Table 5 Economy and Employment Actions: Ranked by poll

First steps

Potential first steps to delivering on proposed Economy and Employment actions may include:

- Identifying lead and support partners to take select actions forward
- Convening a gathering of local businesses to develop a Morvern business forum
- Continuing to develop the community land buy-out at Knock Park as the foundation for delivering workshop units, a self-storage facility and eventually a motorhome stop-over
- Securing funds for a feasibility study into the different options mooted for developing community run businesses in the area.
- Identifying funding and building links with colleges to explore the possibility of apprenticeship schemes for roles in a variety of local sectors.

Transport and Digital

Transport and Digital Objectives – Overview

Our vision for Morvern in 2031 pictures Morvern as a place served by a well maintained and fit for purpose transport and communications infrastructure. It anticipates everyone being able to access high quality broadband, especially businesses, whether serving larger local enterprises or enabling small business owners to operate efficiently and with a global interface where required. It anticipates a healthy community with an excellent offer for walking, wheeling and cycling across the peninsula, serving locals and tourists alike. Morvern in 2031 would be a place where people can choose less polluting modes of transport to travel beyond the area as far as feasibly possible, whether sharing local travel capacity or accessing appropriate public transport services. And it would be a place where travel is safe and unproblematic on well-maintained routes, where the hierarchy of road users is respected and catered for appropriately.

This section contains 22 proposed actions arranged according to five action areas:

6. Affordable broadband for all
7. Community transport
8. Improve walking, wheeling and cycling across Morvern
9. Improved public transport
10. Safer, improved transport network

Tailoring our actions to combat climate change

Mitigating the impact of transport on our carbon emissions is one of the key global challenges facing us over the next 10 years and significant change needs to happen in this area. In some ways such changes are harder to address in more remote rural areas.

Morvern in 2031 will ideally be served by electric vehicles on land and sea where possible. Encouraging electric vehicle charging infrastructure will be a key component of this vision. Such facilities would also enable deliveries of goods coming to the community by post or other means to switch to electric sources. Promoting and developing active travel links around the area could help locals to choose to cycle for short distances rather than travel by car. It will also improve accessibility, making getting around by wheelchair or using a pram (wheeling) easier. Car sharing schemes should maximise the number of people sharing an individual car journey to Fort William.

The following table summarises the Transport and Digital actions proposed, with more detailed information about each to be found in the appendices. Simply search for the number assigned to the action you want to explore further in the appendix.





Table 6 Transport and Digital Actions

No.	Action/Initiative	Action Type	Description	Included in Poll
Affordable Broadband for All				
19	Broadband - Drimnin upgrade and Achabeag extension	Already Planned	Drimnin properties upgraded to minimum 30Mbps with optional 100 Mbps service; 30 Mbps minimum service to Achabeag.	
20	Broadband - Ardtornish area extension	Already Planned	30Mbps service to Ardtornish Estate and nearby properties.	
21	Broadband - Not Spot fill-in around Lochaline	Already Planned	30 Mbps service to selected properties not served by BT Fibre.	Yes
Helping people into work				
22	Restart Drimnin water taxi after safety work completed and new booking system established	Already Planned	To ensure that the jetty is safe for passengers To ensure new procedures are in place to safeguard both Drimnin Sealink Limited and the independent water taxi operation.	Yes
23	New weekend transport route to Tobermory from Lochaline (& Drimnin)	Proposed	Develop a regular Saturday evening boat to Tobermory for leisure (eg theatre), departing Lochaline with Drimnin as a stop.	Yes
24	Hospital transport service	Already Planned	Transport to medical appointments from the peninsulas. Access local electric vehicles. Link with existing local Morvern volunteers.	
25	Explore community transport options (eg car pool)	Proposed	Explore option for a carpool or other community-based transport service.	Yes
Improve walking, wheeling and cycling				
26	Create Lochaline Sand Mine Trail along former railway	Already Planned	To construct a walking trail around Lochaline village to highlight the importance of the sand mine to the landscape and society of Morvern, along route of the railway line. Include four information panels.	Yes
27	Reinstatement of path to Arienas Point	Already Planned	To improve/reinstate the path from Acharan to Arienas Point to allow access for walkers.	Yes
28	Develop path network around Lochaline	Proposed	Pathways throughout area and accessible from village.	Yes
29	Develop walking routes on wider peninsula	Proposed	Enable use of Forestry and Land Scotland walking routes, improving access, wayfinding and publicity.	Yes
30	Upgrade and install bicycle and mountain bike routes	Proposed	Develop cycle and mountain bike routes around Lochaline and wider area to enable commuting, leisure. Mountain bike routes for all levels of ability.	Yes

Improved public transport				
31	Fort William bus service: improve frequency (especially weekends)	Proposed	Advocate for regular reliable bus service to Fort William especially at the weekend. And more accurate timing information.	
Safer, improved transport network				
32	New access to Knock Park	Proposed	New access route into Knock Park from the village avoiding the A884.	
33	Car parking at Knock Park	Proposed	New car parking area for larger events.	
34	Improve link from Fishnish to Craignure	Proposed	Upgrade key roads.	
35	Improvement to Drimnin Road	Proposed	Upgrade key roads. Explore alternative second route.	
36	Improvement to the road from Carnoch Bridge	Proposed	Upgrade key roads.	
37	Advocate for speed restrictions for HGVs on local roads	Proposed	Explore speed restriction for HGVs on Morvern roads.	Yes
38	Develop long-term EV charging strategy	Proposed	Develop long-term EV charging strategy and possibility of local EV maintenance.	
39	Advocate for integration of transport services - timetabling	Proposed	Timetabling to link different modes of transport appropriately.	Yes
40	Upgrade pier facility onto Sound of Mull at West Pier and install steps	Proposed	Explore option for upgraded or new pier/marina on Sound of Mull at West Pier – for timber exports and marine tourism.	Yes



Results of prioritisation ranking poll for selected actions

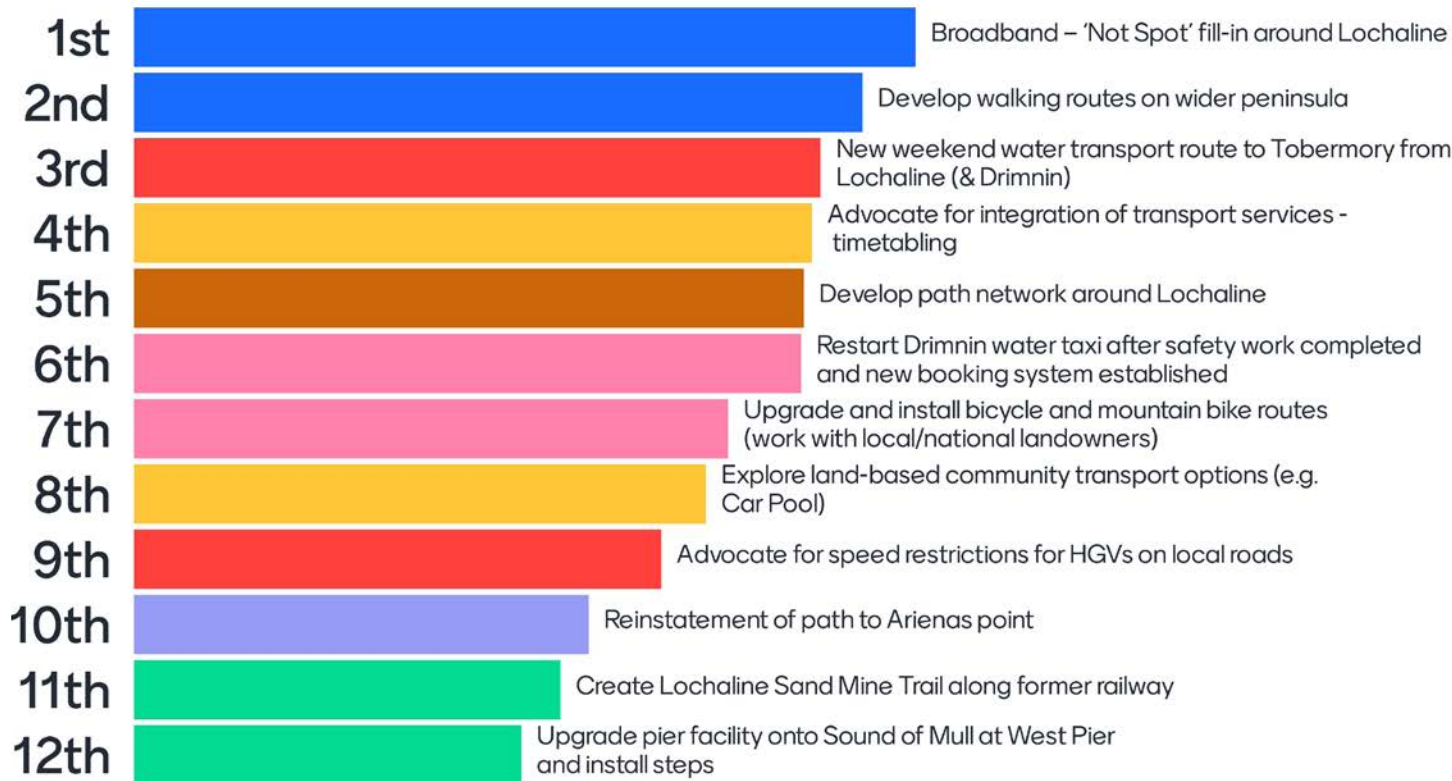


Table 7 Transport and Digital Actions: Ranked by poll

First steps

Potential first steps to delivering on proposed Transport and Digital actions may include:

- Identifying lead and support partners to take select actions forward.
- Testing different anti-slip applications and getting approval from the Shoreward Trust to install a walkway before the Drimnin water taxi recommences.
- Securing funding for the sand mine trail, as well as securing landowner and planning consent.
- Surveying the existing path to Arienas Point
- Exploring the feasibility of upgrading the track along the shore from the pontoons to Ardtornish estate.
- Exploring a messaging group for co-ordinating a carpool.

Housing

Housing Objectives – Overview Tailoring our actions to combat climate change

Our vision for Morvern in 2031 pictures Morvern as having high quality, sustainable housing of all tenure types available for everyone who needs it, including family homes to attract new families to the area. The housing stock will have been upgraded for maximum energy efficiency, older derelict stock repurposed and brought back into circulation and will represent a sustainable mix of primary and secondary homes. Provision of housing stock suitable for all life stages and needs, including homes for care workers able to serve our elders in their own homes, and seasonal housing to best enable local tourism to thrive should also be a priority.

Over the next decade different routes to establishing this picture will be explored and developed where feasible. This may include proactive local landowners bringing forth land for development, perhaps through opportunities for self-build plots, as currently being explored by Ardtornish estate. It will include work to continue to build affordable housing by Lochaber Housing Association and MCDC. And it may also include local people who want to develop their own properties collaborating to secure the services of building companies, making such a route to development more viable.

This section contains 11 proposed actions arranged according to three action areas:

11. Affordable housing owned by the community
12. Specialist accommodation
13. Zero-carbon homes for all

In terms of climate resilience, locating new housing away from coastal flood plains will be essential. Regarding Morvern's ambitions to reach net zero, there are several ways that these actions can be implemented to adapt to climate change:

- Retrofitting existing homes so that they are as energy efficient as possible, for example by using wool insulation if possible and ensuring energy needs are met by upgrading from wood burners to a less carbon-intensive fuel source.
- Ensuring an assessment of retrofitting needs is prioritised, especially for existing social housing.
- Restore derelict/unused housing stock wherever possible.
- Aiming to future-proof our approach to construction by using materials, such as timber, that sequester carbon rather than being carbon-intensive to produce, and sourcing these as locally as possible.
- Designing natural 'buffer zones' around new developments to avoid the worst effects of climate change (wind and flooding) and encourage biodiversity (eg hazel, birch and willow planting)
- Screening suppliers for building projects based on their environmental performance.
- Exploring an option for home-builders to upgrade derelict stock while living in temporary accommodation nearby.
- Locating new housing to benefit most from solar gain.
- Forming a co-op of local existing owners to reduce cost of retrofitting homes



The following table summarises the Housing actions proposed, with more detailed information about each to be found in the appendices. Simply search for the number assigned to the action you want to explore further in the appendix.





Actions and Initiatives

Table 8 Housing Actions

No.	Action/Initiative	Action Type	Description	Included in Poll
Affordable housing owned by the community				
41	Affordable Housing, Phase 2 - MCDC	Already Planned	Provision of affordable family homes.	
42	Conduct comprehensive housing survey: Local Housing Needs Assessment; Housing Land Audit; Housing Conditions Survey	Already Planned	Audit of existing housing provision, quality and future needs, including map.	Yes
43	Plan for delivery of additional affordable housing beyond MCDC Phase 2	Proposed	Explore provision of further affordable housing provision beyond MCDC's Phase 2.	Yes
44	Explore options for housing development in townships and promote 21st century crofting	Proposed	Explore the option of housing development in townships to enable sustainable living on the land. Promote local crofting culture.	Yes
45	Explore private-sector-led housing development led by individuals (co-op model)	Proposed	Convene group of interested parties who want to develop their own homes. Ensure communication with MCDC.	Yes
46	Advocate for housing access - lobby council empty homes officers	Proposed	Campaign at regional/national level for unused/ unoccupied housing to be made available to rent or buy. Connect with empty homes officers at council.	Yes
47	Restore derelict/unused housing stock	Proposed	Explore how to restore existing derelict stock	Yes
Specialist Accommodation				
48	Dail Mhor redevelopment (Acharacle) - care home	Already Planned	To redevelop the site of Dail Mhor, village hall, old school into a community care hub. Maintaining care provision on the peninsula. Offer satellite projects/care in the other villages.	
49	Residential static caravan park for seasonal workers	Proposed	Residential static caravan park for seasonal workers (for farms and AirBnB cleaners) – on Forestry and Land Scotland land at edge of Lochaline near Kiel.	Yes
Zero-carbon homes for all				
50	Advocacy - Upgrade/retrofit existing council housing stock	Proposed	Ensure existing council housing is retrofitted and upgraded, particularly regarding insulation	Yes
51	Form co-op of local existing owners to reduce cost of retrofitting homes	Proposed	Form co-op of local existing owners to reduce cost of any required retrofitting	Yes

Results of prioritisation ranking poll for selected actions



Table 9 Housing Actions: Ranked by poll

First steps

Potential first steps to delivering on proposed Housing actions may include:

- Identifying lead and support partners to take select actions forward
- Ensure conversations between MCDC and Lochaber Housing Association to deliver a housing needs assessment for the area
- Continue conversations between stakeholders with regard to planning for affordable housing delivery beyond existing phase 2 plans by MCDC
- Forming group of local individuals interested in a co-op approach to developing their own homes.
- Forming an advocacy group, perhaps through an existing local organisation to engage with Highland Council housing department about upgrading existing social housing.
- Gathering a group of existing local homeowners interested in finding ways to reduce the cost of retrofitting their homes.



Energy, Facilities and Services

Energy, Facilities and Services Objectives – Overview

Our vision for Morvern in 2031 pictures Morvern as a place where renewable energy production has been maximised but in a way that is sensitive to the environment and the needs of the local community. Local facilities such as public halls will have been upgraded and maintained to the highest standard, the local surgery will continue to enable face-to-face appointments and dispensing but also enable the best in telemedicine for specialist services. Education for all life stages and needs will continue to be of a high standard.

This section contains 33 proposed actions arranged according to seven action areas:

- 14. Community-owned energy
- 15. Energy resilience
- 16. Health
- 17. Local community hubs
- 18. Recreation facilities
- 19. Schools and education
- 20. Services and childcare

Tailoring our actions to combat climate change

In terms of climate resilience, educating ourselves and developing a climate and energy resilience strategy and plan must take front and centre stage to protect the community from climate shocks such as loss of power. Regarding Morvern’s ambitions to reach net zero, options for lower carbon energy sources include:

- The option of wind turbines at Barr, in a similar scheme to the Barr Hydro and combined with an interesting peatland restoration plan
- A small hydro scheme on the Achadha Forsa burn
- A solar panel array near the village
- A sea-sourced heat pump off the west pier
- A woodchip biomass plant using surplus timber from Fiunary Forest
- Exploring options for hydrogen power and heat recovery
- All potentially linked to a district heating scheme

The following table summarises the Energy, Services and Facilities actions proposed, with more detailed information about each to be found in the appendices. Simply search for the number assigned the action you want to explore further in the appendix.



Table 10 Energy, Facilities and Services Actions

No.	Action/Initiative	Action Type	Description	Included in Poll
Community-owned energy				
52	Explore options for sustainable community-based energy sources - wind, tide, district heating	Already Planned	To further aid community sustainability, self - sufficiency and self – reliance.	Yes
53	Explore options for hydrogen power	Proposed	Using extra power from local sources to generate hydrogen for future, eg hydrogen cell powered vehicles.	
54	Set up co-op to bulk buy green energy at reduced rates	Proposed	To bulk-buy discounted green energy off the grid.	Yes
55	Explore options for heat recovery for individual domestic properties	Proposed	Explore idea of waste-water heat recovery for homes across the community.	
Energy resilience				
56	Campaign at national level to enable decentralisation of energy suppliers	Proposed	Campaign at national level to enable decentralisation of energy suppliers.	
57	Develop emergency resilience strategy for response during significant climate event (eg total loss of power)	Proposed	Create response plan for support in situations of catastrophic failure of infrastructure as a result of climate change (eg loss of energy supply, storm damage, wildfires).	Yes
58	Community based information service for sustainable retrofitting of houses	Proposed	Offering advice on converting to sustainable energy, for example the options for moving away from oil-based heating and the steps needed to achieve the options.	Yes
Health				
59	Transition of service provision for Morvern medical practice	Already Planned	Secure future of primary care and dispensing services in Morvern.	
60	Helping Hands Befriending Service	Already Planned	Reducing social isolation and loneliness across the five community council areas.	
61	Outdoor gym at Knock Park	Proposed	Outdoor gym and improved recreational space at Knock Park.	
62	Explore options for in-home care support	Proposed	Explore options for in-home care support	
63	Procure gym equipment – pop-up option stored in indoor location (not at Hub)	Proposed	Explore option for access to communal gym equipment for physio and physical and mental health.	Yes
64	Explore options for community-based approaches to mental health support	Proposed	Explore options for care within the community for those with mental wellbeing needs.	Yes
65	Advocacy - improved services at Belford Hospital	Proposed	Advocate for improved services at the Belford Hospital in Fort William.	
Local community hubs				
66	Repair and restoration of Drimnin Village Hall	Already Planned	Carry out essential repairs to the Victorian Village Hall (the former village school) to leave it in a waterproof and safe condition. Fabric of the building is in need of an upgrade to create a sustainable hub and resilience centre.	Yes
67	Improved video conference facilities in the community	Already Planned	Improved video conference facilities in the community.	
68	Clubhouse facility at Knock Park	Proposed	A new, accessible ‘clubhouse’ incorporating a function suite at Knock Park.	



Actions and Initiatives

Recreation facilities				
69	Develop sports pitch - Knock Park	Proposed	Develop an enlarged sports pitch at Knock Park.	Yes
70	Develop golf course - Knock Park	Proposed	9-hole golf course (further dedicated feasibility study to be conducted).	
Schools and education				
71	Support High School in a variety of initiatives throughout the year, including fundraising and support for school trips	Already Planned	Being a voice for the parent forum.	
72	CAOLAS outreach	Already Planned	A series of public promotion events, school visits and outreach days across Morvern, Ardnamurchan.	
73	Integrate climate change action into life and work of community over next 10 years	Already Planned	Ensure that climate discussion sub-group's aims and goals are integrated into life and work of community over next 10 years.	
74	Lochaline Primary School wildlife garden	Already Planned	Restore / replace the old pond in the school wildlife garden, for the children to learn about nature and how to care for it. Undertaking the project will hopefully help to inform the community of nature-based benefits.	
75	Develop the outdoor learning facilities at Lochaline Primary	Already planned	The aim of this project is to develop the outdoor leaning facilities at Lochaline Primary. The goal is to enhance academic, social and developmental opportunities for our pupils and develop their understanding of sustainability through experiential learning.	Yes
76	Artist in residence project - Rahoy Hills Nature Reserve	Already Planned	To invite artist to complete a six-week residency portraying nature on the reserve to spread knowledge of the reserve to a wider audience. The reserve will benefit from increased awareness and from a proportion of the sales generated.	
77	Community education programme to protect against the effects of climate change and biodiversity loss	Proposed	Educate and raise the awareness for all of the benefits of biodiversity across Morvern, to mitigate climate change, influence land management practices and add to the attractions of the area. Teach ourselves about the lifestyle changes required.	Yes
78	Gaelic education at primary school	Proposed	Lochaline Primary to explore options for Gaelic provision.	
79	Educating ourselves as a community to have a strong voice regarding the marine environment	Proposed	Educating ourselves as a community to have a strong voice regarding the marine environment.	
Services and childcare				
80	Village maintenance	Already Planned	Keeping Lochaline tidy	
81	Develop early years childcare provision (age 1-3)	Proposed	Developing childcare provision to enable early years primary carers to also work.	Yes
82	Waterfront Street in Lochaline	Proposed	Promote idea of a lively waterfront street with restaurant and retail facilities.	
83	Refurbishment/community running of the public toilets	Proposed	Ensure public toilets are refurbished and maintained.	Yes
84	Continue to develop marina to maximise opportunities from sailing traffic	Proposed	Make better use of facilities at the marina, enabling opportunities for new business and capturing trade from sailing traffic.	

Results of prioritisation ranking poll for selected actions

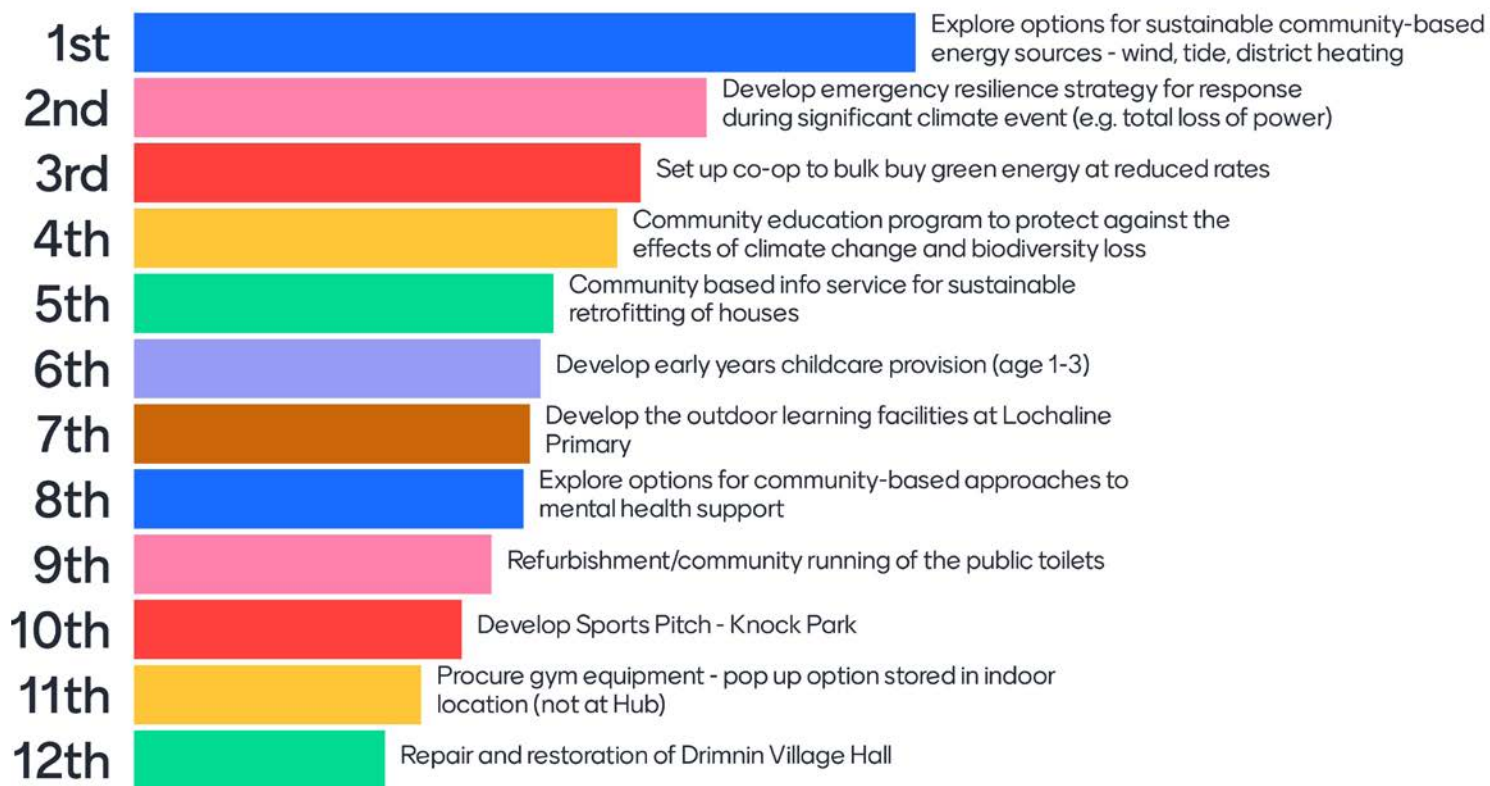


Table 11 Energy, Facilities and Services Actions: Ranked by poll

First steps

Potential first steps to delivering on proposed Energy, Facilities and Services actions may include:

- Identifying lead and support partners to take select actions forward
- For MCDC and MorVolts to develop conversations around options for sustainable community-based energy sources. Beginning to assess various options and thinking about feasibility testing of these
- Explore options to develop emergency resilience strategy for response during significant climate event, perhaps through future meetings of a community group forum
- Explore with the Highland Council community resilience officer whether there are any up-and-coming sources of funding that could be used to secure equipment for a pop-up gym to be stored in a local facility
- Continuing to source funds for the ongoing upgrade of Drimnin Hall
- For Lochaline Primary and Morvern Community Woodlands to continue to work together to develop the outdoor learning facilities at Lochaline Primary



Heritage, Sea and Land

Heritage, Sea and Land Objectives – Overview

Our vision for Morvern in 2031 pictures Morvern as a place where our rich heritage is cherished, protected and enhanced both as a good in itself but also as a key component of our tourism offer. We also envisage a Morvern where we are living sustainably and lightly in relationship to our land, coast and marine environment. We want to promote Morvern’s wild places, protect its woodland and especially its remaining Atlantic rainforest and maximise the flourishing of native flora and fauna. We want to ensure that our land and sea resources are used well to maximise carbon sequestration. And we want to be well-informed, proactive and passionate about our role as a community in stewarding all these natural and historic assets, with one key route being through community acquisition of key assets.

This section contains 32 proposed actions arranged according to five action areas:

21. Community land ownership
22. Community woodland and natural space
23. Conservation, stewardship & management
24. Heritage
25. Play facilities

Tailoring our actions to combat climate change

Regarding Morvern’s ambitions to reach net zero, the actions detailed in this section could have some of the largest impacts of all, and include:

- Community-based biodiversity surveys can complement other data sources to establish a baseline understanding of what we can achieve locally to reach net-zero targets
- Advocating for and taking an active role in reducing deer numbers will increase biodiversity and maximise carbon-capture from regrown vegetation
- Exploring species reintroduction and ecological restoration such as seagrass restoration and a tree nursery
- Increasing our allotment capacity to encourage local food production
- Developing long-term land and marine plans to foster sustainable use

Preventing woodland loss and tree-planting strategies can help to mitigate flooding impacts caused by climate change.

The following table summarises the Heritage, Sea and Land actions proposed, with more detailed information about each to be found in the appendices. Simply search for the number assigned to the action you want to explore further in the appendix.



Table 12 Community Life and Local Resources Actions

No.	Action/Initiative	Action Type	Description	Included in Poll
Community Land Ownership				
85	Community buy-out of Knock Park	Already Planned	Bring together the whole community to develop 47 acres of land at Knock Park in community ownership.	
86	Land acquisition - Lochaline Harbour	Already Planned	Secure land currently leased for community ownership.	
87	Increase allotment capacity	Already Planned	Develop more plots at the allotment to expand capacity.	
88	Acquisition of allotment land by CLAM	Already Planned	Secure land currently leased for community ownership.	
89	Buy-out of Lochaline West Pier	Proposed	Community buy-out of the west pier in Lochaline.	Yes
Community woodland and natural space				
90	Nature trail at allotments	Already Planned	Community nature walk around perimeter of the allotment.	
91	Repair shelter, all-access path, and boardwalks - Achnaha Wood	Already Planned	The shelter in Achnaha Community Wood is nearly 15 years old and is in need of some repairs. Also, the all-access boardwalk and some boardwalks along the circular track.	
92	Woodland management in Achnaha Community Wood	Already Planned	Address significant ash die back in Achnaha Community Wood.	
93	Community Woodland - Knock Park	Proposed	Develop a community woodland at Knock Park.	
94	Develop nature reserve - Knock Park	Proposed	Develop a nature reserve and woodland education area at Knock Park.	Yes
Conservation, stewardship & management				
95	Review of deer management plan	Already Planned	To update a collaborative deer management plan delivering sustainable land use objectives.	
96	Habitats impact assessment - grazing impact on land	Already Planned	Assess grazing impacts on habitats.	
97	Deer count	Already Planned	Count deer numbers across Morvern on an annual basis where possible.	
98	Rahoy Hills Reserve management plan objectives	Already Planned	To manage Rahoy Hills reserve for the long-term benefit of its unique habitats and wildlife for future generations to enjoy.	
99	Protecting Morvern's Atlantic Rainforest - proposed RSPB project	Already Planned	Five-year landscape scale woodland restoration programme focused exclusively on the rainforests of the Morvern peninsula.	Yes
100	Morvern tree nursery	Already Planned	Set up tree nursery for local provenance native trees.	
101	Expansion of Lochaline native oyster project	Already Planned	Restore biodiversity in coastal waters around Morvern by reintroducing native oysters. Involve community in marine conservation and restoration.	



Actions and Initiatives

102	Serpulid search and survey - (COALAS)	Already Planned	To assess the condition of serpulid reefs in the area.	
103	Litter picking project - from land and sea	Proposed	Litter picking project - suggested by local teenagers and primary kids.	Yes
104	Baseline studies of the state of nature and biodiversity and blue/green carbon, including community-based biodiversity surveys	Proposed	Develop a baseline of the state of nature and biodiversity and blue/green carbon. Recording of biodiversity changes by the community.	Yes
105	Tree planting project – community-based (including school)	Proposed	Direct sowing of tree seeds for sowing on the hills – community project. Also suggested by local teenagers and primary kids.	Yes
106	Advocacy - reducing deer density	Proposed	Continue discussions with landowners to reduce deer density. Explore options for financing deer management plans via emerging government funding streams to enable the country to attain net zero targets.	Yes
107	Advocacy - preventing woodland loss	Proposed	Advocate for the cessation of woodland loss.	Yes
108	Develop local place plan or land-use plan, including marine spatial plan	Proposed	Consider complementing LLM process with a 'local place plan' or land-use strategy, as well as a marine spatial plan for Morvern's inshore coastal waters to inform grant/local planning decisions. This can be registered with Highland Council planning department.	Yes
109	Species reintroduction	Proposed	Explore option for species reintroduction.	
110	Seagrass restoration	Proposed	Explore option of seagrass restoration in Loch Aline.	
111	Create marine management plan for Loch Aline - including loch-wide conservation measures	Proposed	Explore possibility of a shared loch management plan for Lochaline.	Yes
Heritage				
112	Larachbeg telephone box St. Kilda museum	Already Planned	Renovate the old telephone box at Larachbeg into a museum about the St Kilda connection with Morvern.	
113	Heritage display in Morvern Community Hub	Already Planned	Information panels on Morvern's history and natural history are to be erected within the Morvern Community Hub.	
114	Protecting and enhancing the heritage of Kiel church and grounds	Already Planned	Development and sustaining of church building, Celtic stone collection. No firm plans or costings.	Yes
115	Heritage conservation	Proposed	Promote conservation and protection of local heritage. Establish repository (website where people can contribute and add their stories about Morvern).	Yes
Play facilities				
116	Kids' playground at allotment	Already Planned	Develop kids' playground while parents are at the allotment plus swing across the quarry.	

Results of prioritisation ranking poll for selected actions

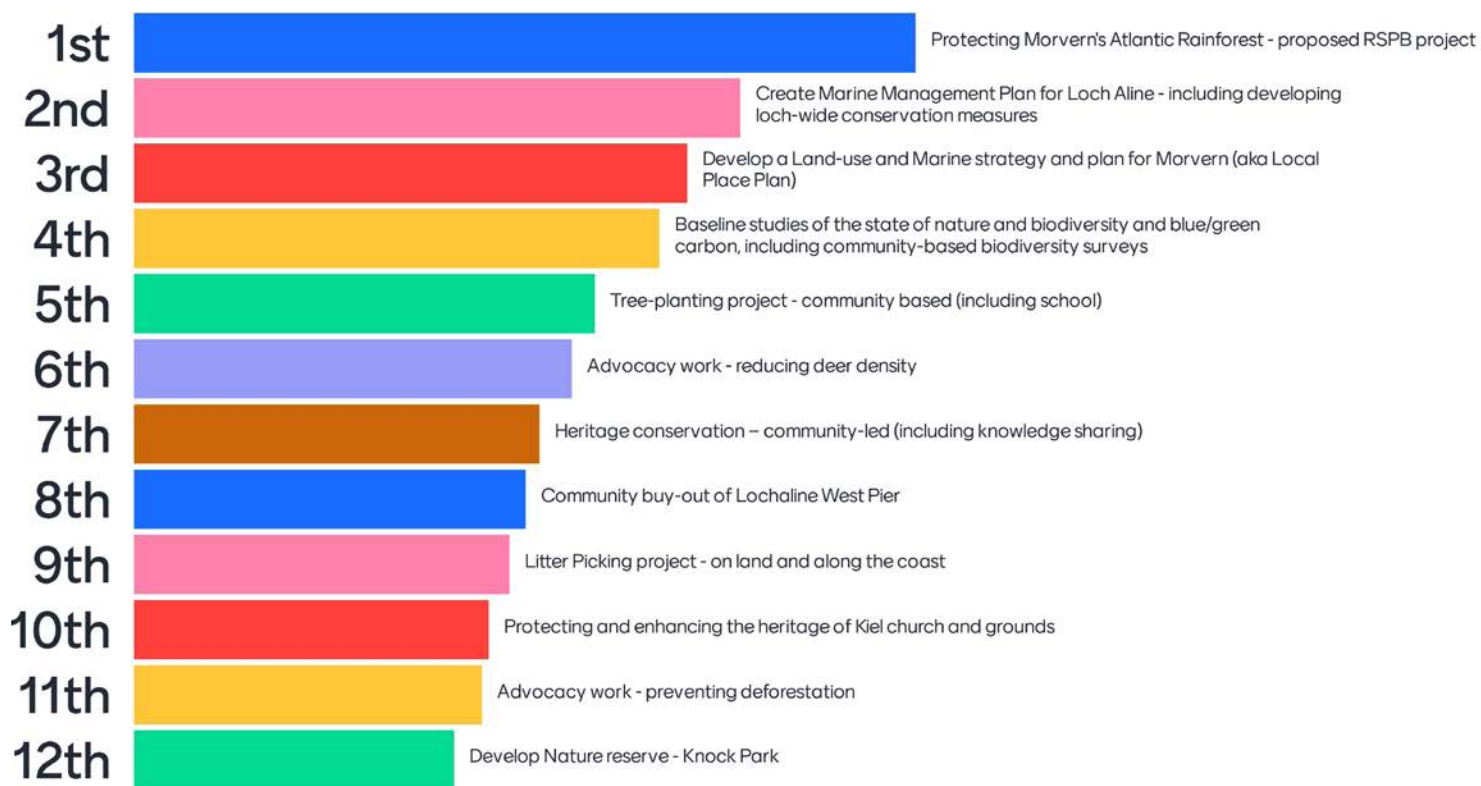


Table 13 Heritage, Sea and Land Actions: Ranked by poll

First steps

Potential first steps to delivering on proposed Heritage, Sea and Land actions may include:

- Identifying lead and support partners to take select actions forward
- Completing the community land buy-out of Knock Park
- Securing additional funding for the Atlantic rainforest protection initiative
- Begin assessing and collating existing data sources to begin construction of a comprehensive baseline study of Morvern's biodiversity and blue and green carbon capacity
- Co-ordinating different groups interested in taking forward a tree-planting initiative
- Discuss best ways for community to formally connect with landowners to continue discussions around strategic land interests for the peninsula. This could be explored at a future community group forum



Community Life and Local Resources

Community Life and Local Resources Objectives – Overview

Our vision for Morvern in 2031 pictures Morvern as a welcoming, inclusive and caring place with a strong community spirit. A creative and ambitious community where all generations can socialise together and thrive at all life stages. We also envisage a Morvern that produces goods and services, where people share resources and spend locally as much as possible.

This section contains 17 proposed actions arranged according to six action areas:

- 26. Buying local
- 27. Gathering together
- 28. Promote recreation and creativity
- 29. Reuse and recycle
- 30. Sharing our resources
- 31. Young people

Tailoring our actions to combat climate change

Regarding Morvern’s ambitions to reach net zero, the actions detailed in this section could have an impact by:

- Encouraging a circular economy through an agreement to sell local produce locally and promoting foraging workshops, as well as setting up a second-hand shop and resource library.
- Promoting community recycling and reuse and a reduction in plastic usage.

The following table summarises the Community Life and Local Resources actions proposed, with more detailed information about each to be found in the appendices. Simply search for the number assigned to the action you want to explore further in the

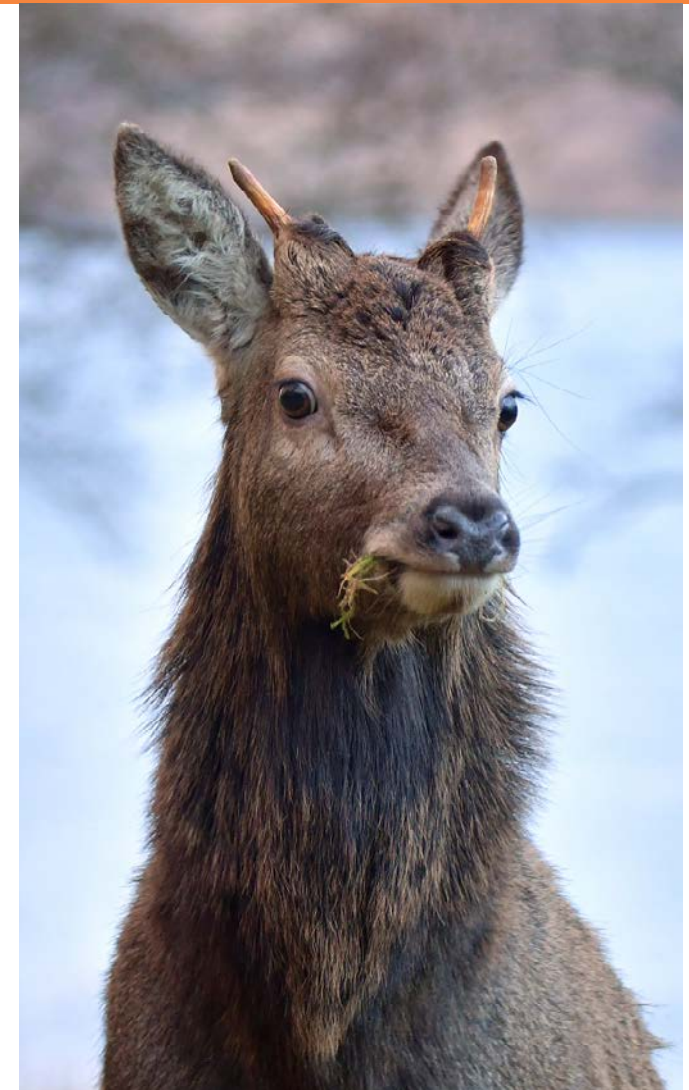


Table 14 Community Life and Local Resources Actions

No.	Action/Initiative	Action Type	Description	Included in Poll
Buying local				
117	Develop a local resource agreement (timber)	Proposed	Develop shared agreement for construction to prioritise using locally sourced timber and materials.	
118	Develop agreement to sell local produce locally	Proposed	Through existing or additional local store.	Yes
119	Promotional events to showcase local products	Proposed	Workshops to be conducted on these for promoting business opportunities.	Yes
Gathering together				
120	Easter event - MCW	Already Planned	On Easter Sunday we will organise an easter egg hunt, and other Easter related activities in Achnaha Woods. This is an event for young and old.	
121	Development and sustaining of church presence	Already Planned	Development of life of the congregation within the wider context of the peninsula churches.	
122	Promote calendar of informal events (eg bonfire night)	Proposed	Informal events with no agenda for relationship building. Enable connections generally, but also those between newcomers and longer-term residents.	Yes
123	Run a dedicated programme of social events for our elders, including intergenerational gatherings	Proposed	Explore idea of developing dedicated spaces for older generations to connect with younger people.	Yes
Promote recreation and creativity				
124	Run creativity workshops by network of local creatives	Proposed	Series of workshops by network of local creatives.	Yes
125	Promote outdoor activities and sports	Proposed	Promote outdoor activities and sports for locals and tourists.	Yes
Reuse and recycle				
126	Promote community recycling and reuse	Already Planned	To encourage and improve recycling and reuse within the community. Advocacy with Highland Council into improving their recycling of community waste.	
127	Plastic free campaign	Proposed	Develop a campaign for a plastic free zone in Morvern.	Yes
Sharing our resources				
128	Create a volunteer bank	Proposed	Create a volunteer bank of retired craftspeople/professionals and mentors.	Yes
129	Set up second hand shop and resource library	Proposed	Develop a second-hand exchange and/or shop. Develop a community resource library - for people to borrow high priced items that they might only use for a short time (eg tools).	Yes
130	Foraging workshops	Proposed	Creating foraging workshops to help people reconnect with the land.	
Young people				
131	Ongoing engagement to understand needs of local young people	Proposed	Early open conversation with kids/teenagers about their needs and how to support them, involving all community groups.	Yes
132	Develop social space for young people	Proposed	Space managed by and for young people to hang out in.	Yes
133	Develop pontoon for swimming in Loch Aline	Proposed	Pontoon in the loch for swimmers and young people to gather.	Yes



Results of prioritisation ranking poll for selected actions

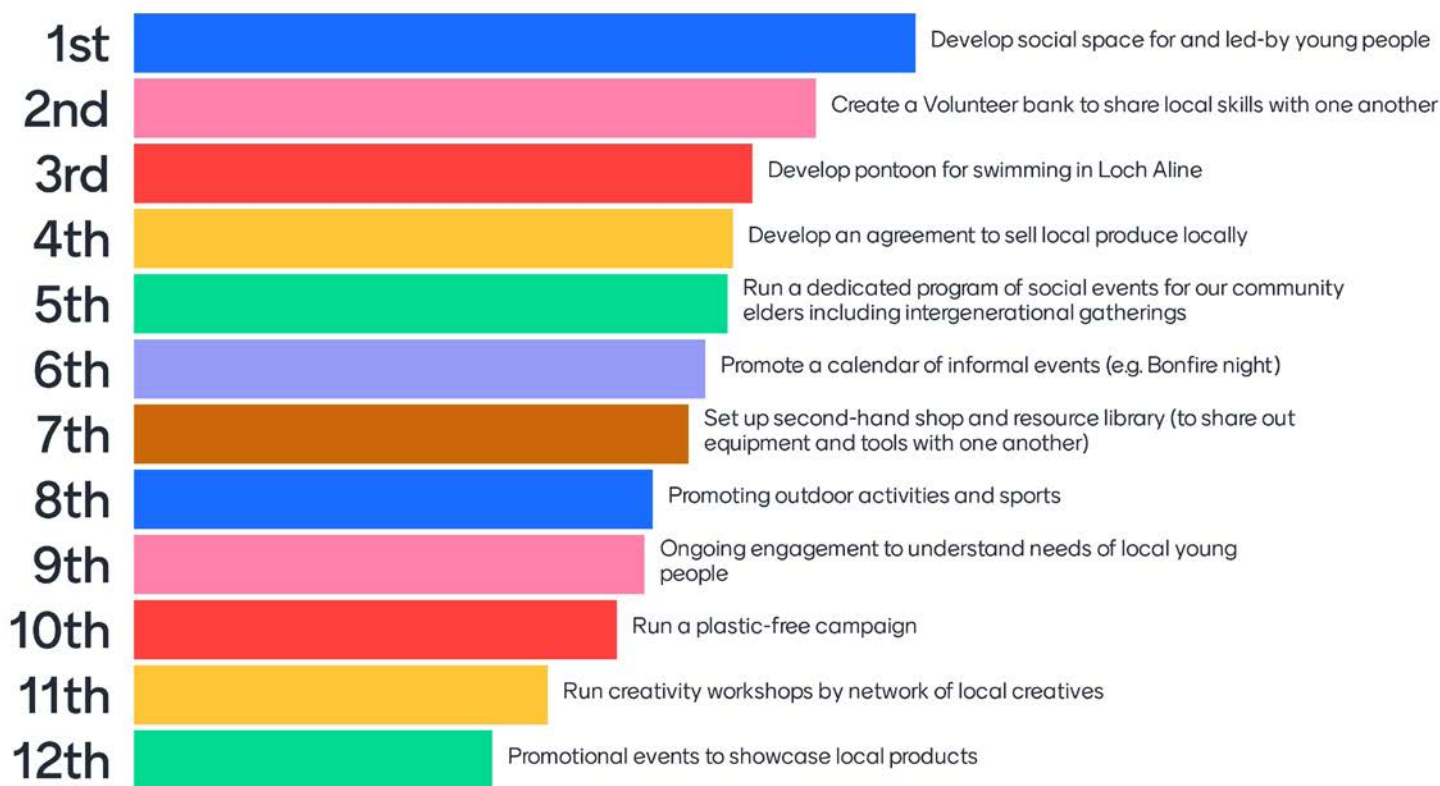


Table 15 Community Life and Local Resources Actions: Ranked by poll

First steps

Potential first steps to delivering on proposed Community Life and Local Resources actions may include:

- Identifying lead and support partners to take select actions forward
- Gather a youth steering group and support them to take a lead on developing ideas and plans for running and using their own social space, as well as securing funding for a swimming pontoon in Loch Aline
- Gather an interested group and embark on a site visit to existing facility in Mull to research setting up a second-hand shop/resource exchange. Start with a car-boot sale or table sale in village hall
- Support existing calendar of informal events in the community eg MCW's Easter event and CLAM's bonfire night. Explore ideas for additional opportunities at a future community group forum.
- Explore the feasibility of an intergenerational oral history project.



Making It Happen: Implementation

05



Introduction

This final chapter explains how we as a community will work together and collaborate with others to turn our actions into reality.

Some indicative first steps that could be taken regarding implementation of select actions have already been outlined under each theme in Chapter 4 – Actions and Initiatives.

Beyond this, chapter 5 first offers an overview of key milestones that can anchor the delivery of the plan over time. These milestones refer only to select actions, arranged according to whether they are already underway, could happen over the next couple of years, or are more likely to come about later in the decade, towards 2031.

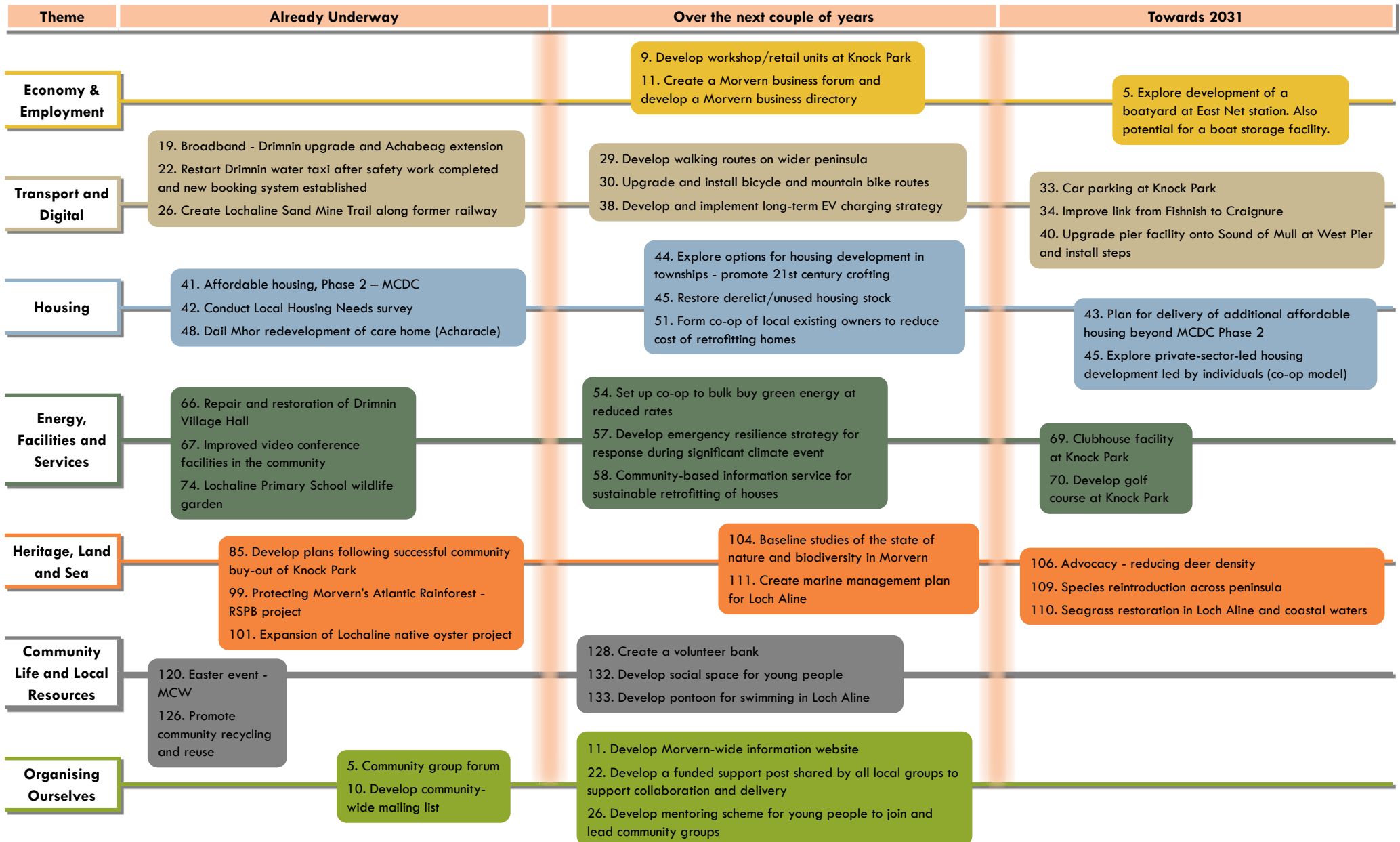
Successfully sustaining delivery of the actions in this plan over the next decade will require co-ordinated effort across all the active groups in the community, not just by individual groups themselves. A section entitled 'Organising Ourselves' lists 26 actions that could enable such collaboration under the following five action areas:

1. How we want to collaborate – our values
2. How we want to make decisions and relate to wider stakeholders
3. Improving community communications
4. Making things happen
5. Support volunteering & volunteer groups



The last section of this chapter lays out an initial framework for monitoring and evaluating the progress of the plan's delivery over time. Explicit links are made to the outcomes and indicators of the National Performance Framework.

Key Milestones





Organising Ourselves

Organising Ourselves – Overview

Successfully sustaining delivery of the actions in this plan over time will require co-ordinated effort across all the active groups in the community, not just by individual groups themselves. The community group forum that took place in March 2022 was organised in recognition of this. It explored the potential for developing a model of community organising in Morvern (ie collaboration between groups) in addition to and building on the existing context of different groups delivering their own community development work in relative isolation.

This chapter proposes a seventh and final theme for a series of actions revolving around community organising. Five final action areas under the theme Organising Ourselves suggest actions emerging during both the LLM process itself and the community group forum attended by different community group representatives. Twenty-six actions are listed under the following five action areas:

1. How we want to collaborate – our values
2. How we want to make decisions and relate to wider stakeholders
3. Improving community communications
4. Making things happen
5. Support volunteering & volunteer groups

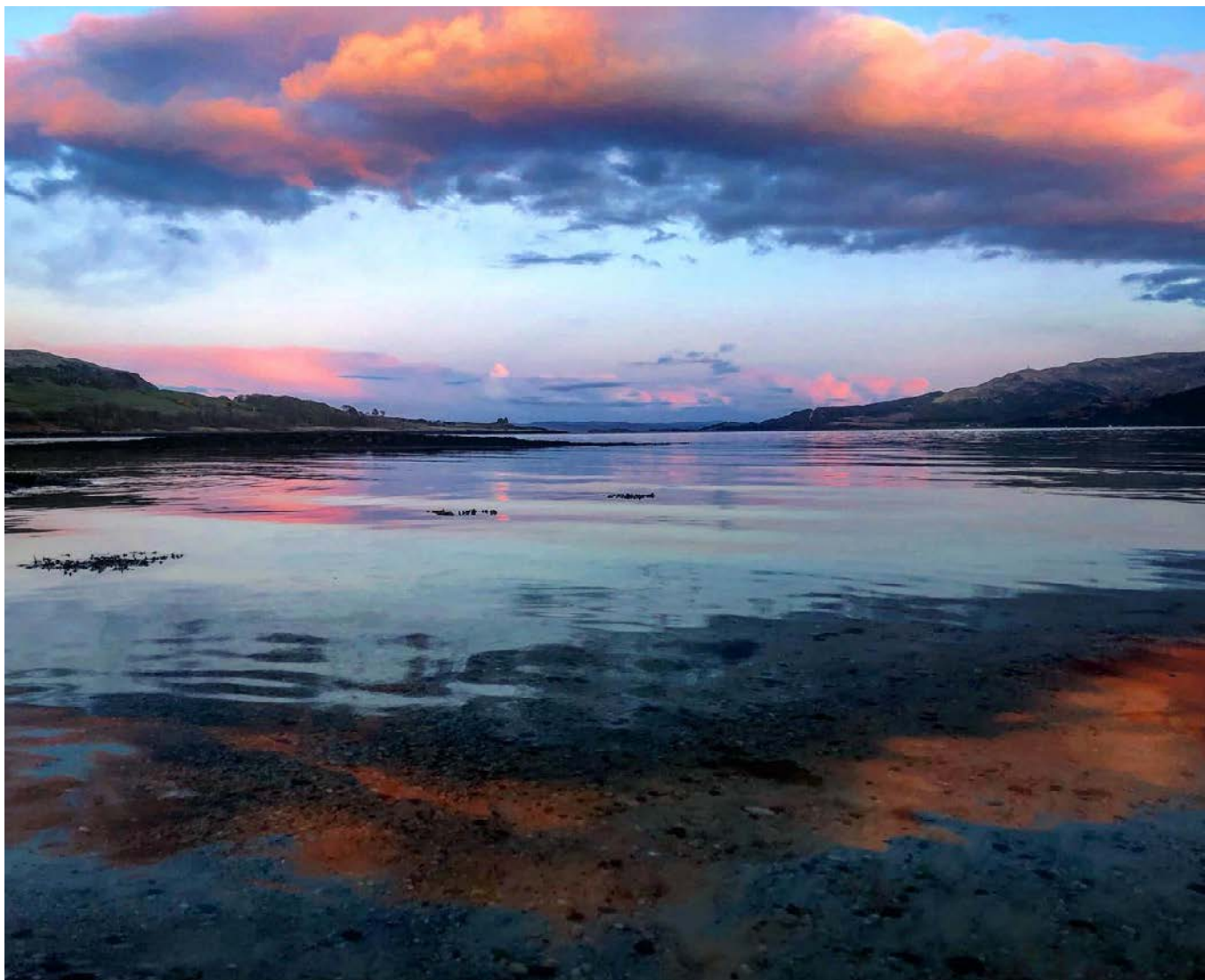


Table 16 Organising Ourselves: Actions

No.	Action/Initiative	Project Lead	Action Type	Description	Timeframe (*)	Partners identified (actual and potential)	First or next step to progress the project/idea	Estimated cost of the project	Total funding already secured
How we want to collaborate – our values									
1	Positivity	General	Proposed	Avoid the temptation to be cynical.	All	All	N/a	N/a	N/a
2	Flexibility	General	Proposed	Taking a flexible approach: 'not planning for everything but planning for anything'.	All	All	N/a	N/a	N/a
3	Realism	General	Proposed	Being realistic about what we can achieve without wasting resources on things that won't be sustainable, either financially or through lack of manpower/support.	All	All	N/a	N/a	N/a
How we want to make decisions and relate to wider stakeholders									
4	Consulting the community	General	Proposed	Get organised with joined-up thinking and ensure the community has the opportunity to have a say in major decisions.	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
5	Community group forum	General	Proposed	Developing a mechanism/forum for community groups to communicate and be able to come together to discuss community issues and opportunities as they arise.	Long	TBC	Host a pilot community group forum as part of Live Life Morvern (March 2022)	TBC	N/a
6	Community & landowner forum	TBC	Proposed	Developing a forum for community groups to be able to interface with landowners.	Short	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
7	Strategic collaboration	General	Proposed	Ensuring that the local community, landowners and private and public sector will collaborate to develop win-win strategies regarding sustainable use of land and coastal waters.	Long	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
8	Community and local authority relationships	General	Proposed	Maintaining good relationships and communications with local authorities to influence improvements and support in Morvern.	Short	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
9	General MCC related planning applications/ Highland Council work	MCC	Proposed	Influence Highland council decisions on Drimnin Road, planning, Highland Health Board (to secure primary care medical services), and any other statutory requirements.	Long	This is ongoing work and the purpose of a community council	TBC	Nil	Nil



Implementing the Plan

Improving community communications									
10	Develop a community-wide mailing list	MCDC	Already Planned	Develop community-wide mailing list	Short	MCDC	Already started in winter 2021	N/a	N/a
11	Develop Morvern-wide information website	TBC	Proposed	Develop Morvern-wide information website	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
12	Community noticeboard	TBC	Proposed	Erect additional community noticeboards	Short	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
13	Regular information leaflet drops	TBC	Proposed	Regular information leaflet drops	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
Making things happen									
14	Land allocation	General	Proposed	Ensuring land is allocated and protected for appropriate development.	Long	MCC	TBC	TBC	N/a
15	Funding	General	Proposed	Identifying funding streams and support. Prevent volunteer burn-out with paid support posts.	Long	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
16	Supporting young people	General	Proposed	Supporting young people to contribute their energy and drive in terms of project delivery.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
19	Influence national policy	TBC	Proposed	Identify opportunities to influence and benefit from Scottish Government legislation and policies.	Long	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
20	Association of Morvern community groups to share administration costs	TBC	Proposed	Explore feasibility of an association of community groups to enable shared or discount rates on a group community insurance policy, discounted administration costs, buying power and credit rating.	Medium	TBC	Feasibility study	TBC	N/a
21	Marketing Morvern	General	Proposed	Confidently raising awareness of Morvern's potential: (eg "we've got the best internet on the west coast – come on in!")	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
22	Develop a funded support post shared by all local groups to support collaboration and delivery	General	Proposed	Explore the development of a shared administrative resource role (funded post) to deliver on a variety of the actions in this table.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a

Support volunteering & volunteer groups									
23	Creating a community vision and action plan	MCC	Proposed	Facilitated by PAS	Short	MCC, MDC, MCT, all local groups and the whole community	As identified in this plan	£30k	£30k
24	Implementing a monitoring and evaluation framework for the Live Life Morvern action plan	TBC	Proposed	Initial framework outlined in the action plan	Long	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
25	Inter-community network	TBC	Proposed	Explore connections with similar communities facing similar issues – create a “Lochaber Rural Community Network”.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
26	Mentoring scheme for young community group leaders	TBC	Proposed	Develop mentoring scheme within and across community organisations to enable younger people to learn the roles of organisation and learn new skills.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a

* *Timeframe: Short (< 6 months); Medium (>6 months <2 years); Long (>2years)*



What will MCT, MCDC and MCC do to help?

Monitoring and Evaluation

For an action plan to be effective requires a commitment to appropriate monitoring and evaluation. Monitoring outputs asks the question “what has been achieved?” whereas evaluating outcomes asks the question “what difference has this made?” A rhythm of review based on these two questions allows for the assessment of impact over time, in turn enabling the celebration of advances made, opportunities for reflection and learning, the ability to review appropriate next steps, a moment to re-evaluate priorities and the potential to provide evidence to funders, stakeholders and the community of successful implementation.

2011 Community Growth Plan

The 2011 Community Growth Plan for Morvern intended “to periodically review and update this plan, at least every 6 months in order to make sure that it is being adhered to and in order to make amendments to adapt to the changing needs, priorities and aspirations of the community.” This regular monitoring did not take place. While an overall assessment of the implementation of the 2011 outputs made in chapter 1 of this report shows excellent outcomes in relation to the originally planned activities, some issues arguably requiring action within the timescale of the plan were not necessarily considered for inclusion as part of an updating process.

Demonstrating progress in the delivery of Live Life Morvern

The Organising Ourselves section of this chapter identifies the following actions as having a bearing on the question of monitoring and evaluation:

- 5. Community Group Forum: developing a mechanism/forum for community groups to communicate and be able to come together to discuss community issues and opportunities as they arise.
- 22. Develop a funded support post shared by all local groups to support collaboration and delivery.
- 24. Implementing a monitoring and evaluation framework for the Live Life Morvern action plan.

Most if not all of the actions in the plan will be undertaken by community groups, both formal and informal. Over time, the collaboration needed between groups is likely to give life to a regular forum of some or all groups. Those groups might also choose to share a dedicated resource to support their activities. However, in order to ensure that the monitoring and evaluation of the plan does not fall by the wayside in the absence of such a forum, Morvern Community Council will take initial responsibility for reviewing and updating the plan annually.

Framework for monitoring and evaluation

The following indicative proposal is suggested as a possible way forward for implementing a monitoring and evaluation framework:

Following the pilot event in March 2022, explore a new community group forum at least once every six months to:

- discuss partnerships to help deliver the next set of actions.
- discuss and share new emerging ideas and how best to work together to deliver them.

Monitor and report on progress in delivering the action plan annually, through the community group forum.

- Monitoring of progress could be made against the initial key milestone chart and the full action plan. Actions and initiatives that have been attempted or progressed in the previous year could be presented in a similar format to the Review of Delivery from 2011-2021 (see Chapter 2), or similar red-amber-green ‘traffic light system’, building up a picture of progress over time.
- Evaluation of outcomes could be carried by action area in the context of associated NPF indicators (see below), gathering data and stories from individual projects that demonstrate how a particular initiative has had an impact on the relevant NPF indicator.
- There should be an opportunity for input and comment from the local community for example through presentation and discussion at local forum.

Should progress be made on funding a role for organising the interactions of local community groups, responsibility for co-ordination of the framework could become part of the job description for that role.

We will keep the community up to date with progress on implementing the action plan via Morvern.org, the community mailing list and the Lochaline Facebook page.

The action plan should be reviewed after five years. This should include community engagement to check and update the vision, action areas and actions as appropriate. It may be helpful to engage specialist support to help with the evaluation process.

Links to Scotland's National Performance Framework

National Performance Framework

[Scotland's National Performance Framework \(NPF\)](#) is a vision and framework to benchmark and track national progress against a range of indicators. It consists of a set of aims, outcomes and indicators against which data is collated and assessed to measure. Much like some of the key goals of LLM, the aims of the NPF are to:

1. Create a more successful country
2. Give opportunities to all people living in Scotland

3. Increase the wellbeing of people living in Scotland
4. Create sustainable and inclusive growth
5. Reduce inequalities and give equal importance to economic, environmental and social progress

National Outcomes

To help achieve its purpose, the framework sets out 'National Outcomes'. These outcomes describe the kind of Scotland it aims to create. The outcomes reflect the values and aspirations of the people of Scotland, are aligned with the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#), and help to track progress in reducing inequality. These national outcomes are as follows:

1. Economy: We have a globally competitive, entrepreneurial, inclusive and sustainable economy.
2. International: We are open, connected and make a positive contribution internationally.
3. Poverty: We tackle poverty by sharing opportunities, wealth and power more equally.
4. Communities: We live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe.
5. Children & Young People: We grow up loved, safe and respected so that we realise our full potential.

6. Education: We are well educated, skilled and able to contribute to society.
7. Fair Work & Business: We have thriving and innovative businesses with quality jobs and fair work for everyone.
8. Health: We are healthy and active.
9. Environment: We value, enjoy, protect and enhance our environment.
10. Culture: We are creative and our vibrant and diverse cultures are expressed and enjoyed widely.
11. Human Rights: We respect, protect and full human rights and live free from discrimination.

The following table shows how each of the 31 action areas in this plan relates to the above NPF outcomes, and their related indicators. The purpose of setting out this table is to make explicit the links between the goals in this plan at a local level and the goals set for the whole of Scotland to attain at a national level. Making these links between the local and the national strengthens the integrity of the plan for funding bids or service delivery requests at regional level.



Table 17 Relationship between Action Areas and the National Performance Framework

Action Areas		Relevant NPF National Indicator(s)	Relevant NPF National Outcome(s)
Economy and Employment			
1	Exploring opportunities for social enterprise	Entrepreneurial activity	Economy
2	Helping people into work	Income inequalities, Work-place learning; Skill shortage vacancies	Economy, Education
3	Providing accommodation for local businesses	Entrepreneurial activity	Economy
4	Supporting local businesses – large and small	Productivity, Economic growth, Natural Capital	Economy
5	Supporting slow tourism	The number of businesses	Fair Work and Business
Transport and Digital			
6	Affordable broadband for all	Access to superfast broadband	Economy
7	Community transport	Greenhouse gas emissions, Social Capital	Economy, Communities
8	Improve walking, wheeling and cycling	Carbon footprint, Physical activity, Journeys by active travel	Economy, Health
9	Improved public transport	Quality of public services	Human Rights
10	Safer, improved transport network	Quality of public services	Human Rights
Housing			
11	Affordable housing owned by the community	Satisfaction with housing	Poverty
12	Specialist accommodation	Quality of care experience	Health
13	Zero-carbon homes for all	Satisfaction with housing	Poverty
Housing			
14	Community-owned energy	Energy from renewable sources	Environment
15	Energy resilience	Energy from renewable sources	Environment
16	Health	Healthy life expectancy; Mental wellbeing; Healthy weight; Premature mortality	Health
17	Local community hubs	Places to interact	Communities
18	Recreation facilities	Physical activity	Health

19	Schools and education	Educational attainment; Confidence of children and young people; Resilience of children and young people; Skill profile of the population; Child social and physical development	Education, Children
20	Services and childcare	Public services treat people with dignity and respect, Gender balance in organisations, Quality of children's services	Human Rights, Fair Work and Business, Children
Heritage, Land and Sea			
21	Community land ownership	Community land ownership	Communities
22	Community woodland and natural space	Physical activity, Access to green and blue space	Health, Communities
23	Conservation, stewardship & management	Biodiversity, Condition of protected nature sites, Marine environment, Natural Capital	Environment, Economy
24	Heritage	State of historic sites	Environment
25	Play facilities	Healthy start	Children
Community Life and Local Resources			
26	Buying local	Food insecurity	Poverty
27	Gathering together	Loneliness	Communities
28	Promote recreation and creativity	Participation in a cultural activity, Visits to the outdoors	Culture, Environment
29	Reuse and recycle	Waste generated	Environment
10	Sharing our resources	Waste generated	Environment
31	Young people	Young people's participation, Children's voices	Education, Children
Organising Ourselves			
32	How we want to collaborate - values	Social capital	Communities
33	How we want to make decisions and relate to wider stakeholders	Quality of public services	Human Rights
34	Improving community communications	Influence over local decisions	Human Rights
35	Making things happen	Influence over local decisions	Human Rights
36	Support volunteering & volunteer groups	Social capital	Communities



Appendices

Appendix A How the plan was prepared

Appendix B Action Plan – Detailed information

Appendix C Relationship to other plans

Appendix D Review of Delivery from 2011-2021

Appendix E Community Survey: Summary

Appendix F Local Business Survey: Results

Appendix G Community Group Forum Feedback on Community Priorities for Action

Appendix H Evaluating the LLM process

Appendix I Community Feedback about LLM

Appendix J Bibliography

Appendix K Glossary – Climate Terms



Appendix A

How the plan was
prepared

How the plan was prepared

The following flow chart lays out the stages of the engagement process that we went through. A further full-colour graphic with more information concludes this section.

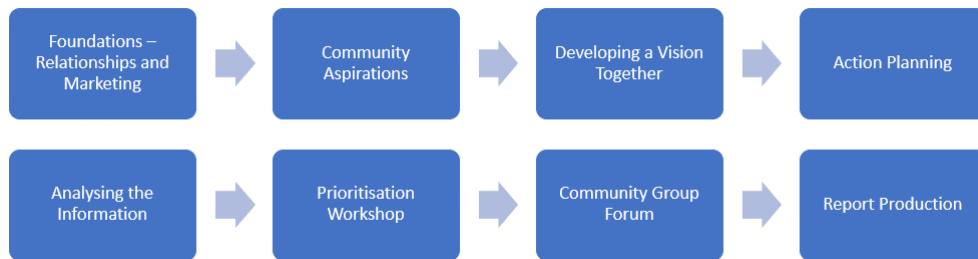


Figure 16: Stages of the engagement process

The stages of the process *Foundations and Marketing*

This stage involved working with the steering group to surface expectations around the process, PAS understanding more about the community through a site visit, thinking through how best to let the wider community know about the whole process (including mind-mapping all community groups and key businesses), and designing the initial community survey. The PAS approach is to take time to allow engagement processes to emerge according to the instincts and ideas of local people. Conversations about the best methods and tools to connect local people and the issues they wanted to talk about started here.

A marketing strategy was designed which involved setting up social media channels and a webpage on Morvern.org and sharing information about the project through local community group mailing lists. A mail-drop to every home in the community was organised with an explanation of the process and how to get involved, and getting local volunteers involved in creating the promotional video and animation. A series of about 20 individual phone interviews was also undertaken by PAS with a wide variety of people in the community, as guided by the steering group. The intention was to learn from the community how they thought the process should best be approached and to give PAS a deeper insight into the challenges and joys of living in Morvern.

Community Aspirations

This stage involved sending out a paper copy of the initial community survey to every home in Morvern. The survey was designed to deliver a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats). There was an awareness generally that communication across households and residents in Morvern could be improved and so the survey also asked about people's preferred communication methods. Top amongst these responses was a desire for a dedicated Morvern-wide mailing list. At this point the decision was taken to collaborate with MCDC and use the opportunity presented by LLM not only to set up a mailing list for the action plan process itself, but to make sure this list could be used beyond the lifetime of the project to continue to serve the community. This stage took place during a period when the impact and restraints of the Covid pandemic were still uncertain. The opportunity for one-on-one phone interviews was offered in addition to the face-to-face touch points explained in the graphic below.



The stage ended with an online discussion forum where the results of the survey were presented to the community, along with a proposal for how best to frame the forthcoming action planning workshops according to six key themes. As with all gatherings during LLM, the discussion was led by a team of facilitators and notetakers from PAS's volunteer network. Following the discussion, the format of the three action planning workshops was agreed.

Developing a Vision Together

A famous proverb states: "a vision without action is a daydream, action without a vision is a nightmare." It was decided to invest time helping the community develop a robust vision for Morvern in 2031 and beyond. This meant trying to answer not only the question "what do you want Morvern to be" but also "what do we need Morvern to be?" The steering group decided that an approach called future or scenario planning could be helpful for the next two workshops leading up to Christmas 2021. Using a PESTLE (Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal and



Environmental) analysis undertaken by the Steering Group, the results from the

community survey and information from an analysis of desktop data undertaken by PAS, a workshop was designed to help the community imagine what Morvern might need to look like under four different possible scenarios. Potential variables like “a tourism boom” or “severe climate change” were taken into account and the types of solutions and changes that each would require were imagined and thought through by participants. The results of these sessions can be found in the Vision and Aims chapter below.



We hope these results can continue to be a helpful analysis tool moving into the future.

The results of the first workshop were then synthesised by the steering group into a Preferred Future Vision for Morvern in 2031. This was tested and refined with community participants at a second workshop to produce a set of 10 high level aims, which was then broken down into a set of more detailed aims.

Action Planning

From January to March 2022 a series of three online workshops took place designed to enable the community to articulate clear objectives and steps to achieve the aims and vision developed before Christmas. These were informed by a direct online survey of community groups and local businesses to find out what their existing plans were for the next season.

In the week preceding the workshops, a series of lunchtime drop-ins at the Hub was held, as well as a daytime gathering to connect with members of the parents’ council, who couldn’t attend evening workshops. Presentation boards displaying the preferred future vision and aims were erected to enable comment and feedback at both the Hub and at the Mine over a period of three weeks. All the data gathered from these interactions were fed into the workshops.

At each of the three workshop two of the six themes agreed previously were discussed over a two-hour session, with a break between each theme. Participants were encouraged to discuss the draft list of actions that had been compiled and to offer suggestions as to how to move forward or take first steps to progress those that were of particular interest to them. The opportunity also presented itself to think through how best to try and deliver these actions in a way that could ensure that climate change issues were addressed as delivery occurs. With such a wealth of possible actions, not all proposed actions were covered in detail, but progress was made towards developing the detail of what could be achieved.

Action Planning Workshops: Live Life Morvern

CROSS-CUTTING THEME: Climate Emergency responses, preventing more damage (mitigation) and treating symptoms (adaptation)

Workshop 1 <small>Thursday 17th February 7-9pm (online)</small>	Workshop 2 <small>Tuesday 22nd February 7-9pm (online)</small>	Workshop 3 <small>Thursday 24th February 7-9pm (online)</small>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> ECONOMY AND TRANSPORT </div> <p>Supporting all local business: small businesses, manufacturing, farming, mining, forestry, tourism, etc. Developing local green jobs and training.</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid #f4a460; margin: 10px 0;"/> <p>Transport connections to and within Morvern: road and ferry infrastructure, public transport. Active Travel (walking, wheeling and cycling routes and infrastructure).</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid #f4a460; margin: 10px 0;"/> <p>Digital infrastructure.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> HOUSING AND ENERGY </div> <p>Housing supply (all types, including affordable housing), retrofitting existing homes for energy efficiency.</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid #f4a460; margin: 10px 0;"/> <p>Exploring issues of energy: local renewable energy production.</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid #f4a460; margin: 10px 0;"/> <p>Facilities and Services: ensuring we have access to all the skills and services we need locally. Health, education, childcare.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> COMMUNITY LIFE, SEA & LAND </div> <p>Biodiversity and conservation (land and sea), exploring options for carbon capture. Community ownership, relationships with landowners.</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid #f4a460; margin: 10px 0;"/> <p>Improving the built environment: paths, streets, and public spaces, protecting heritage. Developing local ‘green’ and ‘blue’ spaces for community use.</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid #f4a460; margin: 10px 0;"/> <p>How we can share resources and socialise together as a community - young and old.</p>

Action Planning Workshop schedule

Prioritisation Workshop

With the stages of developing a vision and a set of objectives of how to get there now complete, the next requirement was to develop a strategy for delivery: a starting point and initial roadmap foregrounding actions most important to the community moving forward.

This workshop provided a collaborative space for the community to come to a shared conviction about the community’s priorities for action. Online polling software called [Mentimeter](#) allowed participants to rank their preferred actions for each of the six themes of the plan in order of importance to them, and the aggregated results were displayed in coloured bar-graphs. To help make the process manageable, the steering group carefully selected up to 12 actions per theme. An action was chosen for ranking based if deemed helpful to gauge the shared strength of feeling about it. Actions not put forward for the poll were either those that were already clear would be delivered, or about which strength of community feeling was clearer. It was stressed that results would only be indicative,

and that actions which were not selected for the poll itself would still form an important part of delivery conversations. Being an online tool, the opportunity to vote was given to everyone who had expressed an interest in the process by signing up to the new community mailing list, strengthening the overall participation rate. In total, thirty-seven residents voted in this poll, a high participation rate proportionate to population size, compared to other processes facilitated by PAS.

The results of these polls are presented under each themed heading in chapter 4 of the Action Plan. A list of community priorities for action is available as part of the executive summary.

Participants also had a chance to feedback on an initial draft of the action plan both in the workshop and the week after. All comments were taken into account by the steering group.

Community Group Forum

It was felt that the pacing and delivery of the plan is primarily owned by local community groups working in collaboration. Over the previous period such collaboration had often occurred, but it was recognised that no structured forum of local groups existed to help co-ordinate activity. It was decided to use the momentum of LLM to explore whether a rhythm of meetings of this type could be beneficial, to facilitate a consensual, bottom-up and shared approach to delivery.

Twenty-two people representing thirteen community groups gathered at Lochaline Hall for this pilot forum. Discussions were held about how best to work together and which groups might be open to working on the twelve community priorities for action. It was recognised that there were lots of opportunities to work together and share knowledge, but that trust, openness and tolerance for others doing similar work would be foundational. The outputs of these conversations have been integrated into the Organising Ourselves section of the plan as well as the actions and initiatives themselves.

It was recognised that such a forum could happen regularly in future, perhaps 2-3 times a year. Such a group could continue to explore opportunities for building partnerships, mutual accountability, resource sharing, and/or monitoring and evaluating the overall progress of the new action plan.

It emerged through conversation that an opportunity exists to assess the huge progress and growth in confidence of local groups over the last decade, and perhaps to consider how to consolidate all the learning and gains made over that period. One option would be to explore the formation of a new community-based role offering a central administrative/support service for all the organisations in the community. Such a role could enable the following:

1. Liaison between groups, co-ordinating resource sharing, enabling collaborative multi-stakeholder funding applications for larger funds e.g. for Crown Estate grants, organising further forums.
2. A book-keeping service shared by several groups.
3. Developing shared marketing of a Morvern brand external to the community.

4. Organising no-agenda events for office bearers to connect between groups and/or team building.
5. Running a one-stop-shop online database of community-wide information.
6. Running a shared events calendar to help prevent clashes.
7. Administering community wide marketing like the new community-wide mailing list.
8. Developing and maintaining a new community-wide website.
9. Developing templates for reporting and fundraising to lighten the load on office bearers.
10. Exploring the possibility of a joint insurance policy for local groups.
11. Developing a programme to encourage local young people into serving on local groups.

The notion of a shared administrative resource role between groups has been included in the Organising Ourselves table in the Making It Happen chapter.

Innovations

Finance from the Rural Communities Ideas into Action (RCIA) Fund was allocated to LLM on the basis that innovative ways to address local challenges would be trialled. LLM involved four departures from how PAS generally approaches its work. These new approaches were initiated by or co-designed with the local steering group.

First, a local PAS Associate called Bonny Mealand was employed. Bonny is passionate about helping the community to work together and is well respected locally. The idea here was two-fold: to honour local skills and relationships and keep money locally in the community, and to balance the benefit of Bonny's local understanding with the strength of PAS's outside neutrality. Bonny's work was invaluable in networking around the local community, setting up specific sessions targeted at particular parts of the community (eg teenagers and the Parents' Council) and running face-to-face drop-in sessions at the Hub.

Second, we developed a new approach to developing a community vision before we initiated the action planning phase. All too often these processes boil down to answering just one core question, at scale: "what do you want your community to be like?" But this can miss that critical component of understanding what a community needs to become in light of future trends and the influence of outside forces. Saying "we want a playpark" is one thing. Realising that "we need to develop local energy sources because energy shocks are very likely to come our way in the future" is quite another. So, in Morvern we started by running a series of 'future scenario' sessions that helped us imagine what Morvern would need to become in the next 10 years, based on existing trends like demographic change and the challenges of increasing tourism. You can see the results in the *Vision and Aims* chapter.

Third, in light of COP26, we worked with [Sniffer](#) and the Place and Wellbeing Alliance to trial the use of the Place Standard with a Climate Lens and learn about how best it can be applied in a rural context, and in an action planning context. It was used during the three action planning workshops to help make sure that climate resilience is factored into all aspects of life in Morvern. The insights about how to go about proposed actions in a way that takes climate change into account are articulated in the introduction section of each of the delivery themes in the *Actions and Initiatives* chapter.

Fourth, to develop a sense of the priorities of the wider community regarding all of the possible actions gathered for the plan, the online polling software [Mentimeter](#) was used. Often, prioritisation sessions which are held face-to-face rely only on those able to turn up to influence the overall picture. By using digital polling, the opportunity was taken to enable wider participation through the community mailing list developed through Live Life Morvern. This resulted in an expanded participation in the prioritisation step from the 22 community members who attended the workshop to 37.



COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS



DEVELOPING A VISION TOGETHER



ACTION PLANNING



Ask everyone for their ideas about the future of the community – online and postal survey

Connect across the whole community using: word-of-mouth, website, social media, video & animation drop-in at Hub, work with primary kids, hot chocolate morning with teenagers

Desk-top research to understand current trends in the community

Workshop: feedback of community survey results

October-November 2021

Develop a set of possible future scenarios (rooted in current trends) as to what forces could affect Morvern in the next 10 years

Explore challenges & opportunities identified

Develop and review a Vision for Morvern in 2031 – two online workshops

Agree key areas to discuss together during next phase of Action Planning

December 2021

Gather info from community groups and businesses as to existing project proposals

Face-to-face connections with specific sections of the community.

Action Planning Workshops (3) to develop workable solutions to deliver the vision

Workshop to agree priorities and review draft plan

Forum of groups to explore partnership and delivery

January - March 2022

CONNECTING FACE-TO-FACE

Series of informal face-to-face events/conversations with key groups in the community

Led by PAS team and Steering group members

Connect with people who find online workshops less easy to join in.

Meet Parents Group, Elders lunch, run drop-in at Hub & other connections

February: including Drop-in at the Hub every day from Mon 7th to Sat 12th Feb. (11am-2pm).

ACTION PLANNING WORKSHOPS (SEE NEXT PAGE)

3 themed online working groups

Open to anyone

Facilitated by PAS team

Prepare objectives: realistic solutions and actions to reach our vision

Informed by Community Survey, Visioning Process

Survey of existing project proposals, input from face-to-face connections

17th, 22nd, 24th February, 7pm to 9pm

ARE WE GETTING IT RIGHT?

Live event open to all in the community

Share draft actions from working groups

Check that emerging solutions match ambitions our Vision for Morvern 2031

Explore priorities

23rd March

COMMUNITY GROUP FORUM

Explore options for community groups to work together to deliver initiatives and projects

Finalise first steps to start the ball rolling on priority projects and initiatives

End March



Working with young people

It was important to ensure that the young people of Morvern were placed at the heart of the process. After all, in ten years' time it is the young people who will be living in, working in and leading the community.

Working closely with Rebecca Morris, principal teacher at Lochaline Primary, the 12 local primary school age children were involved in Live Life Morvern in a number of ways:

1. The children helped the steering group think of names for the engagement process.
2. The children helped name the main character in a special animation for Live Life Morvern developed by Douglas Taylor, where Ally "Morv" Lochy walked confidently into an imagined future Morvern in 2031.
3. They designed a variety of colourful logo options for the process, which were then used as source material to develop the branding of the Morvern action plan
4. They took their regular weekly review time (called [Two Stars and a Wish](#)) and instead applied their assessment to their own community after a walkabout: what two things are to them good about living in Morvern (two stars) and what could be good to change (a wish).
5. They then filled out their own special community questionnaire as part of our community survey process.
6. They also took part in the creation of our promotional video and developed designs to be turned into a hand towel that is being sold at the Hub in Lochaline.

At one point Rebecca said "Thank you so much for coming to visit us today, the kids loved having you guys here! My apologies for stories about tooth extractions, we have had so few visitors due to Covid that they just want to share everything!"



Ally "Morv" Lochy Video – exploring the future of Morvern (Click on the image)



Hand towel created by children from Lochaline Primary School

Older youth attended a relaxed hot chocolate time at the local Hub and discussed their own aspirations for Morvern with our staff and volunteers, before also filling out the community survey for themselves. Individual young people also had one-on-one chats with our staff and in some cases attended our dedicated workshop sessions to put forward their views. Their input has been invaluable.



Appendix B

Action Plan – Detailed
information

7	Develop apprenticeship scheme in local community, including construction apprenticeships	TBC	Proposed	Develop programme to give local young people an option to learn a skill here and remain in the community (apprenticeships).	Medium	Fort William College, local businesses eg Whitehouse restaurant, CLAM, MCW	Identify funding. Demonstrate links to further, higher education available through UHI (West Highlands/(Lochaber College), and development of modern apprenticeships.	TBC	N/a
Providing accommodation for local businesses									
8	Location for community sawmill at Knock Park	Morvern Games and Gala Week (MGGW)	Proposed	Siting of the newly formed community sawmill group	Long	Community sawmill group	Feasibility study	TBC	N/a
9	Develop workshop/retail units at Knock Park	Morvern Games and Gala Week (MGGW)	Proposed	Explore options for business units at Knock Park site	Medium	TBC	Feasibility study	TBC	N/a
Supporting local businesses – large and small									
10	Develop strategy to secure tradespeople to deliver local work	TBC	Proposed	Develop strategy to secure tradespeople to deliver work locally. Could include attracting skilled trades to live in Morvern	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
11	Create a Morvern business forum and develop a Morvern business directory	TBC	Proposed	Develop a Morvern business forum to help defray costs (energy) and collaborate to support one another	Medium	TBC	Convene gathering of local businesses. Develop a Morvern business directory.	TBC	N/a
Supporting slow tourism									
12	Develop visitor centre at the Mine	Veronique Walraven	Proposed	Explore setting up tours of the mine for visitors	Long	MCDC, Lochaline Sand Mine	Follow up on 2018 feasibility study	TBC	N/a
13	Develop motorhome stop-over at Knock Park	Morvern Games and Gala Week (MGGW)	Proposed	A financially sustainable, remote access 10-bay motorhome stop-over (Aire) at Knock Park.	Medium	TBC	Secure land buy-out	TBC	N/a
14	Conduct needs analysis of tourist accommodation and explore options for community-owned tourism accommodation	TBC	Proposed	Explore the option of community-owned tourism accommodation that feeds its profits back into the community.	Medium	TBC	Needs analysis of tourist accommodation requirements (all types)	TBC	N/a
15	Develop snorkelling experience at Eggwrack forest in Loch Aline	TBC	Proposed	Explore option for a snorkel experience at the Eggwrack forest in the Loch.	Medium	TBC	Increase footfall to the area by promoting diving/tourism. Promote Lochaline as diving destination by seeking a new shipwreck.	TBC	N/a

16	Oyster Festival	TBC	Proposed	Explore idea of an annual oyster festival	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
17	Explore opening new outdoor education centre	TBC	Proposed	Explore development of outdoor education facility (Abernethy centre now closed). Located at West Pier House and Bunkhouse?	Medium	TBC	Feasibility study in finding appropriate land and business case.	TBC	N/a
18	Collaborate around tourism issues through SMAATA (local tourist association)	TBC	Proposed	Foster links between local tourism businesses and SMAATA (Sunart, Morvern, Ardgour, Ardnamurchan Tourist Association)	Short	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a

* Timeframe: Short (< 6 months); Medium (>6 months <2 years); Long (>2years)

Transport and Digital

Transport and Digital Objectives – Overview

Action Topics:

6. Affordable broadband for all
7. Community transport
8. Improve walking, wheeling and cycling across Morvern
9. Improved public transport
10. Safer, improved transport network

No.	Action/Initiative	Project Lead	Action Type	Description	Timeframe (*)	Partners identified (actual and potential)	First or next step to progress the project/idea	Estimated cost of the project	Total funding already secured
Affordable Broadband for All									
19	Broadband - Drimnin upgrade and Achabeag extension	Drimnin Community Broadband C.I.C	Already Planned	Drimnin Properties upgraded to minimum 30Mbps with optional 100 Mbps service; 30 Mbps minimum service to Achabeag	Short	Ardtornish & Drimnin Estate; Achabeag Residents Association; Ardnacross Farm; Tobermory Harbour Association	Installation of infrastructure	£100,000	£100,000
20	Broadband - Ardtornish Area Extension	Drimnin Community Broadband C.I.C	Already Planned	30Mbps service to Ardtornish Estate and nearby properties	Medium	Ardtornish Estate; Ardnacross Farm	Partially funded. Final decision from Ardtornish required.	£75,000	£0
21	Broadband - Not Spot Fill-in around Lochaline	Drimnin Community Broadband C.I.C	Already Planned	30 Mbps service to selected properties not served by BT Fibre	Long	TBC	None	Unknown	n/a
Community transport									
22	Restart Drimnin water taxi after safety work completed and new booking system established	Drimnin Sealink Limited	Already Planned	To ensure that the jetty is safe for passengers. To ensure new procedures are in place to safeguard both Drimnin Sealink Limited and the independent water taxi operation	Short	Shoreward Trust	Upgrade the operator's website and install an online booking system Restart the water taxi in the coming season after a 2-year break.	£1,000-£1,500	£1,000-£1,500

23	New weekend transport route to Tobermory from Lochaline (& Drimnin)	TBC	Proposed	Develop a regular Saturday evening boat to Tobermory for leisure (eg theatre), departing Lochaline with Drimnin as a stop	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
24	Hospital Transport Service	Urram	Already Planned	Transport to medical appointments from the peninsulas. Access local electric vehicles? Link with existing local Morvern volunteers.	Long	NHS Highland, Morvern Eco Wheels; Urram; Jane Gaze	The service is already up and running- however there is capacity to use a NHS vehicle based in Strontian and volunteers own cars. Link with existing local Morvern volunteers	£11,443	£8,094
25	Explore community transport options (eg carpool)	TBC	Proposed	Explore option for a carpool or other community-based transport service	Short	TBC	Explore provision of a second car. Explore messaging chat group for communication. Requires administration.	TBC	N/a
Improve walking, wheeling and cycling									
26	Create Lochaline Sand Mine Trail along former railway	Morvern Heritage Society	Already Planned	To construct a walking trail around Lochaline village to highlight the importance of the Sand Mine to the landscape and society of Morvern, along route of the railway line. Include four information panels.	Medium	MCDC, Ardtornish Estate	Apply for planning permission, apply for consent from the landowner, secure further funding	£20,000	£1,000 definite; £5,750 possible
27	Reinstatement of path to Arienas Point	Rahoy Hills Wildlife Reserve committee	Already Planned	To improve/reinstate the path from Acharan to Arienas Point to allow access for walkers	Medium	SWT, Ardtornish Estate, Nature Scot, Kinlochteacuis Estate	Survey of the existing path by contractors	Included in annual budget (see previous project)	As above
28	Develop path network around Lochaline	TBC	Proposed	Pathways throughout area and accessible from village	Medium	TBC	For example community woodland has difficult access for children: create a safe pathway for active travel. MMGW have proposals for developing paths around Knock Park.	TBC	N/a
29	Develop walking routes on wider peninsula	TBC	Proposed	Enable use of FLS walking routes, improving access, wayfinding and publicity	Medium	Forestry and Land Scotland, CC, MCW, MHS, SWT, DH	Establish relationship with FLS. Create social event for route clearing. Create database of routes. Joint funding bid to	TBC	N/a

							maintain/improve paths (all groups).		
30	Upgrade and install bicycle and mountain bike routes	TBC	Proposed	Develop cycle and mountain bike routes around Lochaline and wider area to enable commuting, leisure. Mountain bike routes for all levels of ability.	Medium	Forestry & Land Scotland, Karl Bungey	Explore option to upgrade the track along the Mine Road from pontoons to Ardtornish Estate (ensure wheelchair accessible). Feasibility study to restore existing trails for mountain bikes. Produce map of routes.	TBC	N/a
Improved public transport									
31	Fort William bus service: improve frequency (especially weekends)	TBC	Proposed	Advocate for regular reliable bus service to Fort William especially at the weekend. And more accurate timings info.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
Safer, improved transport network									
32	New access to Knock Park	Morvern Games and Gala Week (MGGW)	Proposed	New access route into Knock Park from the village avoiding the A884.	Medium	TBC	Secure land buy-out	TBC	N/a
33	Car parking at Knock Park	Morvern Games and Gala Week (MGGW)	Proposed	New car parking area for larger events	Long	TBC	Secure land buy-out	TBC	N/a
34	Improve link from Fishnish to Craignure	TBC	Proposed	Upgrade key roads.	Long	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
35	Improvement to Drimnin Road	TBC	Proposed	Upgrade key roads. Explore alternative second route.	Long	TBC	Continue advocacy through MCC. Advocacy with local authority. Walk route to assess issues that need addressing.	TBC	N/a
36	Improvement to the road from Carnoch Bridge	TBC	Proposed	Upgrade key roads.	Long	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
37	Advocate for speed restrictions for HGVs on local roads	TBC	Proposed	Explore speed restriction for HGVs on Morvern roads.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
38	Develop long-term EV charging strategy	TBC	Proposed	Develop long-term EV charging strategy and possibility of local EV maintenance.	Medium	TBC	Deliver existing proposed charging points at Hub. Explore grant options. Charging point in Drimnin?	TBC	N/a

39	Advocate for integration of transport services - timetabling	TBC	Proposed	Timetabling to link different modes of transport appropriately	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
40	Upgrade pier facility onto Sound of Mull at West Pier and install steps	TBC	Proposed	Explore option for upgraded or new Pier/marina on Sound of Mull at West Pier – for timber exports and marine tourism.	Long	TBC	Feasibility study	TBC	N/a

Action Topics:

11. Affordable housing owned by the community
12. Specialist accommodation
13. Zero-carbon homes for all

No.	Action/Initiative	Project Lead	Action Type	Description	Timeframe (*)	Partners identified (actual and potential)	First or next step to progress the project/idea	Estimated cost of the project	Total funding already secured
Affordable housing owned by the community									
41	Affordable Housing, Phase 2 - MCDC	MCDC inc. MCTC and MorVolts	Already Planned	Provision of affordable family homes	Medium	Highland Council, Scottish Government, various funders	Secure commitment from funders and apply for funds	£2m	£25K
42	Conduct comprehensive housing survey: Local Housing Needs Assessment; Housing Land Audit; Housing Conditions Survey	TBC	Already Planned	Audit of existing housing provision, quality and future needs, including map. Include insulation survey and windows, renewable sources of heating/insulation to help community wide programme of work.	Medium	MCDC, Lochaber Housing, local community, architects, builders	Lochaber Housing working on Housing Needs Assessment. Map sites with willing landowner/existing servicing.	TBC	N/a
43	Plan for delivery of additional affordable housing beyond MCDC Phase 2	MCDC	Proposed	Explore provision of further affordable housing provision beyond MCDC's Phase 2. Option of shared ownership between businesses and housing association	Long	Lochaber Housing, MCDC	Create forum to discuss collaboration and shared contracting of builders/architects. Consider restricted letting. Talk to Communities Housing Trust.	TBC	N/a
44	Explore options for housing development in townships and promote 21st century crofting	TBC	Proposed	Explore the option of housing development in townships to enable sustainable living on the land. Promote local crofting culture.	Medium	MCW	Consider issue of rural housing burden discouraging purchase of existing plots	TBC	N/a
45	Explore private-sector-led housing development led by individuals (co-op model)	TBC	Proposed	Convene group of interested parties who want to develop their own homes. Ensure communication with MCDC.	Long	Roderick James (consultancy only), MCDC	Form group of interested parties. Develop vision and publicise to attract builder to the	TBC	N/a

							peninsula. Offer room rental to enable contractors to work in the area.		
46	Advocate for housing access - lobby council empty homes officers	TBC	Proposed	Campaign at regional/national level for unused/ unoccupied housing to be made available to rent or buy. Connect with empty homes officers at council.	Short	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
47	Restore derelict/unused housing stock	TBC	Proposed	Explore how to restore existing derelict stock.	Medium	Work with local organisations	Discuss with local organisations. Continue conversations with Ardnornish about any spare empty homes.	TBC	N/a
Specialist Accommodation									
48	Dail Mhor redevelopment (Acharacle) - care home	Urram	Already Planned	To redevelop the site of Dail Mhor, village hall, old school into a community care hub. Maintaining care provision on the peninsula. Offer satellite projects/care in the other villages.	Long	Highland Council, NHS Highland, Community Housing Trust, five community councils, MCDT, AGF, SCC	By summer of 2022 we hope to have a good plan of what to offer, what to build and how to achieve that- developed by recently appointed consultants.	Millions	£28,500
49	Residential static caravan park for seasonal workers	TBC	Proposed	Residential static caravan park for residential seasonal workers (for farms and AirBnB cleaners) – on FLS land at edge of Lochaline near Kiel.	Long	TBC	Feasibility study	TBC	N/a
Zero-carbon homes for all									
50	Advocacy - Upgrade/retrofit existing council housing stock	TBC	Proposed	Ensure existing council housing is retrofitted and upgraded, particularly regarding insulation	Short	TBC	Form advocacy group, engage with Highland Council housing department. Encourage whole community of Morvern to lend support to this initiative.	TBC	N/a
51	Form co-op of local existing owners to reduce cost of retrofitting homes	TBC	Proposed	Form co-op of local existing owners to reduce cost of any required retrofitting	Medium	TBC	Explore grants available to community groups to defray costs of bulk upgrades.	TBC	N/a

* Timeframe: Short (< 6 months); Medium (>6 months <2 years); Long (>2years)

Energy, Facilities and Services



Energy, Facilities and Services Objectives – Overview

Action Topics:

14. Community-owned energy
15. Energy resilience
16. Health
17. Local community hubs
18. Recreation facilities
19. Schools and education
20. Services and childcare

No.	Action/Initiative	Project Lead	Action Type	Description	Timeframe (*)	Partners identified (actual and potential)	First or next step to progress the project/idea	Estimated cost of the project	Total funding already secured
Community-owned energy									
52	Explore options for sustainable community-based energy sources - wind, tide, district heating	MCDC inc. MCTC and MorVolts	Already Planned	To further aid community sustainability, self-sufficiency and self-reliance	Long	FLS, Angus Robertson, MGGW, CC, MCW, LPS	Assess various options and engage in feasibility stage. Share good quality information with community (avoid overwhelming regarding wealth of information available).	£10m +	£0
53	Explore options for hydrogen power	TBC	Proposed	Using extra power from local sources to generate hydrogen for future, eg hydrogen cell powered vehicles	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
54	Set up co-op to bulk buy green energy at reduced rates	TBC	Proposed	To bulk-buy discounted green energy off the grid	Medium	CC	Needs an admin aide to manage on a daily basis.	TBC	N/a
55	Explore options for heat recovery for individual domestic properties	TBC	Proposed	Explore idea of waste-water heat recovery for homes across the community.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
Energy resilience									

56	Campaign at national level to enable decentralisation of energy suppliers	TBC	Proposed	Campaign at national level to enable decentralisation of energy suppliers.	Long	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
57	Develop emergency resilience strategy for response during significant climate event (eg total loss of power)	TBC	Proposed	Create response plan for support in situations of catastrophic failure of infrastructure as a result of climate change (eg loss of energy supply, storm damage, wildfires).	Medium	TBC	Develop collaborations between local groups.	TBC	N/a
58	Community-based information service for sustainable retrofitting of houses	TBC	Proposed	Offering advice on converting to sustainable energy, for example the options for moving away from oil-based heating and the steps needed to achieve the options.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
Health									
59	Transition of service provision for Morvern Medical Practice	Morvern Medical Practice	Already Planned	Secure future of primary care and dispensing services in Morvern	Medium	NHS Highland	Discussion with primary care managers in NHS Highland	N/a	N/a
60	Helping Hands Befriending Service	Urram	Already Planned	Reducing social isolation and loneliness across the five community council areas.	Medium	NHS Highland, Highland Hospice, Ewen's Room, Community councils	The service is already running in Ardgour and Strontian. We hope to have rolled it out to all areas by autumn 2022.	£20,000 per annum	£20,000 for the first year
61	Outdoor gym at Knock Park	Morvern Games and Gala Week (MGGW)	Proposed	Outdoor gym and improved recreational space at Knock Park	Long	TBC	Secure land buy-out	TBC	N/a
62	Explore options for in-home care support	TBC	Proposed	Explore options for in-home care support	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
63	Procure gym equipment – pop-up option stored in indoor location (not at Hub)	TBC	Proposed	Explore option for access to communal gym equipment for physio and physical and mental health.	Short	TBC	Create a pop-up gym once or twice a week.	TBC	N/a
64	Explore options for community-based approaches to mental health support	TBC	Proposed	Explore options for care within the community for those with mental wellbeing needs.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
65	Advocacy - improved services at Belford Hospital	TBC	Proposed	Advocate for improved services at the Belford Hospital in Fort William.	Long	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
Local community hubs									
66	Repair and restoration of Drimnin Village Hall	Drimnin Village Hall SCIO	Already Planned	Carry out essential repairs to the Victorian village hall (the former village school) to leave it in a waterproof and safe condition.	Short	Morvern Community Trust, Highland	Fix roof, electrics, improve kitchen, outside toilets, suitable lighting,	£270,000	£14,000

				Fabric of the building is in need of an upgrade to create a sustainable hub and resilience centre.		Council, Voluntary Action Lochaber, Drimnin Estate, Church of Scotland	better acoustics, insulation and heating. The entire fabric of the building is in need of an upgrade to create a sustainable hub and resilience centre.		
67	Improved video conference facilities in the community	MCDC	Already Planned	Improved video conference facilities in the community.	Short	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
68	Clubhouse facility at Knock Park	Morvern Games and Gala Week (MGGW)	Proposed	A new, accessible 'clubhouse' incorporating a function suite at Knock Park.	Long	TBC	Secure land buy-out	TBC	N/a
Recreation Facilities									
69	Develop Sports Pitch - Knock Park	Morvern Games and Gala Week (MGGW)	Proposed	Develop an enlarged sports pitch at Knock Park.	Medium	TBC	Secure land buy-out	TBC	N/a
70	Develop golf course - Knock Park	Morvern Games and Gala Week (MGGW)	Proposed	9-hole golf course (further dedicated feasibility study to be conducted).	Long	TBC	Feasibility study	TBC	N/a
Schools and education									
71	Support High School in a variety of initiatives throughout the year, including fundraising and support for school trips	Ardnamurchan High School Parent Council	Already Planned	Being a voice for the parent forum.	Long	Ardnamurchan High School	N/a	TBC	N/a
72	CAOLAS outreach	CAOLAS	Already Planned	A series of public promotion events, school visits and outreach days across Morvern, Ardnamurchan.	Medium	William Grant Foundation, local schools	Send out oyster education packs to schools and arrange for school visits to oyster project.	£500	£500
73	Integrate climate change action into life and work of community over next 10 years	Climate Conversations	Already Planned	Ensure that climate discussion sub-group's aims and goals are integrated into life and work of community over next 10 years	Medium	MCC, MCDC, Local landowners, Lochaline Stores, Lochaline Primary School	Through further meetings and collaborative discussions with other community groups.	£80 (estimate to date)	£0
74	Lochaline Primary School wildlife garden	Climate Conversations	Already Planned	Restore / replace the old pond in the school wildlife garden, for the children to learn about nature and how to care for it. Undertaking the project will hopefully help to inform the community of nature-based benefits.	Short	Lochaline Primary School, Morvern Community Trust, Fiunary Plant Hire, Lochaline Sand Mine	Continue groundworks at Pond	£230	£230

75	Develop the outdoor learning facilities at Lochaline Primary	Lochaline Primary School	Already planned	The aim of this project is to develop the outdoor leaning facilities at Lochaline Primary. The goal is to enhance academic, social and developmental opportunities for our pupils and develop their understanding of environmental sustainability through the medium of experiential learning.	Long	Forestry Commission, Achnaha Community Woodland, CAOLAS, Argyll Hope Spot, Local Estates	Begin development of our onsite outdoor learning spaces (loose parts play, vegetable garden, restoration of nature garden) and work in partnership with the Achnaha community woodland group to complete the on-going maintenance of the outdoor classroom.	£7,000	None - we have as yet been unable to secure any funding due to the small numbers in the school.
76	Artist in residence project - Rahoy Hills nature reserve	Rahoy Hills Wildlife Reserve committee	Already Planned	To invite artist to complete a six-week residency portraying nature on the reserve to spread knowledge of the reserve to a wider audience. The reserve will benefit from increased awareness and from a proportion of the sales generated.	Medium	Scottish Wildlife Trust, Ardtornish Estate, Resipole Gallery, Boiler House Gallery, MCDC	Secure artist for Autumn 2022	Covered by artist	n/a
77	Community education programme to protect against the effects of climate change and biodiversity loss	Climate Conversations	Proposed	Educate and raise the awareness of everyone of the benefits of biodiversity across Morvern, to mitigate climate change, influence land management practices and add to the attractions of the area. Teach ourselves about the lifestyle changes required to combat climate change.	Long	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
78	Gaelic education at primary school	TBC	Proposed	Lochaline Primary to explore options for Gaelic provision	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
79	Educating ourselves as a community to have a strong voice regarding the marine environment	TBC	Proposed	Educating ourselves as a community to have a strong voice regarding the marine environment.	Long	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
Services and childcare									
80	Village maintenance - Keeping Lochaline tidy	MCC	Already Planned	Keeping Lochaline tidy	Medium	Lochaline Primary School	Already started in summer 2021	£4k per year	Paid by MCC this year from legacy funds but hope to find funding

									for this in future
81	Develop early years childcare provision (age 1-3)	TBC	Proposed	Developing childcare provision to enable early years primary carers to also work.	Medium	Possibly Lochaline Primary Nursery	TBC	TBC	N/a
82	Waterfront Street in Lochaline	TBC	Proposed	Promote idea of a lively waterfront street with restaurant and retail facilities.	Long	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
83	Refurbishment/community running of the public toilets	TBC	Proposed	Ensure public toilets are refurbished and maintained.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
84	Continue to develop marina to maximise opportunities from sailing traffic	TBC	Proposed	Make better use of facilities at the marina, enabling opportunities for new business and capturing trade from sailing traffic.	Long	TBC	Opportunities for this are being continually monitored	TBC	N/a

* Timeframe: Short (< 6 months); Medium (>6 months <2 years); Long (>2years)

Heritage, Sea and Land



Heritage, Sea and Land Objectives – Overview

Action Topics:

21. Community land ownership
22. Community woodland and natural space
23. Conservation, stewardship & management
24. Heritage
25. Play facilities

No.	Action/Initiative	Project Lead	Action Type	Description	Timeframe (*)	Partners identified (actual and potential)	First or next step to progress the project/idea	Estimated cost of the project	Total funding already secured
Community Land Ownership									
85	Buy-out Knock Park	Morvern Games and Gala Week (MGGW)	Already Planned	Bring together the whole community to take 47 acres of land at Knock Park into community ownership.	Short	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
86	Land Acquisition - Lochaline Harbour	MCDC inc. MCTC and MorVolts	Already Planned	Secure land currently leased for community ownership.	Medium	Ardtornish Estate	Value the land of interest and secure commitment for a buy-out from the landowner.	Not known	£0
87	Increase allotment capacity	Community Land Association Morvern (Allotments)	Already Planned	Develop more plots at the allotment to expand capacity.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
88	Acquisition of allotment land by CLAM	MCDC inc. MCTC and MorVolts	Already Planned	Secure land currently leased for community ownership.	Medium	Ardtornish Estate	Value the land of interest and secure commitment for a buy-out from the landowner	Not known	£0
89	Buy-out of Lochaline West Pier	TBC	Proposed	Community buy-out of the west pier in Lochaline	Long	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
Community woodland and natural space									
90	Nature trail at allotments	Community Land Association Morvern (Allotments)	Already Planned	Community nature walk around perimeter of the allotment.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a

91	Repair shelter, all-access path, and boardwalks - Achnaha Wood	Morvern Community Woodlands	Already Planned	The shelter in Achnaha community wood is nearly 15 years old and is in need of some repairs. Also, the all-access boardwalk and some boardwalks along the circular track.	Medium	TBC	Renew the all-access boardwalk.	£1,000	£1,000
92	Woodland management in Achnaha Community Wood	Morvern Community Woodlands	Already Planned	Address significant ash die back in Achnaha community wood.	Long	Woodland Trust	Assess if we need to plant different trees to replace them.	unknown	unknown
93	Community woodland - Knock Park	Morvern Games and Gala Week (MGGW)	Proposed	Develop a community woodland at Knock Park.	Medium	TBC	Secure land buy-out	TBC	N/a
94	Develop nature reserve - Knock Park	Morvern Games and Gala Week (MGGW)	Proposed	Develop a nature reserve and woodland education area at Knock Park.	Long	TBC	Secure land buy-out	TBC	N/a
Conservation, stewardship & management									
95	Review of deer management plan	Morvern Deer Management Group	Already Planned	To update a collaborative deer management plan delivering sustainable land use objectives.	Medium	Local land based rural businesses, Nature Scot, SWT	HIA assessment	Plan-£10,000,	No external funding secured
96	Habitats Impact Assessment - grazing impact on land	Morvern Deer Management Group	Already Planned	Assess grazing impacts on habitats	Medium	Land based businesses, Nature Scot, SWT	HIA monitoring planned for 2022	£6,000 - £8,000 per annum	Funded by land-based businesses -no external funding secured to date
97	Deer count	Morvern Deer Management Group	Already Planned	Count deer numbers across Morvern on an annual basis where possible	Medium	Local land-based businesses	Try to get support from NatureScot for helicopter count	£25,000 for helicopter count - less for foot counts where possible	No external funding
98	Rahoy Hills Reserve management plan objectives	Rahoy Hills Wildlife Reserve committee	Already Planned	To manage Rahoy Hills reserve for the long-term benefit of its unique habitats and wildlife for future generations to enjoy.	Long	Scottish Wildlife Trust, Ardtornish Estate, Woodland Trust, Kinlochteacuis Estate, NatureScot	Committee meeting Spring 2022	£9,000-£10,000 per annum	£9,000-£10,000
99	Protecting Morvern's Atlantic Rainforest - proposed RSPB project	RSPB	Already Planned	Five-year landscape scale woodland restoration programme focused exclusively on the	Long	RSPB, Woodland Trust, Alliance for Scotland's	Secure additional funding. Encourage land awareness. Morvern deer group	£2,986,538	c450k

				rainforests of the Morvern peninsula		Rainforest, FLS, Scottish Forestry, Ardtornish & Laudale Estates, MDMG, MCW, SWT, MHS, CC, LPS	to engage with biodiversity restoration, Atlantic Rainforest protection.		
100	Morvern tree nursery	RSPB	Already Planned	Set up tree nursery for local provenance native trees	Medium	RSPB, Woodland Trust, Morvern Community Woodlands	Secure tenancy agreement with FLS	£25,000	£25,000
101	Expansion of Lochaline native oyster project	CAOLAS	Already Planned	Restore biodiversity in coastal waters around Morvern by reintroducing native oysters. Involve community in marine conservation and restoration.	Long	Argyll Coast and Islands Hope Spot, Seawilding, Fauna and Flora International, Highland Environment Foundation, Crown Estate Scotland, MCDC, MCW	Release oysters into the wild and monitor them.	£15,000 a year	£35,000
102	Serpulid search and survey - (COALAS)	CAOLAS	Already Planned	To assess the condition of serpulid reefs in the area	Short	Carna island conservation group	Organise field work to assess reefs.	£5,000	0
103	Litter picking project - from land and sea	TBC	Proposed	Litter picking project - suggested by local teenagers and primary kids	Short	TBC	Send out latches to residents of Morvern to ensure everyone can close their bins	TBC	N/a
104	Baseline studies of the state of nature and biodiversity and blue/green carbon, including community-based biodiversity surveys	TBC	Proposed	Develop a baseline of the state of nature and biodiversity and blue/green carbon. Recording of biodiversity changes by community.	Medium	TBC	Start with existing data: eg Scotland's blue carbon map and the Scottish Marine Assessment 2020. Explore existing soil surveys.	TBC	N/a
105	Tree-planting project – community-based (including school)	TBC	Proposed	Direct sowing of tree seeds for sowing on the hills – community project. Also suggested by local teenagers and primary kids.	Short	Morvern Deer Management Group, Lochaline Primary, local landowners	Map of suitable sites for reforestation. Co-ordinate efforts between different groups in this area.	TBC	N/a
106	Advocacy - reducing deer density	TBC	Proposed	Continue discussions with landowners to reduce deer density. Explore options for financing deer management plans via emerging government funding	Long	Morvern Deer Management Group	Community interface with landowners, collaborate through Deer Management Group, explore fence removal, explore	TBC	N/a

				streams to enable country to attain net zero targets.			training for community groups to join cull.		
107	Advocacy - preventing woodland loss	TBC	Proposed	Advocate for the cessation of woodland loss.	Long	Local landowners	TBC	TBC	N/a
108	Develop local place plan or land-use plan, including marine spatial plan	TBC	Proposed	Consider complementing LLM process with a 'local place plan' or land-use strategy, as well as a marine spatial plan for Morvern's inshore coastal waters to inform grant/local planning decisions. This can be registered with Highland Council planning department.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
109	Species reintroduction	TBC	Proposed	Explore option for species reintroduction	Long	TBC	Reintroduction of food for birds of prey, taking into account impact on existing local population.	TBC	N/a
110	Seagrass restoration	TBC	Proposed	Explore option of seagrass restoration in Loch Aline.	Long	TBC	Start with a baseline study: get in touch with Seagrass Scotland Network	TBC	N/a
111	Create marine management plan for Loch Aline - including loch-wide conservation measures	TBC	Proposed	Explore possibility of a shared loch management plan for Lochaline.	Medium	CC, LPS, MHS	Encourage divers to collect data (underwater videos) to inform plan. Consider wider catchment area.	TBC	N/a
Heritage									
112	Larachbeg telephone box St Kilda museum	Morvern Heritage Society	Already Planned	Renovate the old telephone box at Larachbeg into a museum about the St Kilda connection with Morvern	Medium	Morvern Community Council	Continue renovation work on the phone box. Get quotes for information panels	£2,000 (a lot of the cost is payment in kind)	£0
113	Heritage display in Morvern Community Hub	Morvern Heritage Society	Already Planned	Information panels on Morvern's history and natural history are to be erected within the Morvern Community Hub.	Medium	MCDC	Get quotes for information panels. We will be erecting some existing panels on loan.	£1,000	£0
114	Protecting and enhancing the heritage of Kiel church and grounds	Morvern Parish Church (Kiel Church)	Already Planned	Development and sustaining of church building, Celtic stone collection. No firm plans or costings.	Medium	Wider network of churches on the peninsula	Feasibility study of sustainability of church building - looking to increased community use / heritage centre etc...	TBC	N/a
115	Heritage conservation	TBC	Proposed	Promote conservation and protection of local heritage. Establish repository (website	Long	TBC	Start conversations in the community. Form working group to	TBC	N/a

				where people can contribute and add their stories about Morvern).			explore. Select initial sites.		
	Play facilities								
116	Kids' playground at allotment	Community Land Association Morvern (Allotments)	Already Planned	Develop kids' playground for use while parents are at the allotment plus swing across the quarry	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a

* Timeframe: Short (< 6 months); Medium (>6 months <2 years); Long (>2years)

Community Life and Local Resources



Community Life and Local Resources Objectives – Overview

Action Topics:

- 26. Buying local
- 27. Gathering together
- 28. Promote recreation and creativity
- 29. Reuse and recycle
- 30. Sharing our resources
- 31. Young people

No.	Action/Initiative	Project Lead	Action Type	Description	Timeframe (*)	Partners identified (actual and potential)	First or next step to progress the project/idea	Estimated cost of the project	Total funding already secured
Buying local									
117	Develop a local resource agreement (timber)	TBC	Proposed	Develop shared agreement for construction to prioritise using locally sourced timber and materials.	Short	TBC	Formalisation of shared agreement required	TBC	N/a
118	Develop agreement to sell local produce locally	TBC	Proposed	Through existing or additional local store	Short	TBC	Sell excess grown at allotment	TBC	N/a
119	Promotional events to showcase local products	TBC	Proposed	Workshops to be conducted on these for promoting business opportunities.	Medium	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
Gathering together									
120	Easter event - MCW	Morvern Community Woodlands	Already Planned	On Easter Sunday we will organise an Easter egg hunt, and other Easter related activities in Achnaha Woods. This is an event for young and old.	Short	TBC	TBC	Unknown yet	n/a
121	Development and sustaining of church presence	Morvern Parish Church (Kiel Church)	Already Planned	Development of life of the congregation within the wider context of the peninsula churches.	Long	TBC	N/a	TBC	N/a
122	Promote calendar of informal events (eg bonfire night)	TBC	Proposed	Informal events with no agenda for relationship building. Enable connections generally, but also	Short	TBC	Create laid-back low-pressure scenarios for all ages and	TBC	N/a

				those between newcomers and longer-term residents.			backgrounds. Co-ordinate through community group forum.		
123	Run a dedicated programme of social events for our elders including intergenerational gatherings	TBC	Proposed	Explore idea of developing dedicated spaces for older generations to connect with younger people.	Medium	TBC	Oral history project. Collate shared historical book resources held by community elders.	TBC	N/a
Promote recreation and creativity									
124	Run creativity workshops by network of local creatives	Shannine Gallagher	Proposed	Series of workshops by network of local creatives	Short	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
125	Promote outdoor activities and sports	TBC	Proposed	Promote outdoor activities and sports for locals and tourists.	Short	High Life Highlands	Running outdoor activities for children (kayak, paddle board) with instructors as starter sessions.	TBC	N/a
Reuse and recycle									
126	Promote community recycling and reuse	Climate Conversations	Already Planned	To encourage and improve recycling and reuse within the community. Advocacy with Highland Council on improving their recycling of community waste.	Medium	Lochaline Stores, Highland Base Camp, MCC, MCDC, Highland Council	Write to Highland Council re their recycling and ask for a tour of their recycling premises. Find a suitable location for community-run recycling boxes for harder to recycle objects.	£1,000	Not Known
127	Plastic free campaign	TBC	Proposed	Develop a campaign for a plastic free zone in Morvern	Medium	TBC	Session in the village hall where people talk about their actions / share ideas collectively. Project around community education with the school (in pipeline).	TBC	N/a
Sharing our resources									
128	Create a volunteer bank	TBC	Proposed	Create a volunteer bank of retired craftspeople/professionals and mentors.	Medium	Drimnin Hall	TBC	TBC	N/a

129	Set up second-hand shop and resource library	TBC	Proposed	Develop a second-hand exchange and/or shop. Develop a community resource library - for people to borrow high priced items that they might only use for a short time (eg tools).	Medium	TBC	Research similar eg on Mull. Start with a car-boot sale or table sale in village hall.	TBC	N/a
130	Foraging workshops	Whitehouse Restaurant	Proposed	Creating foraging workshops to help people reconnect with the land	Short	Clare Hoolachan	TBC	TBC	N/a
Young people									
131	Ongoing engagement to understand needs of local young people	All community groups together	Proposed	Early open conversation with kids/teenagers about their needs and how to support them, involving all community groups.	Short	TBC	TBC	TBC	N/a
132	Develop social space for young people	Local young people, LPS	Proposed	Space managed by and for young people to hang out in.	Medium	LPS, MCW, SWT, CAOLAS	Ensure autonomy for young people to drive the project - let them lead. Use former building in the woods which was previously used as a temporary nursery? Liaise with existing venues to prevent unnecessary duplication - feasibility study.	TBC	N/a
133	Develop pontoon for swimming in Loch Aline	Local young people	Proposed	Pontoon in the loch for swimmers where young people could gather.	Medium	TBC	Work in partnership with the estate	TBC	N/a

* Timeframe: Short (< 6 months); Medium (>6 months <2 years); Long (>2years)



Appendix C

Relationship to other plans



Relationship to other plans

The following is a brief summary of the core policy goals of key national and regional policy documents which govern the delivery of services and development in Morvern. Connections to the goals of these policies emerge through the Vision and Action Plan articulated in the rest of this document.

Community Planning Policy Framework

National Performance Framework

See information presented in the Monitoring and Evaluation section of Chapter 5.

Highlands Outcome Improvement Plan (HOIP) – 2017 to 2017

The Highland Community Planning Partnership (CPP) brings together public agencies, third sector organisations and other key community groups to work collaboratively with the people of Highland to deliver better outcomes. The Partnership works at a Highland level but also at a local level through our nine Community Partnerships which are located across the Highlands. Of these, Morvern falls under the Lochaber Community Planning Partnership.

The Highland CPP has been tasked with the development of the [Highland Outcome Improvement Plan](#) (HOIP). The HOIP outlines aspirations for Highland and the specific actions that will be undertaken to deliver them. The HOIP's main ambition is to tackle the issues that lead to inequalities. The goal is to make the Highlands a fairer place, so that everyone has the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of the region.

The five core HOIP outcomes are as follows:

Poverty Reduction

- More people in Highland will live a life free from the experience of poverty.

Community Participation & Dialogue

- People in Highland will be more involved in decisions that affect their lives.

Infrastructure

- Fewer people in Highland experience transport and digital connectivity as a barrier to accessing opportunities

Community Safety & Resilience

- People in Highland will benefit from living in stronger, safer and more resilient communities

Mental Health & Mental Wellbeing

- People in Highland will benefit from good mental health and wellbeing

The cross-cutting themes are:

- Employability, employment and skills development – this recognises the importance of providing economic opportunities to communities as a way of addressing inequality
- Community Investment and development – this promotes inclusion and builds strong communities
- Digital Inclusion – ensuring that people have the knowledge and confidence to actively participate in the use of digital technology
- Equality of opportunity and inclusion – recognises that certain groups within our communities are more likely to experience inequality than others

Spatial Planning Policy Framework

Spatial planning documents provide a policy and legal framework for further development in Morvern and its surrounding waters as part of rural development and placemaking priorities.

Scottish Planning Policy (2014)

As part of promoting rural development, current [Scottish Planning Policy](#) states: 'The planning system should in all rural areas promote a pattern of development that is appropriate to the character of the particular rural area and the challenges it faces; and encourage rural development that supports prosperous and sustainable communities and businesses while protecting and enhancing environmental quality.' (The Scottish Government, June 2014)

Fourth National Planning Framework (Draft, 2022)

The draft of the [Fourth National Planning Framework](#) (NPF4) Scotland 2045 was published in November 2021. Its section on National Spatial Strategy lays out key spatial principles for Scotland and identifies five action areas with specific priorities. Morvern is located within the coverage of two of these: *North and west coastal innovation*, with a focus on 'making sustainable use of our coasts and islands to sustain communities and pioneer investment in the blue economy', and *Northern revitalisation*, involving the growth of low-carbon rural communities, capitalising on digital innovation and making the most of exceptional natural and cultural heritage.

West Highland Local Development Plan

Placemaking priorities for Lochaline are highlighted in the [West Highland Council Local Development Plan](#) as follows:

- To replicate and consolidate the existing pattern of development west of the A884 and where a seaward outlook is available.
- To encourage tourist facilities/other small business proposals at the marina. Water infrastructure may require upgrading to enable this development.
- Safeguard better agricultural land to the north and west of the settlement and retain and enhance green networks around the village margins.
- Improve intra village connectivity via active travel and green network connections.
- To safeguard the adjoining Inner Hebrides & the Minches Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and other local nature conservation designations.

Transportation Policy Framework

The [National Transport Strategy 2](#) sets out an ambitious vision for Scotland's transport system for the next 20 years to 2040. It articulates a vision for a sustainable, inclusive, safe, accessible transport system, helping deliver a healthier, fairer and more prosperous

Scotland for communities, businesses and visitors. The vision is underpinned by four priorities: Reduces Inequalities, Takes Climate Action, Helps Deliver Inclusive Economic Growth and Improves our Health and Wellbeing, each with three associated outcomes.

To reduce inequalities the goal is a transport system that will provide fair access to the services we need, will be easy to use for all and will be affordable to all. Taking climate action will involve helping to deliver our net-zero target, adapting to the effects of climate

change, promoting greener, cleaner choices. Helping deliver inclusive economic growth means developing a system that will get people and goods where they need to get to, will be reliable, efficient and of high quality, and will use beneficial innovation. Finally, a transportation system is envisaged that will improve our health and wellbeing by being safe and secure for all, enabling us to make healthy travel choices, and helping to make communities great places to live.



Appendix D

Review of Delivery from
2011-2021

Review of Delivery from 2011-2021

It's now 10 years since the [Community Growth Plan](#) (CGP) was developed in 2011 for Morvern Community Development Company, back when it first began. But in 2020 it was realised that many of these original goals had been achieved. The following table provides a review of the development of projects in the last decade in Lochaline, both those already underway or planned for in the 2011 Plan and those that were not planned for in the CGP but have emerged regardless (windfall projects). Information in the table below was taken from the MCDC Community Growth Plan 2011, the Affordable Housing Feasibility Study 2015 and input from the steering group of Live Life Morvern. Many other ongoing projects that started before this period have not been mentioned because the focus here is only on developments and changes specific to the last decade since the first Community Growth Plan, rather than a longer timeframe.

The scale of these achievements has been widely recognised and lauded, for example [in this article by Angus Hardie](#) of the Scottish Community Alliance.

Complete, operational	In process	Status Uncertain	Abandoned
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Project	Type	Status	Notes
Economy (including selected new business initiatives)			
Cafe LA in the Hub	Proposed in CGP		
Lochaline Quartz Sand	Windfall		Bought by Industriale Minerale and re-opened 2011
Nc'nean Distillery	Windfall		Opened 2017
Lochaline Snack Bar	Windfall		
Whitehouse Restaurant	Windfall		Under new ownership in 2022
Community sawmill proposed at former Kiel Camp	Proposed in CGP		Ongoing discussions now taking place as to siting the sawmill at Knock Park
Encourage establishment of new businesses	Proposed in CGP		Work closely with landowners to ensure availability of land for business generation
Tourism			
Pontoon and static walkway	Proposed in CGP		Cala Loch Alainn - Lochaline Harbour pontoons opened in 2011
Shore facilities	Proposed in CGP		Shore facilities added in 2013
Promote Morvern as a destination not a drive-through.	Proposed in CGP		Aim to market all facilities and attractions with a common banner in order that Morvern becomes a widely recognisable brand
Morvern Aires Caravan Park proposal below Torr-Na-Farr	Windfall		Now proposed as potential project at Knock Park
Transport and Digital			
Carpool	Proposed in CGP/Windfall		Morvern Community Transport Association established. Morvern Eco-wheels electric car becomes available for shared use.
Drimnin Community Broadband	Windfall		Has delivered and continues to plan to deliver significant broadband upgrades
Housing			
Housing Phase 1 - Scout Hut site 3 affordable homes and The Hub	Proposed in CGP		All constructed, houses run by a management company - West Property. Relevant planning applications: 16/00687/FUL Erection of 3no houses; 20/02533/FUL Change of use of part of part of the community building
Proposed new township development at Achnaha & Achabeg	Proposed in CGP		Includes holiday lets and permanent lets. 20 houses. Brought forward by Ardtornish Estate
Housing Phase 2	Proposed in CGP		Second phase at Kirk Brae above the school – 6 houses. Plus 2-3 council funded houses.
Energy, Facilities and Services			
Barr Hydro Scheme	Proposed in CGP		Completed July 2021, officially opened 2021
New School, Nursery and Fire Station constructed	Windfall		Completed 2013

Wind Farm Sea and Land	Proposed in CGP		
Community Allotments + Garden Waste Composting (CLAM)	Underway at time of CGP		Completed 2011, all 20 plots now filled.
Community Association of Lochs and Sounds (CAOLAS)	Windfall project		Formed 2015
Knock Park Community Ownership Bid	Windfall project		Consultation completed Sept 2021. Scottish Land Fund money secured for community buy-out in March 2022.
Artificial Reef	Proposed in CGP		Halted at feasibility stage
Killundine Estate Community Ownership Bid	Windfall project		Voted to halt project in 2020. Estate now owned by local farmer.
Community Life			
Bùrach (local Gaelic choir)	Windfall		
Sailing Club	Windfall		



Appendix E

Community Survey: Summary

Community Survey: Summary

The *Community Aspirations* stage of the engagement process involved sending out a paper copy of the initial community survey to every home in Morvern. Most responses were submitted via an online form, and all were anonymous. Of 156 households delivered a survey, 134 responses were submitted, 22 by teenagers or primary age children. The majority of respondents indicated that their only home was in Morvern (105). The full survey report can be viewed on Morvern.org, but a summary is given below. *Figures given below refer to the number of respondents who responded in these ways.*

The beauty of the landscape of Morvern (121) and the strong sense of belonging to a community (77) were identified as being the most loved aspects of living in Morvern. But respondents were most unhappy with issues around transport, community facilities, housing and the economy. Deteriorating road infrastructure (24), the challenge of access to housing for local people (13), the lack of a dedicated venue for young people (12) and remoteness from facilities and services (11) were identified, as well as the lack of affordable housing, difficulty of accessing local tradespeople and cost of living in a remote area.

Tensions were clear in that while Morvern is seen as a strong and supportive community (37) with a strong local civic life (21) and range of skills on offer (19), making relationships work well in a small community can sometimes be a challenge (15).

In terms of challenges now and in the future, four key interlinked challenges were identified. These included the danger of a reducing population and school roll (ie a reduction of local family units linked to an ageing demographic), fears for the viability of the economy in terms of jobs available and the cost of living, and the lack of affordable housing. All of these point to the challenge of attracting people to live and work in the area to ensure its ongoing vitality. The fourth major concern revolved around environmental issues: the loss of biodiversity, lack of community access to land and the need to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change.

A fear of a lack of long-term jobs linked to a concern for lack of local tradespeople suggests an opportunity for training and employment in this area.

In the short term the economy and housing were seen as the most important challenges to address, while climate change and changing demographics were of concern in the longer view.

The outputs from the community survey were used, alongside the desktop analysis and the Pestle analysis that follows in the next section, to design the scenarios used in the two visioning workshops and the themes addressed in the three detailed action planning workshops. By listening to the community through the survey in this way, the steering group ensured that the shaping of the engagement process of Live Life Morvern itself was co-designed by the community.

The following table indicates a selection of the key opportunities identified for the future, and links these aspirations, as initially expressed, to final actions detailed in the plan, after the detailed consultation had taken place.

Aspiration in initial community survey	Theme in final action plan	Addressed by action numbers
Economy		
Ongoing support for local businesses	Economy and Employment	9, 11
Developing area as a tourist attraction	Economy and Employment	12 – 18
Organising vocational training to develop local trades capacity (joinery, electricians, farming), and encouraging opportunities for traditional skills (eg, crofting)	Economy and Employment, Housing	7, 10, 44
Improving roads (especially Drimnin road)	Transport and Digital	32-36
Improving broadband speeds by accelerating community broadband plans	Transport and Digital	19-21
Housing		
Building more affordable housing	Housing	41, 43, 45
Climate Change		
Developing community owned energy sources	Energy, Services and Facilities	52
Working to put in place resilience measures	Energy, Services and Facilities	57
Ecological restoration supporting habitat for wildlife and marine ecosystems	Heritage, Land and Sea	109, 110
Grassroots Action		
Doing litter picks – suggested by primary kids	Heritage, Land and Sea	103
Local-scale conservation initiatives	Heritage, Land and Sea	95-111
Ensuring better communication of what is happening (eg, websites, mailing lists)	Organising Ourselves	Organising Ourselves action no 10-13
Ensuring greater co-ordination and co-operation between community groups	Organising Ourselves	Organising Ourselves action no 20



Appendix F

Local Business Survey: Results



Local Business Survey:

Results

In February 2022 the Live Life Morvern Steering Group invited businesses across Morvern to help develop this Action plan by sharing their forward plans for the following season. Eighteen of the forty local businesses and self-employed people responded with non-commercially sensitive information about growing or developing their business in Morvern. Including these details in the Community Vision and Action Plan is intended to help the wider community and any potential partners understand some of the core aims for Morvern's businesses over the next decade and demonstrate the enterprise that characterises the area. The option to fill in the following survey was entirely at the discretion of those responsible for the business.

Businesses were invited to list up to three of the top-priority initiatives or projects that they aim to develop during the next decade. It was made clear that listing any proposed initiative does not commit the business to delivery, but rather describe the aspiration to do so. Many factors could affect the capacity of any business below to follow through on their plans.

The following table lists the initiatives and projects proposed by each business according to the following Action Areas, including indicative timeframes, first steps and partners.

Actions Topics covered:

- Business and jobs
- Green Jobs
- Tourism
- Transport
- Housing
- Energy
- Land
- Local Resources

No.	Action/Initiative	Business Lead	Description	First or next step to progress the project by autumn 2022	Timeframe (*)	Partners already identified
	Business and Jobs					
1	Rebuilding and replacing workshop	J Boulton Designs	We're just in the process of looking into options for rebuilding our workshop space. Our business makes handmade, eco-inspired upcycled and recycled gifts. We minimise our carbon footprint every step of way with making products. This would hopefully mean that one day we could employ some young, creative people from Morvern.	Planning and researching options for this project. We have started to put together quotes from local businesses and are looking into the option for used shipping containers. We would love the community groups - such as MCT, MCC, MCDC - to support us in this endeavour.	Medium	Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Business Gateway, Expo-North - We have already set up meetings with these partner groups and began discussing funding options.
2	Expand business - new premises	Morvern Machinery Maintenance	Having premises in Lochaline from which the business can expand to larger machinery and work more effectively in all weathers.	Looking for premises - have already enquired	Long	TBC
3	The future of Ardtornish Farm	Ardtornish	To rejuvenate our farming enterprise into one that is efficient as well as environmentally and ecologically sensitive. To support local jobs, deliver quality local produce, and improve soil health and on-farm biodiversity.	We are in the process of preparing a new farm management plan under the guidance of the Scottish Agricultural College. We intend to have actionable first steps later in 2022.	Long	Scottish Agricultural College, Nature Scot, Scottish Wildlife Trust, Scottish Forestry, Woodland Trust

4	CalaMhor	Bonny Mealand	Holistic equine centre showcasing sustainable horse keeping practices and land management. Offering facilities for equine assisted personal development work. Specialist training of feral and wild equines.	Raising a barn to house equines and provide a dry learning environment when needed. Most of the work will take place outside.	Medium	Minty MacKay, Ardtornish Estate, RSPB, Mimmer Centre, Royal Zoological Society Scotland
5	Exhibiting at Trade Fairs	J Boulton Designs	To network, gain and establish relationships with retailers with the aim of selling products	Both trade fairs are in March and July.	Short	MCT has kindly given us a grant towards Home & Gift trade show in July 2022.
6	Grow the business	J Boulton Designs	To increase sales	Trade Fairs, other marketing campaigns	Long	We're working with HIE, Business Gateway, AMC Centre at the University of Highlands and Islands
7	Expansion of farming activity	Kinlochteacuis and Killundine Farms	Increase in livestock on farms	Establishing a stable work force on the farm	Medium	Internal project
8	Wildlife photography business	Lochaline Hotel (new owners)	Creation of an onshore/offshore wildlife photography business based in Morvern and the Sound of Mull	Buy equipment & fishing boat and promote business	Short	FLS
9	Increase production	Lochaline Quartz Sand Ltd	For 2022 we hope to produce 15% more sand than in 2021, and additional 5-10% more in 2023. This will mean an increase of our workforce from 31 people at the moment up to 35/36 in 2023.	We currently have two open vacancies on our website, but are struggling to fill these, partly due to a shortage of available places to stay.	Medium	Ardtornish Estate, Forestry and Land Scotland, and several local contractors.
10	Make a shaft	Lochaline Quartz Sand Ltd	Due to the development of the area underground it's likely that we will be drilling a ventilation shaft from underground to the surface - on Forestry land.	Feasibility study	Long	TBC
11	Move part of the plant underground	Lochaline Quartz Sand Ltd	We are hoping to move parts of the plant (crushers, conveyors, and AC screen) underground. This will reduce the noise levels outside and will create more space to store sand in our yard.	Feasibility study	Long	Contractors, possible Lochaber-based companies.
12	Expand animal feed range	Lochaline Stores	Lockdown highlighted a need to stock more variety of animal feed both domestic and livestock. We have consequently entered into an agreement with Harbro and are effectively a satellite store for them. This means we now need to plan better storage as the range increases. We may need to source some outside shed/container to house the range.	Source a reasonably priced storage container!	Short	Responding to local demand
13	Maintain our business in Morvern	Lochaline Stores	With outside pressures and large store deliveries we are constantly trying to evolve and keep our space within the community.		Long	N/a

14	Net zero across all scopes	Nc'nean Distillery Limited	We are already net zero for our own operations (Scopes 1 & 2) and aim to get to net zero in Scope 3 by 2030	Work with 1-2 of our barley farmers to establish their first carbon footprint and develop a plan to reduce it over time.	Long	This is a very broad ambition - it primarily involves working with our suppliers near and far to reduce their emissions. We have a specific KPI to source 25% of our purchases from local suppliers, within a 100 mile radius of the distillery by 2025.
15	Sales development	Nc'nean Distillery Limited	Continue to grow our sales as we have more aged whisky stock available.	On-going sales development. We have a specific KPI to increase local employment by 50% by 2025 vs. 2017.	Medium	Primarily this is about developing our sales with export partners and UK based customers.
16	Savary sawmill	SoundWood	Development of native tree nursery and revitalised woodyard	Discussions with proposed partners	Medium	Forestry and Land Scotland, RSPB
17	Mortgage Advice	The Highland Bookkeeper	To act as a self-employed Mortgage Adviser	Complete CeMAP qualifications	Short	TBC
18	Financial Planner	The Highland Bookkeeper	To qualify as an IFA	Enrol and complete Diploma with London Business School	Medium	TBC
Green Jobs						
19	Eco Refills	Lochaline Stores	Develop an eco-refill station for household cleaning items as a first instance with a view to expanding to other products as per demand	Currently have samples with 'guinea pigs' and hope to get feedback in the next few weeks and go from there.	Short	Initiative came from a member of the climate group and asked if the stores would do something, so we are responding to that request
20	Control of invasive rhododendron	The Lever and Mulch Partnership	To train more people in rhododendron control techniques and progress control measures across the peninsula	Introductory training course	Long	Morvern Community Woodlands & other local groups; landowners
Tourism						
21	Lochaline Hotel redevelopment	Lochaline Hotel (new owners)	Renovate and improve Lochaline Hotel	Complete phase one hotel renovation to 7 en suite bedrooms and new restaurant.	Short	None at the moment, but would love any help/guidance available
22	Lochaline Yacht Charter	Lochaline Hotel (new owners)	Provide yacht charter service from Lochaline. This will develop into a sailing school and	Buy a first yacht. Dinghies, SUPs, kayaks already owned	Short	None

			watersports business in time and with some help from Lochaline Harbour			
23	Wildlife Tourism	Morvern Wildlife Experiences	Multiple projects cover marine, freshwater and terrestrial environments.	Continuation of established project and building others	Long	Morvern landowners, Saving Scottish Wildcats, Vincent Wildlife Trust, NatureScot, RSPB, The Royal Zoological Society of Scotland
24	Wildlife Tourism	Morvern Wildlife Experiences	Sustainable, low impact, high quality wildlife encounters for visitors with knowledge sharing including participation in scientific projects.	Engaging further with parties concerned	Long	Morvern landowners, Saving Scottish Wildcats, Vincent Wildlife Trust, NatureScot, RSPB, The Royal Zoological Society of Scotland
	Transport					
25	Timber extraction, & additional woodland creation	Kinlochteacuis and Killundine Farms	Establish a route for timber extraction, ideally creating a sea link to reduce traffic on public road	Establish economic feasibility of different timber extraction options	Medium	Scottish Forestry
	Housing					
26	Residential property	Ardtornish	To rejuvenate existing residential properties within the business portfolio and to make available housing plots for self-build and affordable housing units.	Intensify the repair regime of our existing property portfolio. Complete outstanding works at the Achabeag development. Identify potential sites for housing plots.	Long	Highland Council, Morven Community Council
27	Increase workforce	Lochaline Quartz Sand Ltd	For 2022 we hope to produce 15% more sand than in 2021, and additional 5-10% more in 2023. This will mean an increase of our workforce from 31 people at the moment up to 35/36 in 2023.	We currently have two open vacancies on our website, but struggling to fill these, partly due to a shortage of available places to stay.	Medium	TBC
	Energy					
28	Renewable energy	Kinlochteacuis and Killundine Farms	Explore and expand renewable energy options for Killundine and Kinlochteacuis	Feasibility study and impact assessments	Long	MCDC and neighbouring rural businesses
	Land					
29	Improved management of the natural environment	Ardtornish	Continue to improve our management of the natural environment to restore habitat condition, species richness and abundance, and carbon storage.	Enrol all ancient woodlands in Scottish Forestry's Sustainable Management of Forests programme	Long	NatureScot, Scottish Forestry, Morvern Deer Management Group, Scottish Wildlife Trust, Woodland Trust

30	Engagement with community as part of LLM	Forestry and Land Scotland	The role of FLS has been moving more towards enabling and partnerships and we would be pleased to have discussions with the community as part of the process of Live Life Morvern to explore how we might be able to support it.	Engage with LLM process	Short	Local community stakeholders
31	Revision of the land management plan in 2023/24	Forestry and Land Scotland	A revision of the land management plan for the Morvern Forests in 2023/24 when we will be able to look in detail at the plans for the forest over the following 10 years in conjunction with the community and other stakeholders.	Development of the brief for the plan development process	Medium	The community and other stakeholders
32	Restoration of Barr Forest rainforest	Forestry and Land Scotland	Explore emerging national level emphasis on the restoration and management of Scotland's rainforests and this will be a feature of our work in the Lochaline area particularly in Barr Forest.	Already some work in hand related to the implementation of the current land management plan (LMP). Further work linked to the LMP revision and guided by national plans next year	Long	The community and other stakeholders
Local Resources						
33	Rocket Composter	The Whitehouse Restaurant	Buying a Rocket Composter to process all food waste created at the restaurant and turn it into compost. We aim to make this compost available to the local community for a minimal charge.	Work out logistics with regards to land use, interest in the end-product and storage	Medium	We are not familiar with the local community groups yet but interested to hear from anyone
34	Support the local economy and reduce food miles	The Whitehouse Restaurant	We aim to source 80% of our food within 50 miles of our location in Lochaline. We will engage with as many suppliers and food producers from Morvern as we can.	Networking	Short	We are not familiar with local producers yet but are interested to hear from anyone

* Timeframe: Short (< 6 months); Medium (>6 months <2 years); Long (>2years)



Appendix G

Community Group Forum

Feedback on Community

Priorities for Action

Community Group Forum Feedback on Community Priorities for Action

The following are statements made by local groups at the Community Group Forum regarding how they might look to support for delivery of these items. Indicative only.

Economy and Employment
Develop apprenticeships scheme in local community, including construction apprenticeships (Action no.7)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLAM are open to encouraging students from agricultural and land usage courses to study/grow, and to production of food on CLAM ground. MCW have a site (Achnaha) that can be used to help develop woodland skills.
Develop a strategy to secure tradespeople to deliver local work (Action no.10)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MGGW plan to build workshops/storage at Knock Park, with the aim of encouraging local small businesses including trades to grow.
Transport and Digital
Broadband - Not Spot Fill-in around Lochaline (Action no.21)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comments made.
Develop walking routes on the wider peninsula (Action no.29)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CC supports walking routes and maintaining them. MCW previously investigated a path to connect Achnaha to Lochaline. We would like to look at this again. Also intending to build a new section of path on Achnaha, need funding. MHS is interested in promoting walking routes SWT Rahoy Reserve committee keen to develop/improve Achnaha to Arienas, Black Glen and other routes. DH (Drimnin Hall) could help with maintenance.
Housing
Conduct a comprehensive housing survey: local housing needs assessment; housing, land audit; housing conditions survey (Action no.42)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lochaber Housing Association are working on local housing needs assessment.
Plan for delivery of affordable housing beyond MCDC phase 2 (Action no.43)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCDC could be the vehicle for moving this project forward. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk to Communities Housing Trust (MCDC have already started this).
Energy, Facilities and Services
Explore options for sustainable community-based energy sources, wind, tide, district heating (Action no.52)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MGGW are looking to develop a sustainable power ie solar/wind/ground source biomass but we require a sub-committee to proceed. CC very supportive of sustainable community-based energy sources. MCW might be involved if biomass/firewood project developed. LPS have just done a 12-week project on energy and have designed our own sustainable primary schools report.
Set up a co-op to bulk buy green energy at reduced rates (Action no.54)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CC campaigning politically to make this happen.
Heritage, Land and Sea
Protecting Morvern's Atlantic Rainforest - proposed RSPB project (Action no.99)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SWT Rahoy Hills Reserve very keen to play an active role in this. MCW would like to be involved. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCW might want to lead on the tree nursery in five years-time. MHS might be able to help with built heritage survey within the area. CC would be very keen to encourage collaboration work to protect this habitat and restore biodiversity to Morvern. LPS would like to help with any tree planting or data collection.
Create a marine management plan for Loch Aline - including loch-wide conservation measures (Action no.111)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CC could help collect data, link together land and marine carbon store. LPS could help with data collection. MHS could be involved with built heritage within the area. Fish traps/boat houses etc.
Community Life and Local Resources
Create a volunteer bank (Action no.128)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drimnin Hall (DH) could contribute volunteers.
Develop a social space run by young people (Action no.132)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LPS could take a lead role in this (with some support). MCW have the woodland shelter, we could think about another shelter nearer the beach. SWT Rahoy Reserve committee are keen to encourage young people on the reserve and helping with wildlife garden in school. CAOLAS is keen to involve young people in projects.



Appendix H

Evaluating the LLM process

Evaluating the LLM process

During the Foundations and Marketing stage of the LLM process, discussions were held with the steering group to clarify critical elements that they wanted to see enabled and delivered by the process. A summary of these requirements and how they have been met is detailed below.

	Aim	How delivered during LLM
Goal	An exciting, ambitious plan.	Dedicated visioning workshops built on scenario planning
Process	Action planning to include discussion of approaches that deliver climate mitigation and adaptation.	Three action planning workshops conducted by facilitators trained to include prompt questions derived from Place Standard with a Climate Lens methodology. Outputs included methods and ways of delivering a variety of actions in a way that takes combatting climate change into account.
	A transparent, inclusive process.	Multi-mode marketing and engagement options (as laid out in the Morvern in Numbers infograohic on p14 ; online discussion groups, face-to-face drop-ins, paper and online surveys, option for phone calls). Diagrams produced to explain overall process and advertised in De Tha Dol, online and in poster format.
Inclusion and representation	Process to engage young people including children at Lochaline Primary as a hub of the community	Process engaged local kids and young people through several channels, as detailed in the 'working with young people section' in Appendix A.
	Process to connect with local families.	Dedicated afternoon face-to-face session held with Parents' Council after feedback that attending evening sessions was difficult for parents.
	Draw in representation and voices from Lochaline Quartz mine.	Following conversations with staff at the mine, and owing to space and Covid restrictions, it was agreed to lay aside an initial plan to host a face-to-face session at the mine. Instead, passive access to the presentation boards was enabled on site for two weeks to display the emerging vision. This was accompanied with an invitation to feedback and offer actions that could be taken.
	Involve local landowners (as being also members of the community) as much as possible.	Local landowners and factors from Drimnin, Killundine and Ardtornish were involved in face-to-face interviews and phone calls and attended all the different dialogue sessions at different times (survey feedback, visioning and action planning workshops). All landowners in the MCC area were given full information on how to attend and get involved and had the opportunity to respond to the dedicated business survey.
	Involve Forestry and Land Scotland in the process.	Forestry and Land Scotland were given access to an initial draft of proposed actions, a representative attended the Heritage, Sea and Land action planning workshop and they were invited to attend the community group forum as observers. They indicated strong willingness to work with the community on actions to which they were connected.
Outputs	Agree a minimum of four community priorities for action.	The prioritisation workshop helped surface and rank an indicative list of priority actions, twelve of which emerged from each of the six themes as being of the highest priority to the community.
	Outputs to be articulated in a way that makes links to the objectives of MCC/MCT/MCDC.	Representatives of these organisations on the LLM steering group indicated that the themes, action areas and themes made it clear how each action might relate to the organisational aims and priorities of the three organisations.
	Include a reassessment of community communication channels.	The community survey included a dedicated question about the communication preferences of the community, ranked according to a variety of modes. The highest ranked was a request to develop a Morvern-wide mailing list. This was established as part of the project, with MCDC retaining access to this mailing list for future use beyond the lifetime of LLM.
Evaluation	Outputs to be correlated with NPF indicators to help frame evaluation process.	See Monitoring and Evaluation section.
	Develop an appropriate feedback loop for tracking of community benefit as part of LLM	LLM included a community group forum workshop to pilot an umbrella group of community groups designed to facilitate partnerships, share information and enable monitoring and evaluation of the action plan on a collaborative basis.



Appendix I

Community Feedback about LLM



Community Feedback about LLM

The following feedback was received from various community members at different stages of the process:

"[The Community Survey Summary] looks like a really good analysis and it must have been really hard to pull it all apart and put it back together again." Community member.

"Worthwhile session made me think about things from the perspective of others. Emphasised that what is 'pro' for some can justifiably be a 'challenge' to others and vice versa, and although we will never be able to solve all to everyone's satisfaction, as long as it moves us closer together, it's a win." Community member.

"Just to let you know, overall, what a fantastic and impressive service PAS are providing for the community here. It's making us all feel listened to and the whole process feel very smooth and easy." Community member.

"One of the intangible things you and the team, and of course notably Paul, have done is build confidence within the steering group in the process you are leading. I am very impressed." Steering group member.

"[The Vision section] looks fantastic and makes me think what a great bunch of people we have living in the village, and how valuable this process is at getting them out from the woodwork." Community member

"The whole process is so interesting and inspiring and I'm very grateful to be a part of it." Community member

"I have not been able to attend all the sessions but the ones I have been to were really well run and I thank you and everyone at PAS for all the time and work you have put in. Looking forward to the next stage." Community member

"Thank you so much for coming to visit us today, the kids loved having you guys here! My apologies for stories about tooth extractions, we have had so few visitors due to Covid that they just want to share everything." Rebecca Morris, Teacher, Lochaline Primary School

"I'm pleased to see a great deal in it regarding climate change mitigation and was pleased to see a couple of related headings come out top in last week's vote. Very encouraging. It's great that so much is in the plan because of climate change, but I feel we need to be better prepared for its effects." Community member

"The consultation process and workshops were very widely publicised in a number of ways so that everyone couldn't but be aware of the opportunities to make their voices heard." Miranda Morris, local resident

Appendix J

Bibliography

Bibliography

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Highland Community Learning and Development Plan (2021-2024)
Spatial Planning
Scotland 2045 – Our Fourth National Planning Framework (2021)
Highland-wide Local Development Plan (2012)
West Highland Local Development Plan (2018)
Assessment of Highland special landscape areas (2011)
Previous Community Action Plans
Morvern Community Action Planning Exercise for MCDC (2005)
Morvern Community Growth Plan for MCDC (2011)
Development Proposals
Community Building and Affordable Housing, Lochaline, Feasibility Study (2015)
Scout Hut site
16/00687/FUL Erection of 3no houses, a community building and associated parking and landscaping (2017)
20/02533/FUL Change of use of part of part of the community building to incorporate a cafe of up to 20 covers and alterations (2020)

Other Local documents – not generally available online
Morvern Countryside Exchange (2001) – MCC
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Appendix K

Glossary – Climate Terms



Glossary – Climate Terms

Adaptation: Actions taken to increase resilience to the physical impacts and risks associated with climate change to help society cope with the new conditions, examples include upgrading flood defences, reinforcing infrastructure to cope with stronger winds and providing warning systems for heatwaves.

Biodiversity: Biological diversity means the variability among living organisms from all sources, including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic *ecosystems* and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems (UN, 1992)

Blue green infrastructure: blue-green infrastructure is a network providing the “ingredients” for solving urban and climatic challenges by building with nature. Blue infrastructure refers to water elements, like rivers, canals, ponds, wetlands, floodplains, water treatment facilities, etc. Green infrastructure refers to trees, lawns, hedgerows, parks, fields, forests, etc.

Carbon dioxide removal (CDR): Anthropogenic activities removing CO₂ from the atmosphere and durably storing it in geological, terrestrial, or ocean reservoirs, or in products. It includes existing and potential anthropogenic enhancement of biological or geochemical sinks and direct air capture and storage but excludes natural CO₂ *uptake* not directly caused by human activities.

Carbon neutral: refers to achieving net-zero carbon dioxide emissions. This can be done by balancing emissions of carbon dioxide with its removal (often through carbon offsetting) or by eliminating emissions from society. Although the term "carbon neutral" is used, a carbon footprint also includes other greenhouse gases, usually carbon-based, measured in terms of their carbon dioxide equivalence.

Carbon Offsetting: A reduction or removal of emissions of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases made in order to compensate for emissions made elsewhere. Offsets are measured in tons of carbon dioxide-equivalent (CO₂e). One ton of carbon offset represents the reduction or removal of one ton of carbon dioxide or its equivalent in other greenhouse gases.

Decarbonisation: The process by which countries, individuals or other entities aim to achieve zero fossil carbon existence. Typically refers to a reduction of the carbon emissions associated with electricity, industry, and transport.

District heat network: a system for distributing heat generated in a centralized location through a system of insulated pipes for residential and commercial heating requirements such as space heating and water heating. District heating means that individual buildings do not need to have a boiler of their own.

Exposure: The presence of people; livelihoods; species or ecosystems; environmental functions, services, and resources; infrastructure; or economic, social, or cultural assets in places and settings that could be adversely affected.

Hazard: The potential occurrence of a natural or human-induced physical event or trend that may cause loss of life, injury, or other health impacts, as well as damage and loss to property, infrastructure, livelihoods, service provision, ecosystems, and environmental resources.

Heavy weight building: A building with high thermal mass built using solid, heat storing materials such as brick, stone, concrete, limecrete or cement which modulates extremes of temperature and provides ambient conditions.

Low carbon technologies: Low carbon technologies are not completely renewable as they may still have carbon emissions associated with it albeit much smaller than conventional fossil fuel burning technologies. An example of this is a heat pump. Whilst the heat from the ground is free and renewable, it still requires an electric pump to operate the system.

Mitigation: A human intervention to reduce emissions for example – installing energy efficiency measures, replacing coal fired power stations with renewable energy or moving from diesel and petrol vehicles to electric vehicles (fuelled by renewable electricity).

Natural ventilation: also called passive ventilation is the process of supplying air to and removing air from an indoor space without using mechanical systems. It refers to the flow of external air to an indoor space because of pressure differences arising from natural forces. It is a natural alternative to air conditioning and does not release greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere.

Negative emissions: Removal of *greenhouse gases (GHGs)* from the *atmosphere* by deliberate human activities, i.e., in addition to the removal that would occur via natural carbon cycle processes.

Net negative emissions: A situation of net negative emissions is achieved when, as result of human activities, more *greenhouse gases* are removed from the *atmosphere* than are emitted into it. Where multiple greenhouse gases are involved, the quantification of negative emissions depends on the climate metric chosen to compare emissions of different gases (such as global warming potential, global temperature change potential, and others, as well as the chosen time horizon). See also Negative emissions, Net zero.

Net zero: a target of completely negating the amount of greenhouse gases produced by human activity, by reducing emissions and implementing methods such as tree planting to absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Put simply, net zero refers to the balance between the amount of greenhouse gas produced and the amount removed from the atmosphere.

Passive solar design: In passive solar building design the design of a building is used to take the best advantage of the local climate conditions and site setting to provide the heating and cooling needs of occupants. Passive solar buildings by their orientation to the sun and by the design of windows, walls, and floors collect, store, reflect, and distribute solar energy, in the form of heat in the winter and reject solar heat to prevent overheating in the summer.

Property level flood protection: PLP, also known as property flood resilience (PFR), are terms to describe measures that reduce the risk of flood damage to property, speed up recovery and help people move back into their property quicker after flooding. PLP

includes measures to make buildings more flood resistant, which prevent, delay or limit the amount of water entering (such as flood doors, air brick covers, non-return valves). This approach gives people more time to move belongings above ground level and move people, pets and cars to safety. There are also measures to improve the flood recoverability (or resilience) of a home, which include using materials (such as waterproof plaster, stone floors rather than carpets), products and construction techniques to adapt the inside of a property to minimise the damage caused if floodwater enters. This approach can reduce the likelihood of permanent damage to a home or business and speed up recovery after a flood.

Rain garden: is an area of unpaved ground designed to manage rainwater runoff from hard surfaces after downpours by planting an attractive, low maintenance, wildlife-friendly space. Raingardens reduce urban flooding by slowing down the flow of rainwater and releasing it gradually so that drains and streets are not overwhelmed.

Renewable energy: Renewable technologies are powered by abundant, free sources of energy such as the wind, the sun and even plant and animal matter. Generating energy from renewable sources can help reduce our dependence on non-renewable sources like fossil fuels, which take millions of years to replenish. They also produce much less carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases – a major cause of climate change.

Resilient: being sufficiently robust so as not to fail under stress. Resilience describes the ability to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to hazardous events, trends, or disturbances for example those related to climate change such as heavier rainfall, increased frequency of droughts, sea level rise. Improving climate resilience involves assessing how climate change will create new, or alter current, climate-related risks, and taking steps to better cope with these risks.

Retrofit: means 'providing something with a component or feature not fitted during manufacture or adding something that it did not have when first constructed'. It is often used in relation to the installation of new building systems, such as heating systems, but it might also refer to the fabric of a building, for example, retrofitting insulation or double glazing. Retrofitting has come to prominence in recent years as part of the drive to make buildings more thermal efficient and sustainable. This can help cut carbon emissions, make it cheaper and easier to run buildings, and can contribute to overcoming poor ventilation and damp problems, therefore improving the health of occupants. It can also increase building adaptability, durability and resiliency.

Risk: The potential for adverse consequences where something of value is at stake and where the occurrence and degree of an outcome is uncertain. Risk results from the interaction of vulnerability (of the affected system), its exposure over time (to the hazard), as well as the (climate-related) hazard and the likelihood of its occurrence.

Sequestration: Removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere by encouraging natural uptake (by planting trees for example) or by industrial carbon capture and storage, and locking them away for the long term so that they cannot add to the warming of the atmosphere.

Thermal mass: Thermal mass describes the ability of a material to absorb, store and release heat energy. Thermal mass can be used to even-out variations in internal and external conditions, absorbing heat as temperatures rise and releasing it as they fall. In building design, this can be useful to even-out and delay extremes in thermal conditions, stabilising the internal environment and so reducing the demand for artificial heating and cooling.

Vulnerability: The propensity or predisposition to be adversely affected. Vulnerability encompasses a variety of concepts and elements including sensitivity or susceptibility to harm and lack of capacity to cope and adapt.

