
Briefing Note: - Islay Campervan Project

1. Purpose

The purpose of this update is to respond to a specific area of interest raised by the MAKI CPP.

2. Recommendations

The paper is for information purposes only.

3. Detail

HIE supported South Islay Development (SID) to develop a Campervan Service Point. The Campervan Service Point will incorporate five parking berths for campervans or caravans. Each berth will have access to electricity and fresh water as well as access to an approved chemical waste disposal site and facilities to dispose of grey water. Wi-Fi will be available for the period of their stay on the site.

This purpose of the project is primarily to enhance the sustainability of the lifeline service provided by Port Ellen Filling Station (owned by SID). A secondary aim of the project is to address the environmental and social challenges caused by the large increase in campervans visiting Islay with limited appropriate services; specifically the illegal dumping of chemical waste. The Service Point will be completed during Spring 2017, ready for the summer season.

RET has enabled more campervans to go on to islands and in many cases there is not the infrastructure in place to cope with the rise in numbers. Anecdotally, this has been reported on Tiree and Mull in addition to Islay. Tiree Rural Development operate a scheme which open up farm/croft land for campervans which provides a small income to the farmers/crofters and provides a pre-bookable space for overnight stays. NB: campervans have to have permission from the Tiree Community Council before booking the ferry,

and the same applies for Colonsay.

4. SOA Outcomes

This report relates to Outcome 1.

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