



Please ask for: William Gilfillan

Direct dial: (01463) 724212

Date: 29 June 2011

E-mail: [william.gilfillan@highland.gov.uk](mailto:william.gilfillan@highland.gov.uk)

Highland Community Councils

Dear Community Council

**RE: New Financial Arrangements from 2012/13**

You may be aware that the Council has been conducting an internal review of the financial arrangements for Community Councils. The findings of this review and its recommendations were considered by a meeting of The Highland Council last week.

The purpose of the review was to address the anomalies within the current funding structures and to comply with the terms of the new Community Council Scheme. Members were asked to consider a range of potential funding options which are based upon a core sum plus an additional amount per head of population. Two of the options also included a factor for rurality in order to reflect the additional expenses incurred by Community Councils covering large geographical areas. The total Council budget for Community Councils will remain the same.

There was considerable debate at Council regarding the proposed changes, with Members highlighting the very valuable work Community Councils undertake within their communities. However, whilst many Community Councils gain from the new financial arrangements, a number will also receive a reduction in their funding. It was acknowledged that this will be difficult for Community Councils but necessary in order to make the funding structure fairer for all.

It was agreed that from 2012/13, funding to Community Councils would be based upon a core award of £750 (£850 for rural Community Councils) and £0.37 per elector. These financial arrangements would accompany a set of funding principles. Full details of what was agreed at Council are appended to this letter.

In order to mitigate the impact of these changes, it was agreed that these would be phased in over a two year period. For example, if a Community Council was due to receive a reduction in funding of £500; £250 would be taken in 2012/13 with the total reduction being implemented from 2013/14.

Details of what this means for your Community Council are appended to this letter.

Also agreed by the Highland Council last week was a timetable for the November 2011 Community Council elections and the appointment of Alistair Dodds, the Council's Chief Executive, as Returning Officer. I have enclosed a copy of the timetable for your information.

It is also important to highlight that Members agreed that the costs for the Community Council elections would be found from within the Chief Executive's Service budget. Whilst there will be a pan-Highland publicity campaign to promote the elections, there will also be a need to promote this locally and your Ward Manager will be in touch over the coming months to agree how best to take this forward locally.

I hope that the information enclosed is of assistance to you. Should you have any queries, please contact your Ward Manager in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William Gilfillan'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'G' at the end.

William Gilfillan  
Corporate Manager

**Community Council  
New Financial Arrangements – from April 2012**

**Funding Arrangement Principles**

- The Council grant should be more closely aligned with the running costs of Community Councils
- Core running costs of Community Councils should not show huge variations Highland-wide
- Community Councils should be enabled to enhance their engagement with local communities and an element of the grant should reflect this
- All costs associated with Community Councils must be contained within the current budget allowance
- Community Councils should be encouraged to actively manage their finances and not allow large balances to accrue year on year unless for specific identifiable projects.

**Core Community Council Spend\***

Meeting Expenses	<i>Premises hire Advertising</i>
Administration Expenses	<i>Stationary/postage Photocopying Telephone/IT expenses Subscriptions e.g. Information Commissioner, ASCC</i>
Travel and subsistence	
Secretarial Honorarium	
<b>Total Core = £750 (£850 for rural Community Councils)</b>	

\* It is not proposed to dictate to Community Councils that they must spend their allocation on these specified areas, only that the Council is providing a clear rationale over what areas it is supporting Community Councils.

**New funding formula**

- Core award of £750 (£850 for rural Community Councils)
- and
- £0.37 per head of population

\* *rural is defined as a population density of less than 8.8/sq km*



# HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

**WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2011**

## TIMETABLE

<b>Monday 8 August</b>	Publish Notice on creating the Supplementary Register of 16 and 17 year olds
<b>Wednesday 31 August</b>	Closing date for electors to be included in Supplementary Register
<b>Monday 19 September</b>	Publication of Notice of Election
<b>Tuesday 20 September</b>	Earliest date for receipt of Nomination Papers
<b>Tuesday 4 October</b>	Latest date for lodging Nomination Papers
<b>Thursday 6 October</b>	Latest date for withdrawal of Nomination Papers
<b>10 October – 24 October</b>	School Holidays
<b>Tuesday 25 October</b>	Post out of ballot papers, where election is contested
<b>WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER</b>	ELECTION DAY – postal ballot papers must be received by 5.00 p.m.
<b>Thursday 10 / Friday 17 November</b>	Counting of the Votes.
<b>By Friday 16 December</b>	Notification issued regarding the calling of the first meetings of the new Community Councils

## New Funding Arrangements from April 2012

Please note that only half of the change will be implemented from April 2012 with the full new Grant amount in place from April 2013

Ward	Community Council	Total Population	Population Density	Gross Grant 11/12 (£)	New Gross Grant (£)	difference from 11/12 (£)
1	Ardgay and District	585	1	1,442.19	1,066.29	-£375.90
	Assynt	1,002	1.8	1,304.91	1,220.59	-£84.32
	Bettyhill, Strathnaver and Altnaharra	363	0.6	1,375.74	984.14	-£391.60
	Creich	1,051	2.7	1,377.83	1,238.89	-£138.95
	Durness	303	0.6	1,442.19	961.94	-£480.25
	Kinlochbervie	417	1.7	1,410.04	1,004.17	-£405.87
	Lairg	892	1.8	1,375.95	1,180.02	-£195.93
	Melvich	359	1.4	1,252.45	982.72	-£269.73
	Scourie	243	0.7	1,304.91	939.73	-£365.17
	Strathy and Armadale	217	0.9	1,319.34	930.33	-£389.01
	Tongue	523	1.3	1,344.39	1,043.65	-£300.74
2	Thurso	7,095	1397.8	3,876.18	3,375.18	-£501.00
3	Wick	6,510	845.8	3,514.36	3,158.83	-£355.54
4	Berriedale and Dunbeath	528	1.5	1,090.96	1,045.27	-£45.70
	Bower	444	6.1	1,090.96	1,014.25	-£76.71
	Caithness West	1,797	7.1	1,121.10	1,515.05	£393.94
	Castletown	1,511	22.6	1,087.76	1,309.09	£221.33
	Dunnet and Canisbay	1,675	9.2	1,020.46	1,369.58	£349.11
	Halkirk	1,493	3.6	1,090.96	1,402.32	£311.36
	Latheron and Lybster	1,176	7.9	1,090.96	1,285.11	£194.15
	Sinclairs Bay	1,445	17.3		1,284.74	£1,284.74
	Tannach and District	896	9.6	1,017.26	1,081.57	£64.31
	Watten	634	4.8	1,109.63	1,084.44	-£25.19
5	Brora	1,677	8.9	1,373.55	1,370.60	-£2.95
	Dornoch	2,480	16.4	1,252.45	1,667.42	£414.97
	Edderton	323	3.6	1,442.19	969.61	-£472.58
	Golspie	1,631	23.4	1,373.55	1,353.43	-£20.11
	Helmsdale	835	1.4	1,373.55	1,158.99	-£214.56
	Rogart	537	1.3	1,304.91	1,048.71	-£256.19
6	Applecross	235	1.2	1,120.17	937	-£183.17
	Aultbea	661	6.8	1,120.17	1,094.71	-£25.46
	Coigach	253	1.5	1,120.17	943.63	-£176.54
	Contin	595	16.8	1,120.17	970.05	-£150.12
	Dornie And District	414	1	1,097.90	1,003.20	-£94.70
	Gairloch	1,128	6.6	1,187.27	1,267.21	£79.94
	Garve and District	329	0.5	1,120.17	971.88	-£148.29
	Glenelg and Arnisdale	291	1.3	1,097.90	957.71	-£140.20
	Kyle	765	99.2	1,097.90	1,033.05	-£64.85
	Lochalsh	287	9.8	1,097.90	856.01	-£241.89
	Lochbroom	2,125	2.3	1,439.73	1,636.25	£196.52
	Lochcarron	798	2.7	1,139.50	1,145.13	£5.62
	Lochduich	317	1.2	1,097.90	967.31	-£130.59
	Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon	630	1.4	1,120.17	1,083.20	-£36.97
	Plockton	399	18.8	1,097.90	897.66	-£200.24
	Shieldaig	175	1.6	1,120.17	914.61	-£205.56
	Strathpeffer	1,536	8.4	1,158.84	1,418.29	£259.45
Stromeferry	139	4.7	1,097.90	901.61	-£196.30	

## New Funding Arrangements from April 2012 cont.

Please note that only half of the change will be implemented from April 2012 with the full new Grant amount in place from April 2013

Ward	Community Council	Total Population	Population Density	Gross Grant 11/12 (£)	New Gross Grant (£)	difference from 11/12 (£)
6 cont.	Torridon and Kinlochewe	357	0.5	1,120.17	982.23	-£137.94
	Wester Loch Ewe	412	2.7	1,120.17	1,002.56	-£117.61
7	Alness	5,639	474.6	3,964.18	2,836.39	-£1,127.79
	Ardross	468	2	1,123.38	1,023.03	-£100.35
	Invergordon	3,854	159.9	2,983.12	2,175.86	-£807.26
	Kiltearn	1,836	10.5	1,250.75	1,429.50	£178.75
	Saltburn and Westwood	406	617.7	1,123.38	900.17	-£223.22
8	Balintore and Hilton	1,192	95.8	1,191.61	1,191.05	-£0.56
	Fearn	532	29.3	1,123.38	946.66	-£176.72
	Inver	372	19.9	1,123.38	887.82	-£235.56
	Kilmuir and Logie Easter	1,772	20.8	1,271.21	1,405.74	£134.53
	Nigg and Shandwick	379	11.7	1,123.38	890.11	-£233.27
	Tain	3,793	65	2,962.28	2,153.33	-£808.95
	Tarbat	718	30.3	1,123.38	1,015.57	-£107.81
9	Conon Bridge	1,722	796.1	1,291.89	1,387.11	£95.22
	Dingwall	5,173	427.1	3,545.88	2,664.10	-£881.78
	Maryburgh	1,408	63.2	1,155.43	1,270.80	£115.38
	Muir of Ord	3,116	84.4	1,734.28	1,902.84	£168.56
10	Avoch and Killen	1,425	44.2	1,120.17	1,277.24	£157.07
	Cromarty	951	27.5	1,120.17	1,101.87	-£18.30
	Ferintosh	1,970	37.4	1,120.17	1,478.86	£358.68
	Fortrose and Rosemarkie	2,367	95.9	1,338.52	1,625.70	£287.18
	Killearnan	685	21.8	1,120.17	1,003.48	-£116.69
	Knockbain	2,134	45.1	1,361.26	1,539.59	£178.32
	Resolis	770	15.1	1,120.17	1,035.04	-£85.13
11	Broadford and Strath	1,492	6.3	1,097.90	1,402.07	£304.17
	Dunvegan	572	5.8	1,097.90	1,061.79	-£36.11
	Glendale	405	4	1,097.90	1,000.03	-£97.87
	Kilmuir	373	5.8	1,097.90	987.93	-£109.98
	Kyleakin and Kyclerhea	335	8.1	1,097.90	974.02	-£123.88
	Minginish	496	1.9	1,097.90	1,033.58	-£64.33
	Portree	2,558	19.8	1,163.04	1,696.51	£533.46
	Raasay	243	3.3	1,097.90	939.86	-£158.04
	Sconser	71	1.6	1,097.90	876.21	-£221.69
	Skeabost	1,114	6.3	1,097.90	1,262.18	£164.27
	Sleat	880	5.1	1,097.90	1,175.72	£77.82
	Staffin	525	4.8	1,097.90	1,044.26	-£53.65
	Struan	265	2.4	1,097.90	948.21	-£149.70
	Uig	385	6.5	1,097.90	992.57	-£105.33
12	Waternish	320	4.8	1,097.90	968.31	-£129.60
	Arisaig	495	3.3	1,082.14	1,033.11	-£49.03
	Caol	2,839	782.7	1,451.96	1,800.59	£348.63
	Glenfinnan	122	0.7	1,082.14	895.28	-£186.86
	Glengarry	396	0.8	1,082.14	996.64	-£85.50
	Kilmallie	1,714	10.4	1,082.14	1,384.13	£301.99
	Mallaig	952	4.8	1,082.14	1,202.39	£120.25
	Morar	264	1.3	1,082.14	947.83	-£134.31
	Small Isles	136	0.9	1,082.14	900.45	-£181.69
Spean Bridge, Roybridge	1,424	1.5	1,082.14	1,376.70	£294.56	

## New Funding Arrangements from April 2012 cont.

Please note that only half of the change will be implemented from April 2012 with the full new Grant amount in place from April 2013

Ward	Community Council	Total Population	Population Density	Gross Grant 11/12 (£)	New Gross Grant (£)	difference from 11/12 (£)
13	Beauly	1,329	401.2	1,098.20	1,241.78	£143.58
	Dores and Essich	330	4.6	1,098.20	972.12	-£126.07
	Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston	1,292	2.7	1,098.20	1,327.92	£229.72
	Glenurquhart	2,077	9	1,098.20	1,518.53	£420.33
	Kilmorack	608	9.7	1,098.20	974.88	-£123.31
	Kiltarlity	1,387	13.4	1,098.20	1,263.23	£165.04
	Kirkhill and Bunchrew	1,736	35.7	1,098.20	1,392.49	£294.30
	Stratherrick and Foyers	713	1.9	1,098.20	1,113.72	£15.52
	Strathglass	533	0.8	1,098.20	1,047.04	-£51.16
14	Ballifeary	1,180	718.1	1,098.20	1,186.59	£88.39
	Muirtown	4,164	2437.5	2,296.67	2,290.67	-£5.99
15	Central – not currently formed	824	254.8	0	1,054.83	£1,054.83
	Dalneigh and Columba	3,607	3050.6	2,028.65	2,084.57	£55.92
	Merkinch	4,247	3201.8	1,910.98	2,321.48	£410.50
	Park	2,368	4661.7	0	1,626.22	£1,626.22
16	Hilton, Milton & Castle Heather	5,313	4574.9	2,670.25	2,715.87	£45.62
	Holm	2,120	790.9	1,098.20	1,534.30	£436.10
	Lochardil	4,594	1132.1	1,840.70	2,449.68	£608.99
17	Culcabock and Drakies	3,501	2574.7	1,705.85	2,045.55	£339.70
	Raigmore	1,539	1540.3	1,214.15	1,319.43	£105.27
18	Ardersier and Petty	1,663	40.5	1,098.20	1,365.16	£266.96
	Balloch	1,516	297.4	1,098.20	1,310.80	£212.60
	Cawdor And West Nairnshire	1,167	5.8	1,110.72	1,281.68	£170.95
	Croy	1,351	45.9	1,098.20	1,249.71	£151.51
	Smithton and Culloden	6,554	1013.4	2,478.42	3,174.88	£696.46
19	Auldearn	1,008	29.6	1,110.72	1,123.00	£12.28
	East Nairnshire	591	3.4	1,110.72	1,068.62	-£42.10
	Nairn - Suburban	3,269	1425.5	1,110.72	1,959.50	£848.78
	Nairn - West	1,118	1117	1,110.72	1,163.82	£53.10
	Nairn River	4,967	699.6	1,110.72	2,587.75	£1,477.03
20	Inverness South	4,519	258.4	1,098.20	2,421.90	£1,323.70
	Strathdearn	575	1.3	1,098.20	1,062.64	-£35.56
	Westhill	5,030	449.4	1,282.16	2,611.27	£1,329.11
21	Aviemore	3,043	15.3	2,442.26	1,875.74	-£566.52
	Boat of Garten	645	19.9	1,392.06	988.65	-£403.40
	Carrbridge	725	4.7	1,412.42	1,118.35	-£294.06
	Cromdale and Advie	516	3.1	1,354.55	1,040.80	-£313.75
	Dalwhinnie	90	0.7	1,148.80	883.25	-£265.54
	Dulnain Bridge	514	8	1,331.07	1,040.18	-£290.89
	Grantown On Spey	2,602	36.6	2,487.27	1,712.86	-£774.41
	Kincraig	700	1.6	1,415.63	1,109.14	-£306.49
	Kingussie	1,413	7.6	1,898.94	1,372.79	-£526.15
	Laggan	299	0.6	1,230.24	960.81	-£269.43
	Nethy Bridge	974	4.1	1,554.95	1,210.40	-£344.54
Newtonmore	1,229	6.8	1,722.12	1,304.81	-£417.32	

## New Funding Arrangements from April 2012 cont.

Please note that only half of the change will be implemented from April 2012 with the full new Grant amount in place from April 2013

Ward	Community Council	Total Population	Population Density	Gross Grant 11/12 (£)	New Gross Grant (£)	difference from 11/12 (£)
22	Acharacle	608	2.7	1,082.14	1,074.85	-£7.29
	Ardgour	408	1.3	1,082.14	1,001.04	-£81.10
	Ballachulish	706	16.7	1,082.14	1,011.38	-£70.76
	Duror and Kentallen	320	6.1	1,082.14	968.54	-£113.61
	Fort William	4,647	39	2,483.68	2,469.28	-£14.40
	Glencoe and Glen Etive	351	1.1	1,082.14	979.76	-£102.38
	Inverlochy and Torlundy	1,127	20.7	1,082.14	1,166.82	£84.68
	Kinlochleven	857	3.9	1,082.14	1,166.96	£84.82
	Morvern	371	1.1	1,082.14	987.26	-£94.89
	Nether Lochaber	547	11.3	1,082.14	952.21	-£129.94
	Sunart	445	2.1	1,082.14	1,014.82	-£67.32
	Western Ardnamurchan	365	2.2	1,082.14	985.09	-£97.05
13 / 14	Inverness West	2,364	44	1,098.20	1,624.60	£526.40
13 / 20	Strathnairn	1,135	4.8	1,098.20	1,269.97	£171.77
15 / 17	Crown	5,154	2790.5	2,770.50	2,657.08	-£113.42