

# COMMUNITY\* LAND SCOTLAND

## Economic Indicator Data 2014

Amanda Bryan: Aigas Associates & Steve Westbrook

### The Study

Community Land Scotland is the membership organisation for community landowners (CLOs). Formed in 2010 it has 39 members who between them own and manage around 500,000 acres of land. In response to several requests for data about the impact that community landownership has had a study into the economic impacts was commissioned from 2 independent consultants in late 2013. The study focused on collating and analysing a range of financial and output data provided by the 12 CLS members that had owned land for a period of more than 5 years at the date of the analysis. A summary of some of the key results is provided below and a copy of the full report is available from CLS on request.

### The Findings – Community Land Ownership Helps to Stabilise and Grow Rural Communities

The 12 participating CLS members participating in the study own a combined total of 359,904 acres (145,648 Ha). Excluding the Stornoway Trust at 90 years old the average age of the 11 other participating CLOs is 11.4 years.

Capital Value	At Acquisition	2013/4
All Estates	£17,222,734	£59,340,000

Turnover	At Acquisition	2013
Main CLO	£1,627,502	£5,250,794
Trading Subsidiaries	£102,111	£868,854
Total	£1,729,502	£6,119,648

Direct Staffing	At Acquisition	2013
Main CLO & Subs	22	103

Investment in Local Employment	At Acquisition	2013
Staff Costs CLO & Subs	£455,571	£1,646,304
Contracts to Local Businesses	£20,653	£897,587

Community Activity Indicators	No. of Community Organisations	No. of Private Enterprises
At Acquisition	29	83
2013	54	185
Variation	25 (Increase)	102 (Increase)

#### HEADLINE FIGURES

- The 12 estates have seen an increase in capital value from £17.22m to £59.34m (up 244%) based on a conservative desk based exercise undertaken by the DVS.
- **9 of the 11 CLS Members that provided data have populations that have remained steady or increased, with the most marked increases experienced by some remote island and land locked communities.**
- The 12 estates have seen an increase in turnover of 254% rising from £1,729,502 at acquisition to £6,119,648 in 2012/13.
- **Annually the 12 organisations are contributing significantly to local employment and the local economy with over £2.5m spent on staff and local contractors in 2012/13 – a 434% increase on comparable figures at time of acquisition. Direct staffing over this period has increased from 22 to 103 (up by 368%).**

## The Findings – Community Land Ownership Delivers Increased Investment in Rural Areas

Cumulative Investment to Date	Total (£)
Housing	4,505,627
Renewable Energy	16,486,000
Land Management (inc Forestry)	1,334,401
Tourism & Recreation Infrastructure	1,136,700
Business Development	1,252,694
Communications Infrastructure	4,873,101
Community Facilities	205,000
Training/ Skills	20,550
<b>Total *</b>	<b>34,428,073</b>

\*: Some CLOs only provided total investment figures, breakdown by category not always available.

Planned Investment	Total (£)
Housing	2,126,000
Renewable Energy	10,030,000
Land Management (inc Forestry)	620,000
Tourism & Recreation Infrastructure	6,525,000
Business Development	865,000
Communications Infrastructure	5,003,000
Community Facilities	20,000
Training/ Skills	8,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,194,000</b>

### HEADLINE FIGURES

- To date over **£34m** has been invested in capital projects on the 12 estates directly by the community landowners - 53% of which is the CLO's own funds. Largest areas of investment have been renewable energy, housing and communications infrastructure including piers, roads and broadband.

### INVESTMENT BY OTHERS

- Fyne Homes invested a total of £3,181,778 in the development of 18 houses to rent on Gigha.
- Knoydart Forest Trust has secured investment of £1,033,000 for forestry/ land management activities on land leased by the Knoydart Foundation.
- Askernish Golf Club has secured investments of £500k cash and around £1m in kind for the redevelopment of the golf course in South Uist.
- FCS recently invested £2.5m in a new forestry pier justified in part by North West Mull Community's timber extraction forecasts.

Key Outputs*	Count
No. of houses upgraded by CLO	151
No. of other buildings upgraded	20
No. of houses built new in partnership	33
No. of house plots sold/ released through shared ownership	141
No. of visitor facilities upgraded	13
No. of visitor facilities built new	9
No. of commercial facilities provided	24
No. of people supported through training	124
No. of community facilities upgraded	9
No. of community facilities built new	5

\* Data from 11 out of 12 CLOs

### HEADLINE FIGURES

- Between them 11 estates have upgraded 151 houses, built 6 new houses themselves and a further 33 in partnership with others and released a total of 141 plots of land for housing development, this has contributed significantly to the positive population trends. In addition they have redeveloped 20 other estate buildings for a variety of uses.
- Collectively they have installed almost 7MW of renewable energy capacity.
- Greater numbers of people are being encouraged to take an active role in land management and the 11 CLOs have created at least 17 crofts, 12 small holdings and 16 allotments.
- Investment in physical infrastructure has included the upgrade of 5 piers, 35km of forest roads/ track and 29km of footpath with a further 17.5 km of new forest roads/ tracks being built.
- A total of 21 visitor facilities have been upgraded or built new. These range from tourism accommodation, camping facilities and bunk houses to attractions such as the Suileachan Monument at Bhaltois, Achamore Gardens on Gigha and the Eagle Observatory on North Harris.

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