Sustainability Profile for Trotternish
with supporting appendices

natural CAPITAL

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

1.1   What is Dùthchas?

Dùthchas – a Gaelic word indicating something that is inherent, inseparable from oneself – is a project aiming to find practical solutions for developing rural areas and their surroundings in a sustainable way. It involves the participation of local people and public authorities, and is co-funded by the EU LIFE Environment Programme, and a Partnership of Scottish Public Agencies

Three Pilot Areas in Scotland have been selected for the project:
- **Trotternish in Skye**
- **North Sutherland**
- **North Uist and Berneray in the Western Isles**

As a first step of the Dùthchas Project, each of the Pilot Areas completed an Initial Review, whereby local knowledge, impressions and concerns on the cultural, economic and natural aspects of the area were obtained from members of the local community and participating Public Agencies.

1.2   CONTEXT OF THE PROFILE
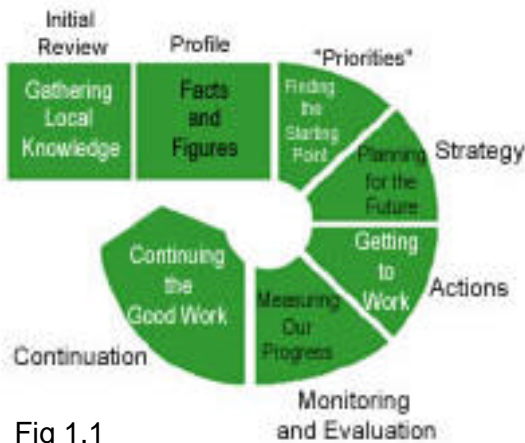
Fig 1.1

The subsequent key stage in the Dùthchas project process has been the generation of a sustainability profile for each of the three Pilot Areas. This stage drew on information generated during the Initial Reviews (from both the community and the agencies) and combined this with relevant quantitative data (made available from the agencies) to build a picture of the current status of each area in relation to key sustainability criteria. Fig 1.1 illustrates where the profiles fit into the overall Dùthchas process.

The aim of the profiles is to bring together community and agency information to establish a baseline from which the progress of the area towards sustainable development can be tracked. It provides a crucial link between the Initial Review and the sustainability strategy development. A vital element of the profiles is the identification of priority issues for each area in relation to sustainability.

1.3   DEFINING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

A working definition for sustainable development has been established by the Dùthchas Project Team specifically for use in the project at the local level. Although taking into consideration existing national and international definitions it reflects more the local situation of the Pilot Areas.

The definition is made up of four key goals:
Goal 1 : Making the most of natural and cultural resources without damaging them
Goal 2 : Retaining a viable and empowered community
Goal 3 : Reducing problems of remoteness by delivering local needs locally and reducing dependence on external inputs
Goal 4 : Avoiding harmful effects on other people, places and future generations

Fig 1.2

The four goals and their interrelationship are shown in Fig 1.2.
The figure illustrates how the Dùthchas definition with its four goals corresponds well to the traditional definitions of sustainable development. The first three goals equate well with the traditional environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainability. Goal 4 demonstrates how sustainability at the local level fits into the overall global picture.

Box 1 : This box brings together a number of statements which appeared in the Dùthchas Newsletter where people from all three Pilot Areas, actively involved with Dùthchas gave personal impressions on the theme of sustainability.

DEFINING SUSTAINABILITY

"Duthchas is a project dedicated to giving as many people as possible a say in building a sustainable future for their area"

"Sustainability is a pool of people from the communities as well as the agencies, democratically working through common community goals, to reap a better life and a more reliable reward, in harmony with our natural surroundings"

"For development to be 'sustainable' I feel it must fulfill the whole spectrum of life, and meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of our communities here"

"Everything grows out of the past and if we are to shape the future we must do it from the roots up"

"A sustainable community is one that hangs on its young people"

"One way or another we all have vested interest in maintaining our communities and the land we live in for future generations"

1.4   HOW DO WE MEASURE PROGRESS?

In order to determine what trends are occurring over time with respect to the status of sustainability in the Pilot Areas, it is necessary to establish what the present situation looks like or in other words the "baseline situation". If we are to make the right decisions about what are the best actions to take in order to improve the sustainability of our areas (improve on this baseline) we need reliable information about the state of our communities, our environment, and our economy and the factors which impact on them.

This requires a set of "indicators" or measures, which in practical terms are quantified information which help to explain the current state of things and how this might change over time. It is important to establish indicators that provide us ways of measuring both the current state of our communities, environment and economy (so-called "status" indicators) and also ways of measuring our achievements in moving towards our sustainability goals (so-called "performance" indicators)

1.5 HOW THE PROFILES ARE STRUCTURED

In the current sustainability profiles we have established a framework, as far as we could, that links a number of indicators to a set of broad objectives that will take each of the areas towards delivering the Four Dùthchas Sustainability Goals. The profiles include a main chapter for each goal and within each are laid out the corresponding supporting objectives together with their respective indicators. This framework together with the results of the Initial Review allows us to build a picture of each area which can act as a baseline for future progress.

Fig 1.3 illustrates the Dùthchas Process and the relationship between the sustainability goals and supporting objectives and the role of indicators in the overall process. It also makes it clear what it is that we are expecting to achieve at each stage in the process.
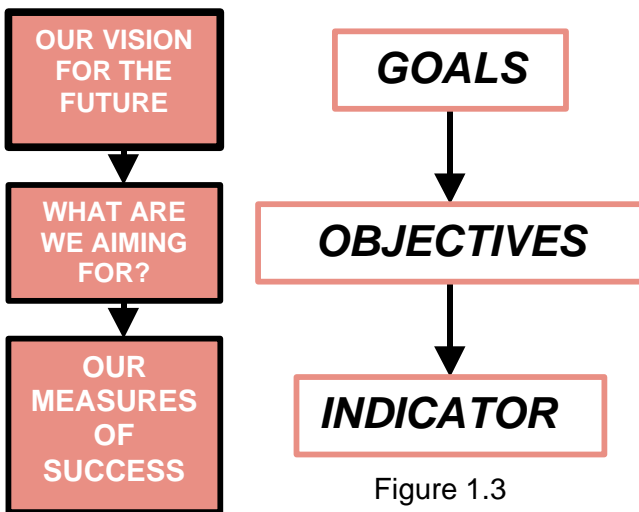
USING THE PROFILES IN THE FUTURE

These profiles are a first attempt at describing the three Pilot Areas within a framework that will help each area move towards delivering the Four Dùthchas Sustainability Goals. They are based on indicators for which the information was already reasonably accessible.

Whilst researching the information and also during discussions and consultations with the key agencies, it became clear that there may be other more useful indicators which could better describe the status and progress of the areas towards their sustainability goals, but for which there was little if any existing information. Some of these are included as "additional recommended indicators" at the end of each section dealing with an objective others are presented and discussed in *Appendix* 6.

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE → **WHAT ARE WE AIMING FOR?** → **OUR MEASURES OF SUCCESS**

GOALS → **OBJECTIVES** → **INDICATOR**

Figure 1.3

In order to make the profiles, and in particular the performance measurement element more meaningful to each area it would seem appropriate for the Project Area Advisory Groups to shape the profiles further. This could be done by selecting some of the more meaningful indicators, for which there are little or no current data, and undertaking to make the necessary measurements in order to provide the missing information. Profiles could then be monitored and updated annually and thus used as a useful tool for tracking progress.

Goal 1   Making the most of natural and cultural resources without damaging them

Objective 1   Protecting and enhancing natural resources and promoting their values

Key Topics: sea; fresh water; land; air; biodiversity; habitat; landscape; management; stewardship; use; interpretation.

Introduction   The indicators selected aim to provide a picture of the type, significance and quality of the natural resources present, and what is currently happening to protect and enhance these resources. Some of the status indicators identified (eg, air quality, water quality) are already at their 'highest' level. If monitoring over time were to show a degrading of their status, this would indicate environmental pressures arising in the Pilot Area.

Status indicators

Coastal Water Quality

The coastal waters of the Highlands and Islands are characterised by generally very high quality, resulting from limited pollution sources. The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) therefore does not conduct analytical sampling along the coast. Water quality is generally assessed by visual reviews, and considered high unless otherwise signalled. By monitoring any incidents of lowered coastal water quality, it is possible to determine where pressures or pollution increases are occurring within the Pilot Area. No recent incidents have been reported for the Trotternish coastline.

River Water Quality

SEPA operates a classification scheme for river water quality with five levels:
Class A1: Excellent   Class A2: Good
Class B: Fair   Class C: Poor
Class D: Seriously polluted

The class of a river, or segment thereof, is determined by measuring the level of certain parameters (eg dissolved oxygen, nutrient concentrations) in water samples. Most of the rivers sampled in the Highlands and Islands fall under Class A1 or A2. This is an indication of the pristine nature of the area, and the relatively small number of pollutant sources.
The only river monitored by SEPA within the Trotternish pilot area is the River Snizort, which falls within the highest classification of A1 ('excellent').

	Dissolved Oxygen (% saturation)	Biological Oxygen Demand (mg/l)	Ammonia Nitrogen (mg/l)
Snizort sampling point	96.0	0.6	0.055
Class A1 standard	≥ 80	≤ 2.5	≤ 0.25

Objective 1 continued

% of nationally important habitat types

The high environmental quality of Trotternish is partly represented by the unique nature of some of its habitats, such as the peatlands. Land designated for its conservation value is a more general indicator of habitat value. By monitoring the percentage land cover occupied by nationally important habitats and by designations, the environmental pressures or improvements in the area can be gauged.

Peatland amounts to approximately 45% of the land area on Trotternish. Seven Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), are found in the Pilot Area, covering 14% of the land. One of Highland's National Scenic Areas is in Trotternish, covering over 75 km^2. Allowing for areas of overlap, the total area covered by natural heritage designations is 32%.

Percentage of coverage:

Designation	Trotternish Pilot Area
NSA	24
SSSIs	14
NSA/SSSIs	32

Air quality

The quality of air that we breathe has clear implications for personal health and the quality of our surrounding environment. Local air quality is affected by emissions from road transport, industrial activity, airports, power stations and natural sources. There are few pollution sources which can cause a lowering of air quality standards in the Highlands and Islands. For this reason, limited air quality sampling occurs.

The nearest air quality monitoring station to the Trotternish Pilot Area is Strath Vaich, run under the DETR National Air Quality Monitoring Programme. Data is collected daily from the station on ozone, sulphur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides.

The data collected to date indicates that the air quality of the Highlands and Islands area is high. The lack of pollution sources combined with the strong winds ensure that air quality is maintained. Monitoring of air quality in the Pilot Areas may be appropriate if known polluting sources were to become established.

Measures of performance

Interpretive centres represent a structured, managed way of promoting and "making the most" of natural resources, encouraging learning and appreciation on the parts of visitors, whilst protecting the resources. The quality of the interpretive facilities, the number of visitors and repeat visitors, and the information provided can be good indicators of reasoned use of resources. Intensive use of an interpretive centre can potentially result in stress of the associated resources. A review of levels of perceived stress can therefore also be an important measure. No major interpretive facilities dedicated to natural resources are present in Trotternish, although the Staffin museum contains some natural history artifacts. There are, however, 20 major footpaths which allow access to the rich natural environment (see Appendix 1).

A number of **habitat management plans**, sponsored by Government and other bodies, are in place to encourage the protection of significant natural resources. By assessing the popularity of these schemes within Trotternish, and the area of land affected, it is possible to gain a measure of how well the natural resource is being protected and enhanced. Habitat management initiatives in Trotternish are represented chiefly by habitat creation projects, which currently range from habitats specifically aimed at species such as the corncrake to tree planting under the Woodland Grant Scheme (see Appendix 1).

Objective 1 continued

Additional recommended indicators

The area of native woodland cover
Monitoring the change in areas of native woodland cover and assessing their condition and management provides a good indicator of what is considered to be a significant natural resource. Forestry accounts for only 1% of the Trotternish land cover; it is unclear from available information whether this is native or imported commercial woodland species. Information on native woodland cover is being sought from two main sources: the Caledonia Partnership database, which can provide information on the percentage of "semi-natural" woodland; and the McCaulay Land Use Research Institute land cover database from 1988, held by Highland Council.

Biodiversity Action Plans
are being developed with funding from Government sources in the light of the recent EU Habitats Directive, which encourages Member States to increase and diversify the number of species present in certain ecologically significant areas of the country. At this time, no Biodiversity Action Plans have been proposed or are being run in any of the three Pilot Areas. However, the potential establishment of such Plans in the future would be a clear indication of a 'drive' by the Pilot Area to increase its environmental value.

The numbers and species of breeding birds
 within the Pilot Areas are an example of the range of biodiversity supported by the local environment. Data on breeding success for bird species in Trotternish is expected to be available from the RSPB in the near future.

Objective 2: Protecting and enhancing cultural resources and promoting their value

Key Topics: cultural activities; language; arts; traditions; way of life; sites and monuments: management; use; interpretation.

Introduction The indicators selected provide an indication of the range of cultural and historic resources present in the Pilot Areas, and the activities underway to encourage their appreciation.

Status indicators

Number of recorded vs. number of scheduled ancient monuments

Recorded and Scheduled Ancient Monuments are indicators of the cultural and historical heritage of an area. Whereas recorded monuments represent any archaeological or cultural remains that have been located, Scheduled Ancient Monuments fall under specific legislative prescriptive guidelines, which renders them relevant at a National level. The number of recorded and scheduled ancient monuments changes constantly, as new excavations occur, and as previously identified recorded monuments are judged significant enough to fall within the 'Scheduled' category. By keeping track of the ratio of the numbers of the two categories of monuments, a measure of the cultural significance of the area is maintained. A total of 345 sites and monuments are recorded for the Trotternish Peninsula by the Archaeology Unit of the Highland Council: 28 are classed as Scheduled Ancient Monuments, and 46 as Listed Buildings
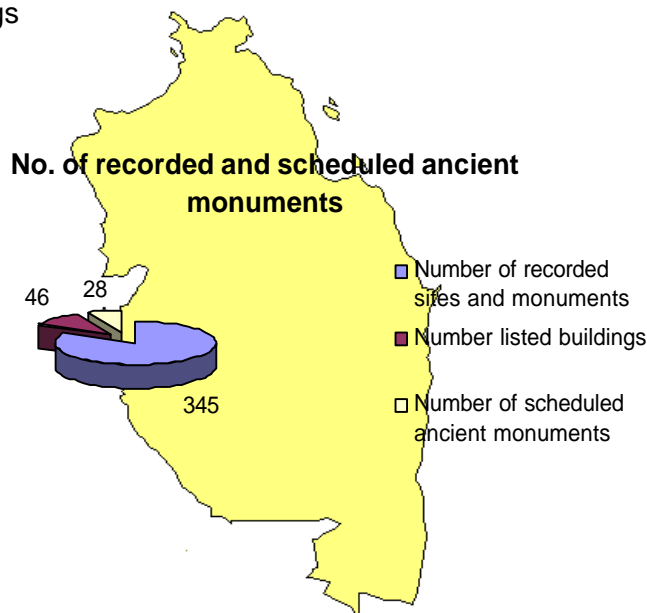
Number of Gaelic speakers as percentage of population.

The Gaelic language and tradition is a key part of the culture within Trotternish. Assessing the percentage of Gaelic speakers is one way of measuring its current status.

Approximately 50% of the Trotternish population (approximately 662 of 1,325 in 1991) are considered to be Gaelic speakers.

No. of recorded and scheduled ancient monuments

46   28

345

□ Number of recorded sites and monuments

■ Number listed buildings

□ Number of scheduled ancient monuments

Gaelic Speakers 50%

Non Gaelic speakers 50%
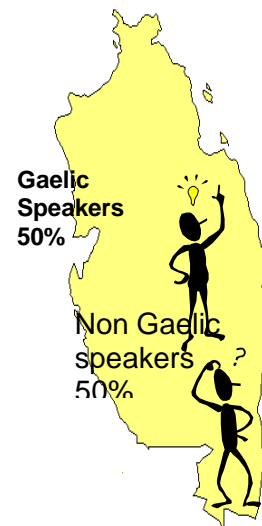
Objective 2 continued

Measures of performance

The **number of events and ceremonies celebrated by the local community** can offer an indication of the cultural vitality of a community. The events can range from one-day celebrations to week-long festivals, focusing on cultural aspects of the community. In Trotternish, many such events are held, typically in Community Halls in the various villages across the peninsula (see Appendix 1).

Heritage trails and interpretation centres represent a structured, managed way of promoting and "making the most" of cultural resources, encouraging learning and appreciation on the parts of visitors, whilst protecting the resources. The quality of the heritage trails and interpretive facilities, the number of visitors and repeat visitors, and the information provided can be good indicators of reasoned use of resources. A review of levels of perceived stress can therefore also be an important measure.

The available information does indicate a number of small interpretation centres on Trotternish, including two small museums, the Staffin Museum and the Museum of Island Life at Kilmuir (see Appendix 1).

Number and character of Gaelic related initiatives

As with the events and ceremonies indicator, this is an expression of the cultural activity within the area, but focused more on the unique language aspect. Again, although difficult to obtain a meaningful measure of this activity, that combines both quantity and quality of events, the available information (see Appendix 1) does indicate activity taking place in many parts of the Pilot Area.

Additional recommended indicators

Number of interpreted sites and number not yet interpreted
The number of interpretive sites is a measure of the degree to which cultural resources are promoted. Interpretation can range from the location of a descriptive plaque, to the establishment of a visitor car park, to the development of an interpretive centre and museum. No precise data is available at this time on the fraction of sites in Trotternish that has undergone some degree of interpretation.
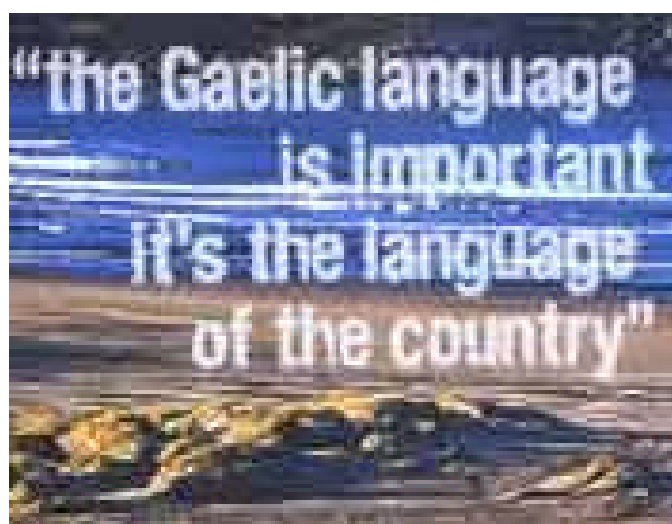
Objective 3: Promoting sustainable and innovative use of natural resources

Key topics: agriculture; fisheries; forestry; game; minerals; energy; tourism; management; use; production; labelling; marketing; support.

Introduction The indicators related to this objective aim to define the current level of availability of commercial natural resources, and the initiatives in place to develop new uses whilst ensuring that overall use is sustainable.

Status indicators

Proportion of land under forestry management.

Forestry accounts for 1% of the land cover in Trotternish, of which 16 areas are receiving Woodland Grant Scheme money. This low percentage of forested area may represent an indication of the unsuitability for forestry activities, linked to the high proportion of peatland habitat in the area. The Highland Council forestry land capability survey is being reviewed for a more accurate assessment.

Minerals

The Highlands area is a major source of aggregates -- in the form of crushed rock , sand and gravel – for Britain and Europe. Although no information is available for resources in Trotternish, Skye and Lochalsh as a whole has over two hundred years' supply of sand and gravel, and fifteen years' supply of crushed rock for quarrying. The high sand and gravel resource is linked to a super quarry at Glensanda, Morven (Lochalsh). Marble harl is also worked at Torrin on Skye.

Proportion of actively managed crofts vs number of absentee crofters.

Crofting provides social benefits to rural areas by creating working communities, offering security of tenancy, and acting as a means for people to remain on the land. Traditional crofting techniques (eg the use of seaweed as fertiliser) also represent a sustainable use of natural resources.

The proportion of active vs inactive crofts can indicate the potential for further growth of crofting communities within an area. Within the Kilmuir Parish, representing Trotternish, 286 crofts are registered, with 51 absentees.

Number of Active Crofts
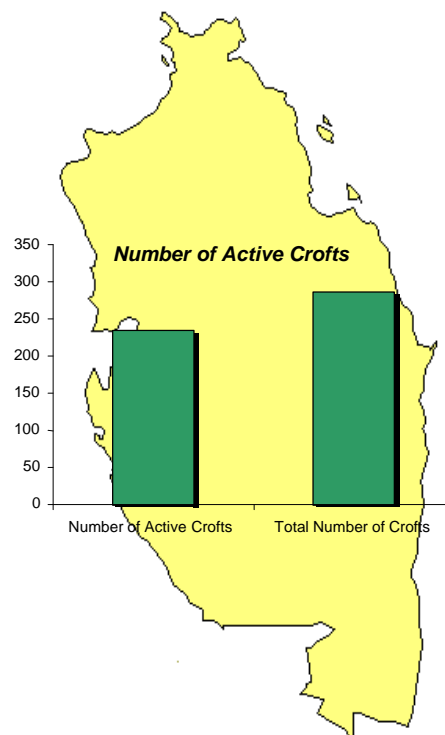
Measures of Performance

- **Start-up of "green" projects** can be used as a measure of the extent to which natural resources are being used in an innovative way, often through the support of local grants. The available data shows that in the last year, five grants have been made available by Skye and Lochalsh Local Enterprise for a mixture of "Environmental Renewal" projects and new "green" business start-ups (for details, see Appendix 1).

Additional recommended indicators

- *Number of organic producers*

'Organic' agricultural produce – ie, grown according to strict guidelines set by the Soil Association, without synthetic fertilisers or chemical pesticides –has been shown to be a niche product which can be sold at a premium compared to normal produce. The degree to which Pilot Area crofters are taking advantage of this market can be monitored over time.

To date, the only information available on this issue in Trotternish regards a single Enterprise Allowance Scheme provided for 'Buchanan Organics' horticultural produce (£1,600).Some original research may be required to establish a more complete record of organic crofters in the Pilot Area. The Scottish Organic Producers Association may be starting to develop a full database.

- *Game populations*

Recreational and commercial activities linked to game depend on resource numbers. Figures are difficult to obtain for Trotternish: The Deer Commission for Scotland does not undertake Red Deer counts in Trotternish, because of the very small number of deer, if any.   Data for other types of game, eg grouse or pheasant, are held by private estates and are not publicly available.

- *No. of woodlands under the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme*

Woodlands under the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme sets out standard requirements for sustainably managed forestry areas. To date, no information on the above indicator for the Trotternish area could be obtained from the Forestry Commission, but further requests may result in successful data release.

- *Number of green labelled products/services*

Such products would relate to natural resources activities and may include organic labelled croft produce, The Green Tourism Scheme, ecotourism or activity holidays and farm holidays. To date, these activities are limited but can be monitored over time as an example of sustainable use key resources in the Pilot Area.

- *Stocking densities*

The density of cattle or sheep on grazing areas will play a significant role on the status of the land on which they feed. A balance needs to be struck between the carrying capacity of the land and the economic needs of the resident crofters. Monitoring of stocking densities will help determine which way the balance is swinging. To date, no indicator of stocking density has been maintained by official bodies.

- *Index of grazing pressure*

Similar to stocking density above, an indicator of grazing pressure can help determine whether an area has reached or surpassed its 'carrying capacity', hence help shape agricultural management activities. Contributions to this grazing pressure can come from diverse sources including deer and sheep. There are many inter-relating factors contributing to grazing pressure and a single satisfactory index has yet to be developed.

- *Fisheries*

Loch Snizort is the main fishing port and aquaculture area on Trotternish, allowing these activities to play an important role in the local economy. To date, however, a suitable indicator of fisheries resources (for which data is available) has not been identified.

Objective 4: Promoting sustainable and wise use of cultural resources

Key topics: cultural tourism; activities; facilities; projects; products; use; productivity; events; groups; marketing; support.

Introduction   Similar to Objective 3, this objective looks at how, and to what degree, cultural resources in the Pilot Areas are being sustainably managed and used. Because of the dynamic nature of this objective, status indicators also reflect performance, and the two categories are therefore grouped together.

Status/performance indicators

Availability of venues
where cultural activities can occur is an indicator of the potential for cultural events. In general, all Village Halls and some schools within the Trotternish Pilot Area get involved in promoting cultural resources to varying degrees (see Appendix 1 for more details)

Use of centres and facilities
Intensive use of an interpretive centre can potentially result in stress of the associated resources. A review of levels of perceived stress can therefore be an important measure.

To date, information has not been collected in a sufficiently systematic way to permit a measured view of the quality and usage of cultural/ heritage interpretation centres in Trotternish.

Additional recommended indicators

Proportion of historic sites/monuments actively managed
This reflects the degree of activity in the Pilot Area linked to publicising and exploiting the cultural and archaeological heritage.

Adaptive re-use of historic buildings
This indicator would serve to demonstrate that historic sites or buildings do not necessarily need to be museums, and highlight other successful uses of culturally significant buildings.

Goal 2 Retaining a viable and empowered community

Objective 5: Retaining a balanced and healthy population

Key topics population (total/dispersal); age structure; gender balance; health; population change and support measures; health change and support measures.

Introduction The health and balance of a population is of paramount importance to the economic well being of an area, overall quality of life and to individual fulfilment. The indicators chosen aim to provide a current picture of each area.

Status indicators

Age structure of resident population
The age structure can indicate obvious gaps in the numbers of any one age group. The population of Trotternish is estimated at under 1,500, with a density of less than 4 persons/ km^2. At the time of the 1991 census, the exact population number was 1325.
The largest gap is indicated in the 16-29 age

Percentage Age Distribution, Trotternish
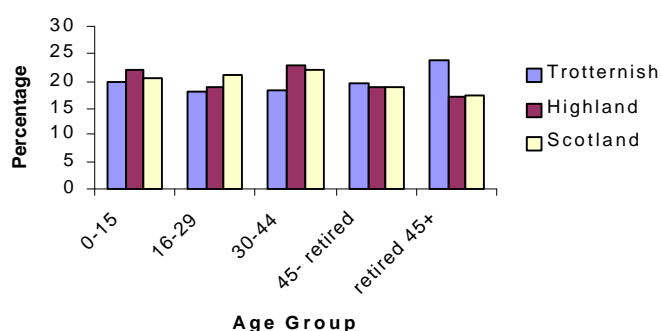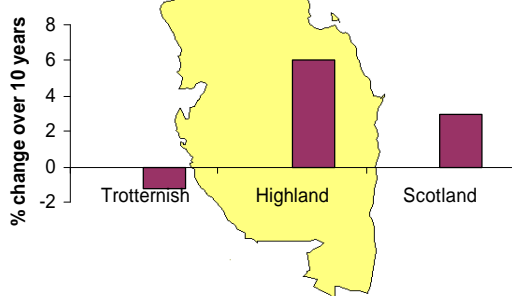
% change in populations (trends, 1981-91)
By monitoring percentage change in numbers, a community can assess the situation and where appropriate consider ways of reversing unwanted trends.

1981 Total Population Trotternish – 1435
1991 Total Resident Population Trotternish - 1325
% change = -7.7%

Population change 1981-91 is presented below for Trotternish, the Highlands, and Scotland as a comparison.

Rates of Population Change, 1981-91

Year	Trotternish Pilot Area	Highland	Scotland
1981	1435	187,008	4,861,854
1991	1325	198,621	5,035,315
% change	-7.7	6	3

Objective 5 continued

Gender balance in resident population

For growth and viability, a resident population needs to maintain a relatively even gender balance, and a sufficient proportion of women of child-bearing age. The data for Trotternish for 1981 and 1991 shows the balance to be evenly placed between the percentage of female/male. In 1991, women of child-bearing age (taken, generally, to be between 16-44) constituted a healthy 31% of the total female population. This percentage is slightly lower than that of the male population in the same age range (37%).

Year	F No's	F %	M No's	M %
1981	714	49.8%	721	50.2%
1991	656	49.5%	669	50.5%

% of working age population

This provides information on the earning potential of a population, hence its economic viability. Data for Trotternish from the 1991 census is compared below to data for the Highlands and Scotland as a whole. The data indicates that Trotternish has a lower percentage working age population than either Highland in general or the whole of Scotland

	Trotternish[1]	Highland[2]	Scotland[2]
Number of working age population	771	99,993	2,348,795
% of total population	58.2	62.4	76.3

Measures of performance

- **Uptake of young crofters to new entrants scheme**

The new entrants scheme for crofters provides 'start-up' financial support to encourage the taking up of absentee crofts in the local area. This indicator can serve as a measure of the return of people to the local area, as well as the attraction of young people to crofting . In Trotternish 7 new entrants under the Crofts Entrants Scheme were recorded up to September 1999.Unfortunately the ages of these new entrants are unknown.

Additional recommended indicators

- *Health Indicator*

An indicator providing a measure of the health of Pilot Area populations is being sought, but to date none has been agreed on which would be meaningful given the small size of the population considered, and the confidential nature of much health information.

- *Number of initiatives to encourage "young returners"*

The drain of young people from the Pilot Areas is one of the main concerns voiced by residents. By monitoring the opportunities and initiatives to encourage the return of young people, the effort being made to reverse the trend can be assessed. As an example, The LEADER-assisted Lochalsh and Skye Opportunities project aims to encourage former pupils of Plockton and Portree High Schools to settle back in the Area. The project issues newsletters and maintains Internet web-sites in which information on the areas economic and social potential is provided. Original research and community-based research may be required for this indicator.

Objective 6: Supporting community empowerment

Key topics: community-decision making; control of land and natural resources; access to funds; access to information; skills and expertise; community activity; community spirit; functioning of democratic structures; local groups/activities; changes in land tenure; funding mechanisms; information provision; primary, secondary, tertiary education provision/uptake.

Introduction The involvement of local communities in decision making and the improvement of local democracy and individual citizen involvement in the local political process, are key features of sustainable development. The indicators linked to this objective reflect the initiatives or ongoing activities aimed at increasing communications and action within communities.

Status Indicators

Number of community organisations (societies, clubs, volunteer groups)
This reflects the current activity level within the are, and the opportunities for residents to become involved.

For the Trotternish area, a total of **59** community organisations were identified, 34 of which are based in Portree. The Portree-based organisations are also mentioned because of the town's proximity to the Pilot Area, which would allow interactions of residents.

Measures of performance

Community Action Grants are funds made available by the Local Enterprise Companies to community groups, to improve facilities for local people. The degree of funding is indicative of the effort being put into improving the community infrastructure.

For the period April 1998-July 1999, no Community Action Grants were provided to community groups within Trotternish by Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise. There have, however, been 7 Community Action Grants provided to community groups within Portree. By comparison, for the whole of the Highlands and Islands for 1998-99, 399 Community Action Grants were assigned.

The Crofting Township Development Scheme, requires local crofters and townspeople to agree together on a funding request to improve the local township. The number of grants awarded is a clear representation of the degree of local interaction, especially between groups who may not otherwise have opportunities for discussion.

For Trotternish in 1999, no grants were awarded by the Crofters Commission under the Crofting Township Development Scheme.

Objective 6 continued

Additional recommended indicators

Other potential indicators of the degree of community empowerment, for which no information can be gathered at this time, are listed below. Their community-specific nature requires original research for quantification.

- *No. of communities taking part in community planning process*
  This shows the degree of local participation in the planning process and the degree of motivation and activity within a community.

- *No. of Grazing Committees meetings/ activities*
  Grazing Committees play a key role in the management and planning of crofting communities. The number of meetings and activities undertaken reflect the degree of activity within the community.

- *Area of land under community ownership*
  This is an indicator of the level of a community's control of its environment.

  In addition, certain indicators linked to other objectives presented in this profile report are also partly related to community empowerment. They include:

- *Access to information, skills and expertise*
   Objective 8 covers availability of essential services
   Objective 11 addresses the availability of Information Technology (IT) links in the Pilot Area.

- *Education provision and take-up*
   Objectives 7, 8 discuss location of schools and fate of school leavers.
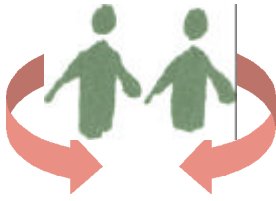
Objective 7: Ensuring equal access to employment

Key topics: employment (levels/age/gender); range of jobs; dispersal of jobs; access to employment; employment training; childcare provision; employment changes and support measures; skill base; Investors in People (IIP); business start-up.

Introduction Work is an enormously important aspect of the lives of individuals, and where this is lacking it can have clear and measurable effects on households and communities. Employment is therefore a fundamental requirement for a viable community. Employment structure is also important and reflects historical and present day trends. It will clearly be influenced by the environmental surroundings in particular the natural resources and access to them. The availability and categories of employment, the ease of access to it, and the opportunities to prepare for it, are therefore important indicators to monitor.

Status indicators

% unemployment

is an obvious indicator of economic viability of a community. Unemployment in the Trotternish Pilot Area is reported below for 1991 and 1997, and compared to the Highlands in general

Percentage Unemployment 1997

Area	Total % unemployment 1991	Total % unemployment 1997
Trotternish	6.8 %	5.3%
Highland	8.3%	8.0%

% of pupils going on to something other than unemployment
By monitoring the fate of local young people upon completion of their secondary studies, one can assess the availability and the take-up of opportunities in the local area.

A total of 48% of students within Skye and Lochalsh continued to higher education (university) in 1997-98. No data specific to Trotternish is available. The high proportion reflects the lack of other types of further education colleges in the area, as well as lack of recruitment options.

Employment by category (Trotternish)

% employment levels (by category)

The Dùthchas Pilot Areas are aiming to break free from a focus on seasonal, tourism-related employment, or a primarily agriculturally-based economy. Diversity of employment is an important indicator for the future since this can provide some resilience against recessionary pressures. By monitoring employment categories, and changes in numbers employed in each, the viability of the economic base of the Pilot Areas can be determined.

The data indicates that employment is currently concentrated in the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry sector, the Distribution, Hotels and Catering or the "Other Services" sectors
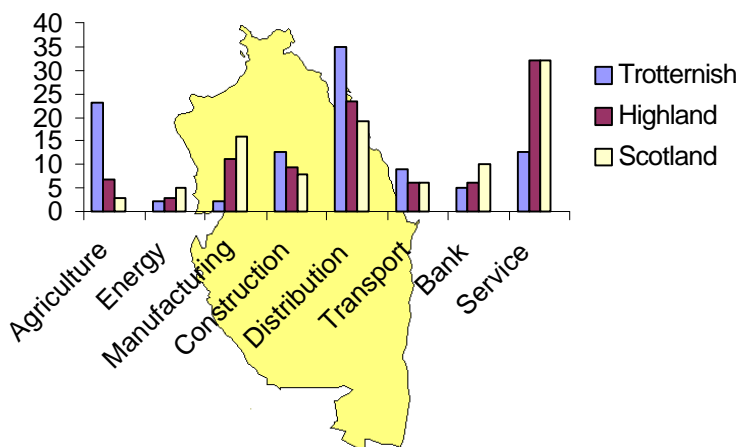
Objective 7 continued

Measures of performance

The Local Enterprise Companies are a source of funding for new businesses; the number of such enterprises funded in the Pilot Areas serves to measure the entrepreneurial spirit of the area, and the development of new employment opportunities. For the period April 1998-July 1999, three **new business start-ups** were assisted by SALE. It is hard to determine whether any of these are based in Trotternish. By comparison, for the same period 1998-99, there were 191 business start-ups within the Highland Council area that were assisted by Local Enterprise Companies (LECs). This averages out at 0.0019 per head of population.

The **Investors in People** National Standard (IIP) is a practical way in which businesses can improve their performance, by training and developing their employees. A high number of IIP businesses represents a community where employees are provided with opportunities to improve their skills and abilities.
For the period April 1998-July 1999 there have been no Investors In People recognitions by SALE in the Trotternish Pilot Area. For the period April 1998-July 1999 three Trotternish organisations have, however, committed to the Standard. By comparison, for the whole of the Highland and Islands area, 235 companies/organisations achieved IIP recognition over the same time period.

Additional recommended indicators

Additional indicators of the degree of access to employment, for which original research may be required to obtain viable data, include:

Dispersal of employment opportunities
A viable community will not concentrate its employment opportunities in one or two key locations, but will ensure that employment, within a variety of categories, is available throughout its area.

Availability of child care
Child care is an essential requirement to free parents in need of double income for economic viability. The availability of inexpensive, subsidised childcare is therefore an important measure.

Objective 8: Ensuring equal access to essential services

Key topics: Housing; utilities (power, telecoms, sewerage etc); services (Post Office, shops, doctors); care provision (child, disabled, elderly); changes, initiatives and support for the above.

Introduction If access to essential services is limited in any way this tends to create "underprivileged" households or even whole areas. This is a barrier to a sustainable future, which aims to ensure that all members of society have access to those services and opportunities that can allow them to achieve their personal potential. The indicators selected below give an indication of the availability of services, and the ease of access to them.

Status indicators

Rented versus owned homes.

The percentage of home ownership can indicate the degree of stability and security within an area, as well as some indication of the availability of affordable housing. To the right is house ownership information on Trotternish obtained from 1991 census data.

Housing Tenure

- Owner occupied: 79%
- Private rented: 11%
- Tied: 1%
- Rented from HA/SH: 3%
- Council rented: 6%
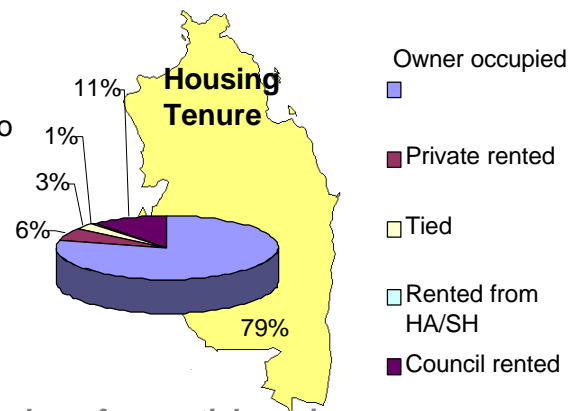
Essential Services in Trotternish
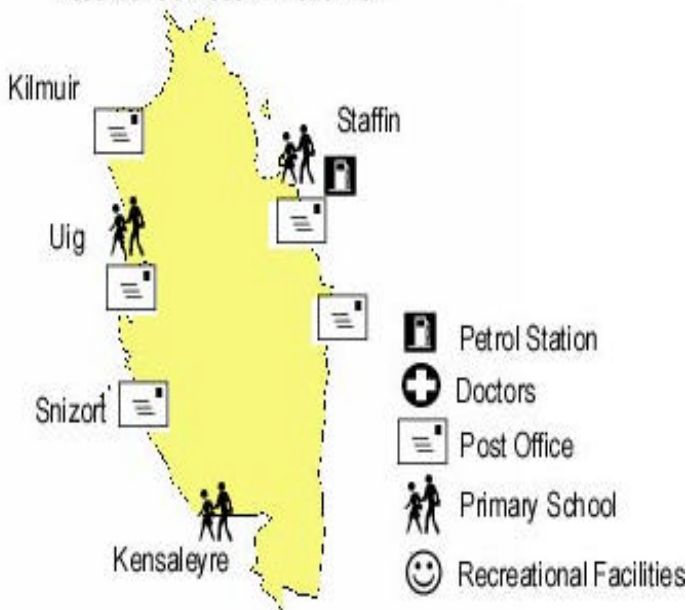
- Petrol Station
- Doctors
- Post Office
- Primary School
- Recreational Facilities

Number of essential services

Certain public services are viewed as 'essential' for a community, and can be used as a benchmark to determine its sustainability. Such services include: GP, post office, food shop, petrol station, recreational facilities, and primary and secondary schools.

The information for Trotternish shows that whilst primary schools and post offices are reasonably spread across the Pilot Area communities, many of the other services such as doctors surgery, petrol stations, food shops and recreational facilities are very thinly spread or missing.

Bus frequency per sub-area in each Pilot Area

Frequent, reliable public transport is a key requirement within the Pilot Areas, especially to facilitate access to essential services that may not be locally available. Bus service along the main Trotternish road is provided by the Sk12 circular bus line. This serves all of the communities along the ring road, and links to other services in Portree.

Frequency of the Sk12 varies depending on day of week, and between school days and school holidays.

Bus Routes on Skye
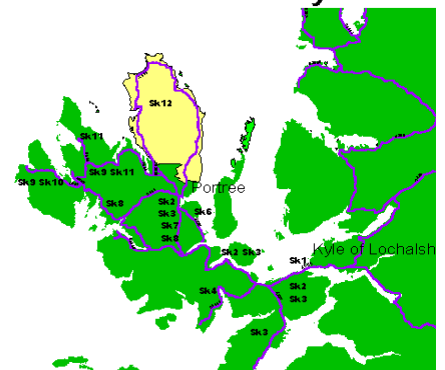
Objective 8 continued

Measures of performance

- **Housing Improvement Grants**

Grants are available from the local Council for housing improvements, which are most frequently linked to insulation. A measure of the degree of take-up of such grants will give some indication of the effort placed within the Pilot Areas for improving housing facilities. Currently around 20-25 households per year are receiving Housing Improvement Grants.

- **Integrated transport**

Allows ease of connection between different services, eg distinct bus lines; ferries and buses; flights and buses. The degree of integration is a measure of the level and quality of public services available.

To date, no integrated transport policy has been put into place affecting specifically the Isle of Skye and Trotternish, however, Highland Council has been successful in obtaining government funding for the Rural Bus Grant in 1998. Following receipt of the grant, it conducted a consultation exercise to determine the need for new or improved services in the areas of the various Community Councils. The Council then prioritised the responses received and subsequently awarded appropriate contracts for the services recommended or requested.

According to the report on the initiative published by the Council in spring 1999, 'it is too early to assess the success of individual routes'. It is expected that the passenger numbers on most new routes will grow slowly over the first few months. Continued development of the initiative requires monitoring and analysing services, doing further publicity where necessary, and making adjustments as appropriate. No specific information about Skye or Trotternish is provided.

Additional recommended indicators

Other essential services that can serve as indicators of sustainable communities include:

Sewerage provisions - Many of the residents in more remote areas are provided with septic tanks. These may have limitations in certain situations, as external support is required for periodic emptying.

Power/Telecommunications - Although very few if any residences in Trotternish are not supplied with electricity and telephone lines, the reliability of these lines may suffer, especially in severe weather, and the distance of some locations from support centres may result in residents being disconnected for some time.

Radio/TV Reception - Remote communities may not be able to obtain clear reception for telecommunication, due to distances from relay points. Radio and television may represent the only links to the 'outside world' in some locations.

Care Provision - Distinct from GP facilities or availability of hospitals, this indicator reflects the availability of visiting nurses or caretakers, as well as the proximity of nursing homes or care centres. In an area with an increasing percentage of ageing population, such services may be considered essential.

Goal 3 : Reducing problems of remoteness by delivering local needs locally and reducing dependence on external inputs

Objective 9: Improving the local market for goods and services

Key topics: local goods; local services; local markets; local retail/wholesale outlets; local marketing schemes: uptake, changes, supports.

Introduction Some of the issues stemming from the remoteness of the Pilot Areas can in part be addressed by improving the local market for locally supplied goods and services. Greater local provision of local needs also meets other sustainability goals, by reducing transportation needs and improving local employment.

Status indicators

Number of local producers supplying locally and number of local markets/outlets

A focus on selling locally rather than exporting can provide the local community with supplies, whilst decreasing transport costs for producers.

At this time, no such businesses are known to be established in Trotternish. Local growers, however, sometimes set up businesses selling seasonal produce, eg strawberries.

Number of local transport companies

These provide an example of how local transport needs may be serviced by local enterprise, thus providing local employment whilst serving local needs.

No major haulage companies are known to be present in Trotternish, other than McLeods based in Portree. There are local taxi businesses and school contracts for student transport.
The Borve Bus Company is also in place.

Measures of performance

New start-up businesses servicing local needs will provide a measure of the potential for local needs to be serviced locally, thus reducing transport and import. In the last 2 years there have been three successful new start-up businesses that focus on local needs.

Additional recommended indicators

Number of boxing schemes Boxing schemes stimulate local consumption of fresh produce, through direct supply by producers, and are therefore an example of local needs being serviced locally.

Percentage of workers whose place of work is within Pilot Area
People working locally are maintaining and sharing skills and knowledge within their community, whilst satisfying local needs. This is an effective example of sustainable development.

Number of local direct marketing opportunities
This is an indication of the potential for the growth and development of local businesses and services.

Objective 10: Promoting equal and effective access to goods, services and markets

Key topics: transport infrastructure; public transport; car ownership; fuel prices/availability; integrated transport links; subsidised transport; changes/initiatives/supports for the above.

Introduction Because travel is increasingly being taken for granted by individuals and businesses, society is becoming dependent on effective transport systems. This is even more pronounced in remote areas and communities. The degree of public transport availability and how well it is integrated indicates the ease with which goods and services can be accessed. The issue here, in contrast with Objective 8, is accessibility *outside* the Pilot Area. The challenge here is to meet economic and social needs for access to facilities in ways that do not place unacceptable burdens on the environment.

Status indicators

Cost of fuel per journey distance to nearest larger town (Inverness)

A rough estimate of the distance from Kilmaluag, at the northern tip of Trotternish, to Inverness is approximately 220 km. The cost of such a journey is compared below to the cost of a trip to Edinburgh/Glasgow for an inhabitant of the Central Belt (who is likely to be always within about 40-50km from either city).

The information shows that fuel prices are up to 5p a litre more in Trotternish and that the costs to reach the nearest large town are up to six times more expensive.

	Trotternish	Central Belt
Total driving distance from Kilmaluag to Inverness (approx)[1]	220 km	40km
Average price of fuel	76.5 p/l[2]	73 p/l
Average value for vehicle efficiency[3]	30 miles/gallon	30 miles/gallon
Conversion assuming imperial gallons (4.55 l)	10.62 km/l	10.62 km/l
Required fuel for journey Kilmaluag - Inverness return	41.4 l	7.5 l
Cost of fuel for return journey	£31.70	£5.50

Number of ferry landings at nearest ferry port

The nearest ferry port is Uig, with ferries to Lochmaddy in North Uist and Tarbert in Harris (max. two per day in either direction, depending on the day.)

The ferry to the mainland is at Armadale, with sailings to Mallaig (five per day Mon-Sat, both directions) but a bridge is in place to Kyle of Lochalsh.

Objective 10 continued

State of local roads (Grades A, B, C, State of Local Roads)
This is a representation of ease and cost of access to greater markets. The classification status shown below has been obtained by the North Skye Composite Plan showing road classifications, provided by the Highland Council Department of Road and Transport. The smallest U roads have been ignored. The Portree roads have been omitted. An additional measure of the state of local roads would be the proportion and length of single track roads; this can be sought from the Highland Council.

Location	Road Classification			
	A	B	C	U
Trotternish	A855 A856		C58	0
Lealt				U96
Grealin				U74
Elishadaer				U89
Staffin			C59	8 U roads
Flodigarry				U46 U172
Aird				4 U roads
Kilvaxtar				4 U roads
Uig				14 U roads, SK80
Kingsburgh				U36, U76, U101
Borve		B8036		6 U roads
Total	2	1	2	45

Measures of performance

- **Degree of implementation of local integrated transport planning initiative**
  (see description under Objective 8 above)

Additional recommended indicators

- *Available level of public transport out of the Pilot Area*
- *Degree of integration between public services*
  The frequency of buses and trains to centres such as Aberdeen and Inverness provides a more sustainable form of access to greater markets and wider resources. The ease of transfer from one transport system to another, through designed connections, maximises the availability of transport to the community. Both of these pieces of information require some local research

- *Car-Sharing Schemes*
  Organised car sharing schemes can render transport available to people who may not own cars. Many such schemes may be informal and it may therefore be difficult to obtain information about them.

Objective 11: Providing an adequate Information Technology (IT) resource

Key topics: IT infrastructure; access to IT; training for IT; levels of use; levels of skill; levels of awareness.

Introduction The use of IT is rapidly becoming recognised as an effective way of accessing information and communicating from remote areas, and is regarded as a key means by which people and communities can fulfil their potential. IT connection, availability and use can breach distance and allow access to information and markets. Availability of IT facilities to the local community, and courses to increase usage, are therefore key indicators.

Status indicators

- *Number of IT centres*

There are no IT centres within Trotternish, however, an Internet Centre is currently under construction in Staffin and should be complete by early 2000.

Measures of performance

Provision of IT training courses available, and IT training requested will both provide some indications of how well Trotternish is developing and promoting its IT training resource. Although there are no adult training centres specifically in Trotternish, Aros Heritage Centre has been identified as a potential outreach centre for Sabhal Mor Ostaig College, the representative branch of the University of Highlands and Islands. It is situated near Portree and has video conference facilities.

Sabhal Mor Ostaig College in Sleat , although not in the Pilot Area, represents a resource accessible to Trotternish residents. The college offers courses in Business Studies, including business administration.

Additional recommended indicators:

- *Number of users of local IT centres*
- *Number of community web sites*
- *Number of business web sites*
- *Extent of ISDN access.*

The first three indicators provide information on of the degree to which the Pilot Area is taking advantage of IT as a resource. The fourth reflects the ease of access to IT facilities in the area. Original research or IT searches may be the means to obtain this information.

Objective 12: Reducing reliance on imports and subsidies

Key topics: imported goods; imported services; imported skills; levels of public subsidy; changes in levels of imports/use; uptake of subsidy; initiatives to reduce levels of imports.

Introduction Heavy reliance on imported goods together with imported skills and services tends to reinforce the disadvantages of living in remote areas, and is usually reflected in the higher cost of living. This is further reflected in the levels of public subsidy. The goal of the indicators for this objective is to assess the current degree of reliance within the Pilot Area, and monitor changes and potential decreases over time.

Information on this topic is scarce, especially with regards levels of imported goods and skills. Original research is will be needed to generate essential data that is needed to carry out a full assessment of this topic.

Status indicators

EU funding

Eu funding is a significant source of income to the Highlands and Islands, including Trotternish, and is used for activities ranging from agricultural subsidies to development-specific grants. It is provided to the local Pilot Areas in a variety of forms, including pan-Highland grants, and area-specific grants. LEADER grants and Objective 1 grants are other categories of EU funding, administered by the Local Enterprise Companies, that play an important role in the local economy.

Although some EU funds represent a positive input into the local economy, stimulating new businesses or enterprises, or community empowerment, others can be viewed simply as 'handouts'. For sustainable development to be viable, external subsidies must be seen to decrease for a given Pilot Area.

EU funding in 1999 was provided principally to the Highland Council, Highland and Islands Enterprise, Skye & Lochalsh Enterprise, North of Scotland Water Authority and Sabhal Mor Ostaig, but none were specific to Trotternish. Clarification on the destination of EU funds within Trotternish would help determine their viability towards sustainable development.

EU funding awarded within Skye & Lochalsh in the period 1994-99 is as follows:

ERDF Award - £7,142,956
Eligible Costs - £19,662,188
Total Costs - £22,720,888

Numerous other pan-Highland projects funded by the EU may also affect the area.

Local grants for Trotternish are also provided by organisations such as Scottish Natural Heritage, RSPB and the Local Enterprise Companies (see Objectives 1, 6). *Agricultural Grants* are provided by the Scottish Executive for Rural Affairs Department (SERAD). Data is aggregated at the Scotland-wide level, and is difficult to obtain for distinct areas such as the Pilot Areas under study.

Objective 12 continued

Measures of performance

Level of skills import
Level of goods import

Although difficult to monitor, these indicators can provide a clear picture of the degree to which a Pilot Area is dependent on external inputs. The level of skills import is a reflection of the professional expertise that is required locally but cannot be obtained among the local work force. Similarly, the numbers and types of goods imported may indicate the limitations of local agriculture, climate, or manufacturing facilities.

Additional recommended indicators:

- *Number of crofters taking up agricultural subsidies*
The main source of subsidy in the area is the Scottish Executive for Rural Affairs Department (SERAD), via agricultural grants. Information on grants given to individual crofters or in specific sub-areas of Scotland is considered confidential and is not available.

Goal 4 Avoiding harmful effects on other people, places and future generations

Objective 13: Supporting the wise use of energy

Key topics: renewable energy; energy efficiency; changes, initiatives, support for the above.

Introduction Energy enables people to provide for their well-being, health and safety and is a key factor in the local economy. The production and use of energy has the potential to have a significant impact on the environment at both a global as well as local level. There is a need, therefore to focus on improvements in efficiency and conservation as a means of implementing our sustainability goals. Renewable energy sources (wind, sun, wave, biomass and water) offer additional opportunities if these are pursued where it is technically, economically and environmentally sensible to do so.

Although limited activities are currently occurring in renewable energy in the Dùthchas Pilot Areas, by monitoring the suggested indicators over time, improvement trends can be established.

Status indicators

Number of renewable energy projects
There are currently no renewable energy projects in the Trotternish Pilot Area. A study undertaken by Scottish Hydroelectric plc et al in December 1993 reviewed the potential renewable energy resource in Scotland. According to the study results, for the whole of Skye and Lochalsh, the following *theoretical* renewable energy resource was identified:

Form of energy	Resource available at less than 10p/kWh (discounted at 8% over 20 years)
Wind	3289
Hydro	70
Wave	0

After taking account of planning, environmental and practical issues, the theoretical renewable energy resource in Skye and Lochalsh is estimated at between 100-200 MW (resource at less than 10p/kWh, discounted at 8% over ten years)

The feasibility of connecting a renewable electricity source into the existing transmission and distribution system must be also be accounted for when considering a renewable project. From this aspect, Trotternish is not well served: there is a single 132 kV transmission line serving the Skye and Lochalsh district, which runs from Kinloch Hourn in the southeast, across to Skye then up to Broadford and on to Dunvegan and Ardmore. The nearest 275 kV connection point is well outslidethe district boundaries, at Beauly.

Objective 13 continued

Measures of performance

Use of electricity from renewable resources indicates a sustainable approach to energy consumption. At this time it is impossible to disaggregate **the percentage of power from renewable resources** provided to the Trotternish Pilot Area specifically. Data on fuel mix use during 1997/98 for Scottish Hydro-Electric (country-wide) is shown below.

Fuel Source 1997/98	Mix (%)
gas	53
nuclear	20
renewables	14
Coal	12
Oil	1
Total	100

Since Scottish Hydro-Electric is the principal supplier of electricity in Trotternish, it may be possible to extrapolate these values, very generally, to the Pilot Area.

The **level of investment in insulation** in private houses reflects the Housing Improvement Grants provided by the local Council and gives some indication of energy efficiency measures being taken by individual householders (see objective 8).

Objective 14 : Promoting waste minimisation and management

Key topics: waste management; waste minimisation; recycling; levels of activity; changes, initiatives, support for the above.

Introduction The traditional view of waste as being "refuse to dispose of" has been changed in enlightened sustainable communities. There is now an increased recognition that the disposal of waste can harm other people and places and create a liability for future generations. In addition, the actual commercial and economic value of recyclable waste is becoming recognised. The following approach, known as "the waste hierarchy", is being introduced:

- **reducing the amount generated in the first place**
- **reusing waste items**
- **recovering and recycling waste**
- **disposal of residual wastes safely, preferably with energy recovery**

Recycling may not be a viable option in remote areas of the Highlands and Islands at this time, as the limited volumes collected may not be sufficient to justify travel and transport by recycling operators. Similarly, the siting of a dedicated recycling plant in the local area may not be economically viable if not enough waste is generated locally.

The indicators selected here reflect activities which may be ongoing to minimise or recycle waste, and to raise awareness levels in the local area. To date however, it is understood that relatively little is occurring with regards waste recycling or minimisation. Indicators are therefore recommended only at this time. The Highlands and Islands Waste Network, recently established to support local community initiatives, may provide feedback on future activity.

Recommended status indicators

Quantity of waste by material type
% of waste going to each of the waste hierarchy options (above)
Distance travelled by waste

Monitoring the quantity of waste by type will allow communities to determine which categories of materials are most available for recycling or re-use. By determining the quantities of waste going to the various disposal options, the feasibility of increased recycling/re-use can be assessed.

Objective 14 continued

Measures of performance

- **Number of waste minimisation schemes and successful waste minimisation initiatives**
Such schemes are likely to be sponsored by the local Council or by volunteer bodies. Waste minimisation may be more appropriate than waste recycling as a goal for remote areas.
At this time, no waste minimisation schemes are in place in Trotternish.

- **Number of recycling centres within and in proximity of the Pilot Area**
Recycling centres are represented on the one hand by bottle banks and newspaper recycling points; and on the other by actual recycling plants which collect the waste and re-process it for re-use. Scrap metal yards and composting facilities also represent recycling centres.

With regards recycling points, these do not need to be present within the Pilot Areas, as long as they are within a reasonable distance, or at locations also offering other services.

Recycling activity within Trotternish has been very limited. No recycling centres/plants have been identified by the Highland Council or the Highland Environmental Network. It is likely that composting facilities are established informally in private locations.
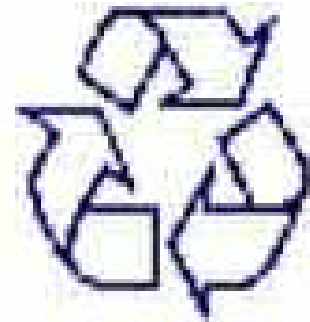
Additional recommended indicator

- *Ratio of quantity of material minimised to quantity of wastes disposed, by waste type*
Although difficult to obtain, this information would provide a good indicator of the degree of awareness and waste minimisation activity occurring in the Pilot Areas.

Objective 15: Supporting 'green' business and community initiatives

Key topics: green produce; green business; green labelling; product development; environmental management systems; awareness raising

Introduction   Businesses are recognising that positive environmental resource management together with the support of ethical practices can bring substantial economic benefits. Such benefits are attractive irrespective of the size of business, although the process of achieving them can be complex and some smaller enterprises may require assistance. In recent years there has been a rapid increase in so-called "green" or "environmentally friendly" products which has become a significant growth industry. The involvement of business in the move towards a more sustainable future is absolutely crucial. 'Green' initiatives may still be relatively novel within the Pilot Areas, but their monitoring over time will be vital to determine the drive towards a more sustainable future.

Status indicators

- *No. of green labelled products/services available*

Green products/services may reflect recyclable content, organic origin, low energy consumption and other design parameters for preventing or minimising environmental impact or damage caused by the product/service. They are covered under objective 3 of this profile.

Measures of performance

- **Number of businesses meeting the Green Tourism Business Scheme requirements**

The Green Business Tourism Scheme provides three levels of environmental achievement for tourist facilities, visitor centres and hotels. Businesses can aim for any of the three levels to improve their environmental standard and attract environmentally-conscious tourists. At this time, in Trotternish, only Uig Youth Hostel is a registered member of the Green Tourism Business Scheme, with a silver award. No other information regarding this issue has been obtained.

- **Number of green initiatives sponsored by LECs**

Environmental Renewal grants are provided by the LECs to fund projects which repair and renew the local physical environment. See earlier description under Objective 3 of such projects for Trotternish. Other categories of "green" grants, for example habitat management grants provided by SNH or RSPB, are described in Objective 1 of this profile.

Additional recommended indicators

- *Number of fair trade products available*

These are typically produce from developing countries which have been grown, processed and exported within an ethical economic framework.

- *Number of 'green' initiatives*

Any initiative reflecting environmental concern.

- *Number of businesses meeting green/ethical standards*

Such standards include EMAS, the European Eco-Management and Audit Scheme; and International Standard ISO 14001 for Environmental Management Systems.

- *No. of woodlands achieving the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme*

The UK Woodland Assurance Scheme grants recognition to forest areas managed in an environmentally appropriate fashion.

Objective 16: Promoting co-operation with other communities

Key topics: considered in this objective: co-operative initiatives; inter-community links; rural-urban links; trans-national links; information exchange; national/international exchanges; awareness raising.

Introduction Communities around the world are recognising that becoming more sustainable can be accelerated through sharing ideas and experiences and promoting "know how" exchange. Promoting co-operation also fosters stronger communities, by allowing groups to recognise ways for improving mutual benefits and reducing harmful effects on each other. Community co-operation increases the democratic base for fighting common issues, thus ensuring mutual empowerment.

The indicators proposed here aim to determine the degree to which communities within the Pilot Areas interact with each other, and with external bodies. Because of the double role of the indicators selected, they have been combined as both status and performance indicators.

To date, very limited date is available on these indicators. Original research and inter-community discussion would help in data collection.

Status/performance indicators

- *Number of inter-community meetings*
- *Number of inter-community initiatives*

Many local community councils and other community groups, both voluntary and more formal, participate in a periodic inter-community meetings to discuss issues which reach beyond local boundaries. Joint initiatives may result, depending on the issues at hand.

For example, in Trotternish, Kilmuir Community Council meets once a month; meetings with other Community Councils are held once per year.

- *No. of study visits/conferences attended.*

These are opportunities for communities to learn and communicate beyond their local areas.

APPENDIX 1:
SUSTAINABILITY DATA

Chapter 1

Goal 1: Making the most of natural and cultural resources without damaging them

Objective 1: Protecting and enhancing natural resources and promoting their value

Key topics considered in this objective: sea, fresh water, land, air, biodiversity, habitat, landscape; management, stewardship, use, interpretation.

The indicators selected aim to provide a picture of the type, significance and quality of the natural resources present, and what is currently happening to protect and enhance these resources.

Status indicators

- *Coastal water quality*
  The coastal waters of the Highlands and Islands are characterised by generally very high quality, resulting from limited pollution sources. The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) therefore does not conduct analytical sampling along the coast. Water quality is generally assessed by visual reviews, and considered high unless otherwise signalled.

  By monitoring any incidents of lowered coastal water quality, it is possible to determine where pressures or pollution increases are occurring within the Pilot Area. No recent incidents have been reported for the Trotternish coastline.

- *River water quality*
  SEPA operates a classification scheme for river water quality with five levels:
  - Class A1: Excellent.
  - Class A2: Good
  - Class B: Fair
  - Class C: Poor
  - Class D: Seriously polluted.

  The class of a river, or segment thereof, is determined by measuring the level of certain parameters (eg dissolved oxygen, nutrient concentrations) in water samples. Most of the rivers sampled in the Highlands and Islands fall under Class A1 or A2. This is an indication of the pristine nature of the area, and the relatively small number of pollutant sources.

  The only river monitored by SEPA within the Trotternish Pilot Area is the River Snizort. Sampling station is the A850 road bridge just west of Carbost, close to the river's discharge into Loch Snizort Beag (NGR NG 420483). Most recent sampling was undertaken on 24 April 1990[1]. Key results are presented below, together with Scottish River Classification Scheme standard values for key pollutants. From the data, the River Snizort falls within the highest classification class, A1 ('excellent')

	Dissolved Oxygen (% saturation)	Biological Oxygen Demand (mg/l)	Ammonia Nitrogen (mg/l)
Snizort sampling point[1]	96.0	0.6	0.055
Class A1 standard[2]	≥80	≤2.5	≤0.25

Source: [1]Faxed information from Stephen MacIntyre, SEPA Fort Williams, 29 September 1999.
[2]Scottish River Classification Scheme, June 1997, SEPA

- *% of nationally important habitat types*
  The high environmental quality of the Pilot Areas is partly represented by the unique nature of some of their habitats, for example in Trotternish, peatland. A more general indicator of habitat value is represented by areas of land designated for their conservation value. By monitoring the percentage land cover occupied by nationally important habitats and by designations, and whether changes occur to these over time, the environmental pressures or improvements in the area can be gauged.

  Currently, peatland coverage amounts for approximately 45% of the land area on Trotternish. With regards to statutory designations, there are seven Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), covering 14% of the land area. One of Highland's National Scenic Areas is in Trotternish, covering over 75 km^2. Allowing for areas of overlap, the total area covered by natural heritage designations is 32%.

  The table below shows percentage coverage:

Designation	Trotternish pilot area
NSA	24
SSSIs	14
NSA/SSSIs	32

Source: Trotternish Pilot Area Profile, Highland Council (undated)

- *Air quality*
  There are few pollution sources which can cause a lowering of air quality standards in the Highlands and Islands. For this reason, limited air quality sampling occurs.

  The nearest air quality monitoring station to the Trotternish Pilot Area is Strath Vaich, run under the DETR National Air Quality Monitoring Programme. Data is collected daily from the station on ozone, sulphur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides.

  Although geographically quite distant from Trotternish (it is approximately 40 km north-west of Inverness) Strath Vaich can be considered representative of much of the Pilot Area. The station is on rural, remote moorland approximately 500 m from the nearest inhabited dwellings and approximately 150 m from the nearest road, used only for access. The surrounding area is open and remote. Air quality data from this station is therefore considered representative for the Pilot Area.

  Raw air quality data is available for the station for every day over the last few years. The most recent aggregated data report is for 1996. Exceedence statistics for 1996 are presented below. The only pollutant of concern was shown to be ozone, and this only in terms of vegetation protection.

- All recorded nitrogen dioxide one-hour average concentrations for 1996 were below the 150 ppb 'low' standard set by the DETR .The nitrogen dioxide levels did not breach the EC Directive on air quality, and did not surpass the WHO guidelines.
- Similarly for sulphur dioxide, no exceedences of the DETR limits or the WHO guidelines were reported. All readings of 15-minute average concentrations of sulphur dioxide were below the 100ppb 'low' air pollution band set by the DETR.
- With regards ozone, the health protection concentration (8-hour average) of 55ppb set by the EC Directive was surpassed on 6 days in 1996. The vegetation protection concentration daily average of 32 ppb was surpassed on 213 days in 1996.

The data indicate that the air quality of the Highlands and Islands area is high. The lack of pollution sources combined with the strong winds ensure that air quality is maintained. Monitoring of air quality in the Pilot Areas may be appropriate if known polluting sources were to become established.

Source: AEAT National Air Quality Monitoring Programme website, www.aeat.co.uk/netcen/report96

Measures of performance

- *Number, success and quality of interpretative facilities relating to conservation/environment*
- *Quality of promotional material*
- *Trends in visitor numbers*

Interpretative centres represent a structured, managed way of promoting and "making the most" of natural resources, encouraging learning and appreciation on the parts of visitors, whilst protecting the resources. The quality of the interpretative facilities, the number of visitors and repeat visitors, and the information provided can be good indicators of reasoned use of resources.

Intensive use of an interpretative centre can potentially result in stress of the associated resources. A review of levels of perceived stress can therefore also be an important indicator. Although this is difficult to measure at this time, it may be appropriate at a later date. No interpretative facilities dedicated to natural resources are present in Trotternish, although the Staffin museum contains some natural history artefacts. A dedicated viewpoint is found close to Loch Mealt, within the National Scenic Area[1].

Twenty major footpaths are found within Trotternish, together with tracks used as paths[2]:

- Storr Path
- Rubha Hunish coastguard lookout
- Caisteal Uisdean
- Trotternish ridge walk
- Loch Cuithir track
- Bearreiraig Bay
- Duntulm Castle
- from Eyre towards Trotternish Ridge
- from Keistle towards Storr
- Glen Uig to Trotternish Ridge
- Quiraing from Hill Road
- Quiraing from Flodigarry
- Lealt gorge walk
- Brother's Point
- Staffin slipway to Staffin via Catha Riadh
- Glen Conon to Trotternish Ridge
- Linicro to hill road
- Uig hall to shop
- River Rha path
- path to Rubha Idrigill

Sources: [1]Landranger OS Map, 1:50,000, No. 23 (North Skye) 1997
[2]Fax from Becky Wills, Scottish Natural Heritage,20 September 1999
[3] Conversation with Gavin Parson, Sabhal Mor Ostaig College, Skye, Sept. 1999

- *Land under habitat management*
  A number of habitat management plans, sponsored by Government and other bodies, are in place to encourage the protection of significant natural resources. By assessing the popularity of these schemes within the Pilot Areas, and the area of land affected, one can obtain a measure of how well the natural resource is being protected and enhanced.

  Habitat management initiatives in Trotternish are represented chiefly by habitat creation projects.

  1. Skye Grasslands for Corncrakes Scheme: 41 crofters were paid in 1999 on an area basis, for maintaining good corncrake grassland and/or creating early/late cover areas.[1]
  2. Countryside Premium Scheme is administered by SERAD[1]: no details on numbers of participants could be provided.
  3. School Grounds Grants for environmental improvements in school grounds were awarded by SNH: 15 grants from Portree office to Skye and Lochalsh schools since 1988. Difficult to disaggregate to Trotternish Pilot area. [1]
  4. Tree planting scheme is administered by Forestry Authority: sixteen areas of woodland are under the Woodland Grant Scheme, for a total surface area of 7.5 km^2 approximately[2].

  Sources: [1] Fax from Becky Wills, Scottish Natural Heritage, 20 September 1999
  [2] Letter and maps from Bryce Reynard, Forestry Commission, 17 September 1999.

Additional recommended indicators

- *% , condition and increase over time of native woodland cover*
- *No., area and % of woodland coming into active management*
  The area of native woodland cover (versus imported fast-growing commercial conifer species) within a given Pilot Area is an indication of the presence and availability of a high quality, unique habitat. Monitoring the increase in such areas, and assessing their condition and their management, provides a good indicator of what is considered to be a significant natural resource.

  Forestry accounts for only 1% of the Trotternish land cover. It is unclear from available information whether this is native or imported commercial woodland species. Information on native woodland cover is collected by the Forestry Commission on a Scotland-wide area, and it is difficult to disaggregate this to the level of individual Pilot Areas. Additional information is being sought from the McCaulay Land Use Research Institute, in Aberdeen; and from the Caledonia Partnership new database on areas of semi-native woodland.

  Source: Trotternish Pilot Area Profile, Highland Council (undated)

- *Implementation of local Biodiversity Action Plans*
  Biodiversity Action Plans are being developed with funding from Government sources in the light of the recent EU Habitat Directive, which encourages Member States to increase and diversify the number of species present in certain ecologically significant areas of the country. At this time, no Biodiversity Action Plans have been proposed or are being run in any of the three Pilot Areas. However, the potential establishment of such Plans in the future would be a clear indication of a 'drive' by the Pilot Area to increase its environmental value.

- *Trends in breeding bird populations*
  The numbers and species of breeding birds within the Pilot Areas are an example of the range of biodiversity supported by the local environment.

Objective 2: Protecting and enhancing cultural resources and promoting their value

Key topics considered in this objective: cultural activities, language, arts, traditions, way of life, sites and monuments, management, use, interpretation.

The indicators selected provide an indication of the range of cultural and historic resources present in the Pilot Areas, and the activities underway to encourage their appreciation.

Status indicators

- *Number of recorded vs. number of scheduled ancient monuments*
  Recorded and Scheduled Ancient Monuments are indicators of the cultural and historical heritage of an area. Whereas recorded monuments represent any archaeological or cultural remains that have been located, Scheduled Ancient Monuments fall under specific legislative prescriptive guidelines, which renders them relevant at a National level.

The number of recorded and scheduled ancient monuments changes constantly, as new excavations occur, and as previously identified recorded monuments are judged significant enough to fall within the 'Scheduled' category. By keeping track of the ratio of the numbers of the two categories of monuments, a measure of the cultural significance of the area is maintained.

No. of recorded and scheduled ancient monuments

46   28   345

□ Number of recorded sites and monuments

■ Number listed buildings

□ Number of scheduled ancient monuments

A total of 345 sites and monuments are recorded for the Trotternish Peninsula by the Archaeology Unit of the Highland Council. They include forts, cairns, brochs, standing stones and a monastic settlement, as well as a variety of buildings.   28 are classed as Scheduled Ancient Monuments, and 46 as Listed Buildings. (Note that this counts includes sites and monuments in Portree, which is included as part of the peninsula by the Archaeology unit).
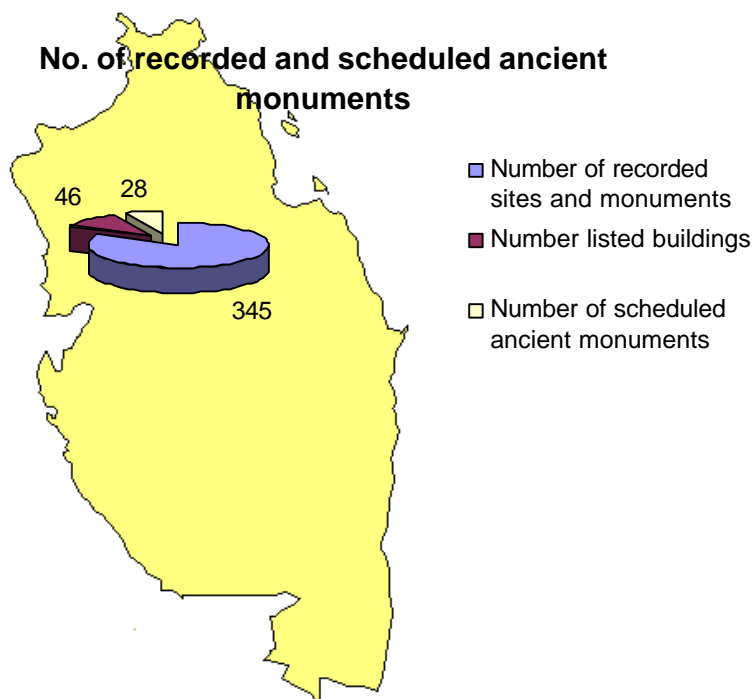
Source: The Highland Council, Planning & Development Service, Archaeology Unit Sites and Monuments Record Enquiry: Recorded Archaeological Sites, Trotternish Peninsula; 21 September 1999

Trotternish

- *Number of Gaelic speakers as percentage of population*

    The Gaelic language is a key part of the culture within the Pilot Areas. Assessing the percentage of Gaelic speakers is a means of monitoring its significance.

    Little information is available on numbers of Gaelic speakers specifically in Trotternish.

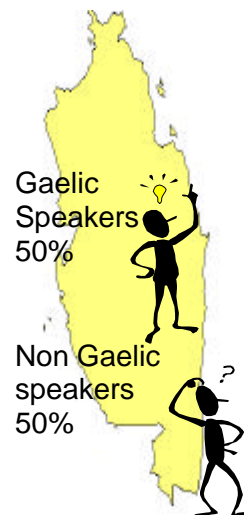   *Source: conversation with Sally Phellps, Kilmuir Community Council, September 1999; 1991 Census data, Highland Council..*

Gaelic Speakers 50%

Non Gaelic speakers 50%

Measures of performance

- *Number of events and ceremonies celebrated by the local community*

    The events range from one-day celebrations to week-long festivals, focusing on cultural aspects of the community (other than the Gaelic language; see below). They offer an indication of the cultural vitality of a community.

    With regards to Trotternish, most of the events and ceremonies tend to occur in nearby Portree, or at the Sabhal Mor Ostaig College facilities. Trotternish-specific events identified include:
    Ceilidhs held regularly in Staffin Village Hall, Kilmuir Village Hall and Uig Village Hall[1].
    Kilmuir and District Agricultural Show, summer[1]

    - National Poetry Day, October 7 1999, various venues, Isle of Skye[2]
    - Highland Archaeology Week, 9-17 October 1999 (various venues, Skye and Lochalsh) [2]
    - Gathering 2000, community gathering in Portree, 31 December 1999[2]

    Sources:[1] Gaelic Choir Newsletter, July 1995
    [2] The Press and Journal Hi-Arts What's On in the Highlands and Islands, Summer 1999, Autumn 1999.

- *Number and character of Gaelic related initiatives*

    As with the 'events and ceremonies' indicator above, this is an expression of the cultural activity of the area, but focused more on the unique language aspect. The following Gaelic related initiatives are reported for Trotternish:
    - Trotternish Gaelic Choir[1]
    - Gaelic Nursery, Kilmuir Primary School[2]
    - Croileagan, Staffin[2]

    Week-long courses in Gaelic are run by Sabhal Mor Ostaig College (Sleat) in the summer, and February, March and Easter time[3]. Although not in Trotternish, they represent a resource to the local residents.

    Sources: [1] Conversation with Andy Anderson, Uig Comm. Development Association, 30 Sept 1999.
    [2] Skye and Lochalsh Community Groups Register, produced by Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations (no date)
    [3] Conversation with Gavin Parson, Sabhal Mor Ostaig College, Skye Sept 1999

- *Number and description of heritage trails/interpretation centres*
  This is another indication of the effort placed on maximising the value of cultural heritage, and ensuring its promulgation among the community and visitors.

  Interpretation centres and other cultural/historical facilities in Trotternish are listed below:

  - The Museum of Island Life is in Kilmuir[1]. It was visited by 3% of 477 visitors polled during a survey of Skye (the most popular site was visited by 31% of tourists polled). [2]
  - A monument to Flora McDonald is found in Kilmuir, close to the Museum of Island Life.[1]
  - The Staffin Museum is located at Ellishadder, close to Loch Mealt. It provides a wide range of exhibits, including archaeological artefacts, and local fossils.[3]
  - Dun Studio, an artists' working studio open all year, is in Borve.[3]
  - Remains of Duntulm Castle are found at Duntulm, at the northern tip of the peninsula. Access is by a signposted path, and a dedicated parking area is found along the A855 coast road.[4]

  Sources: [1]*Ordnance Survey Landranger Map No. 23, 1:50,000, 1997.*
  [2]*Highland Visitor Survey, 1997, Skye and Lochalsh, prepared for Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Highland Council, Highlands of Scotland Tourist Board and Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise, January 1999*
  [3]*The Press and Journal Hi-Arts What's On in the Highlands and Islands, Autumn 1999; page 15.*
  [4] *Gaelic Choir Newsletter, July 1995*

Additional recommended indicators

- *Number of interpreted sites and number not yet interpreted*
  The number of interpretative sites is a measure of the degree to which cultural resources are promoted. Interpretation can range from the location of a descriptive plaque, to the establishment of a visitor car park, to the development of an interpretative centre and museum. No precise data is available at this time on the fraction of sites in Trotternish that have undergone some degree of interpretation.

Objective 3: Promoting sustainable and innovative use of natural resources

Key topics considered in this objective: agriculture, fisheries and forestry, game, minerals, energy, tourism, management, use, production, labelling, marketing, support, access to natural resources.

The indicators related to this objective aim to define the current level of availability of commercial natural resources, and the initiatives in place to develop new uses whilst ensuring that overall use is sustainable.

Status indicators

- *Proportion of land under forestry management*
- *Number of grant aided woodland schemes*
  Forestry accounts for only 1% of the land cover of the area, which is indicative of the unsuitability of much of the area for producing tree crops.[1] Of this forestry area, the following parcels are receiving Woodland Grant Scheme money[2].

Area	Parcel No.	Approximate km^2
Balnacnoc	030000749	0.25
Uig Woods	030000008	0.33
Earlish	030001139	0.20
Cansta	030000407	0.13
Kilmaluag Croft	030001208	0.10
Flodigarry Hotel	510/11/PW9	0.20
Dun Flodigarry	030001123	0.20
Kilt Rock Forest	030001302	0.20
Ellishadder Staffin	030000061	0.20
Ellishadder 2	030000522	0.10
Breckry and Grealin	510/5/PW9	0.25
Bearresig Bay	030000752	1.00
Heartlands	030000439	3.50
Achachork	030000820/819	0.25
Viewfield House Hotel Grounds	510/47/PW9	0.20
Scorrybreac	510002013	0.33

The Highland Council also maintains data on forestry potential of Trotternish through its forestry land capability survey.

Source: [1]Trotternish Pilot Area Profile, Highland Council (undated).
[2]Letter and maps from Bryce Reynard, the Forestry Commission, 17 September 1999

- *Proportion of actively managed crofts vs number of absentee crofters*
  Crofting provides social benefits to rural areas by creating working communities, offering security of tenancy, and acting as a means for people to remain on the land. Traditional crofting techniques (eg, use of seaweed as fertilizer) also represent a sustainable use of natural resources. The proportion of active vs inactive crofts can indicate the potential for further sustainable agricultural development of the area. Within the Kilmuir Parish, 286 crofts are registered, with 51 absentees.

Number of Active Crofts
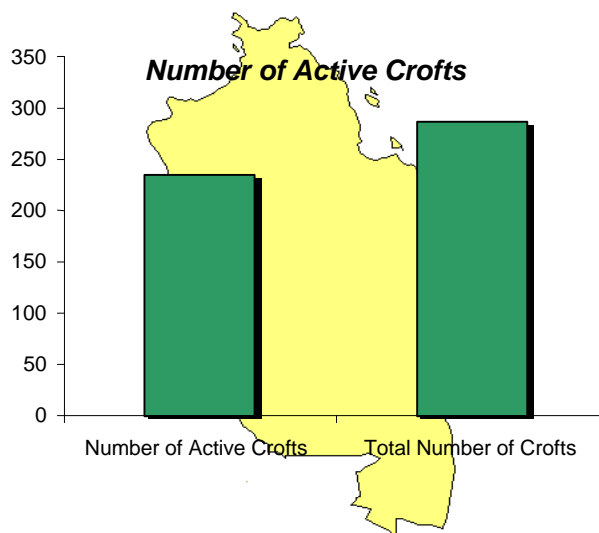
Source: letter from J Kerr, Crofters Commission, 15 September 1999; fax from Dorothy Hamilton, Crofters Commission. 5 October 1999

- *Mineral Resources*

  The Highlands area is a major source of aggregates - in the form of crushed rock, sand and gravel - for Britain and Europe. Although no information is available for resources in Trotternish, information is available for Skye and Lochalsh as a whole. The high sand and gravel resource is linked to a superquarry at Glensanda, Morven (Lochalsh). Marble harl is also worked at Torrin on Skye:

  Aggregate reserves and years' supply, by type and Area (1995):

Area	Sand and Gravel (000 tonnes)	Sand and Gravel (Years' supply)	Crushed Rock (000 tonnes)	Crushed Rock (Years' supply)
Skye & Lochalsh	13,345	210	1,710	15

  Source: Highland Council Minerals Survey, 1995. Highland Trends 1997 report

Measures of performance

- *Start-up of "green" projects*

  This can be a measure of the extent to which natural resources are being used in an innovative way. Available "green" grants for habitat management are described under Objective 1. Additional grants may include:

  - 'Environmental Renewal' grants provided by the Local Enterprise Companies (LECs) are related to the costs of removal of dereliction, the improvement of amenity, enhanced landscaping and associated environmental improvements.
  - Business start-up grants from the LECs for green projects.

  The degree of uptake of such grants indicates the activity level with regards environmental issues already existing in the area

  The following 'green' grants were provided by Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise (SALE) between June 1998 and 1999, for activities in the Trotternish area:

  1. Environmental Renewal funding for provision of a fishermen's gear storage and working compound at Uig Pier (£30,000 from SALE; £60,135 from PESCA), June/July 1999. The funding is geared to repairing and renewing the physical environment of the SALE area.
  2. Enterprise Allowance Scheme for 'Buchanan Organics' horticultural produce (£1,600).
  3. Special Projects funding by SALE to Skye & Lochalsh Horticultural association, undertaking local produce market research. Questionnaires and face-to-face interviews to involve a cross section of the hotel and catering sector, to obtain information on the type of produce required, quantities, ordering procedures and distribution channels. (LEADER grant: £1,250) (April 1997).
  4. Skye & Lochalsh Footpath Initiative Environmental Renewal grant (£20,000), February 1999.
  5. Isle of Skye Drystone Walling Association Environmental Renewal Grant, for repair of sections of drystone walling, while carrying out an instruction and certification course (September 1998) (£1,070).

  Source: Disclosure Of Assistance Reports, Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise, April 1997-June/July 1999.

Additional recommended indicators

- *Number of "green" labelled products/services*

Such products/services would relate to natural resources activities, and may include:

- Organic labelled croft produce
- Green Tourism Scheme
- ecotourism or activity holidays
- farm holidays

To date, these activities are limited, but can be monitored over time as an example of sustainable use of key resources in the Pilot Areas.

The Uig Youth Hostel, Portree, has achieved the silver rating in the Scottish Tourism Board, Green Tourism Business Scheme. To meet this level, applicants need specify 42 of over 100 possible measures for environmental improvements of their facilities.

Source: The Green Tourism Business Scheme Members List, 2 September 1999; Green Tourism Business Scheme Guidance Notes, Scottish Tourist Board, March 1999.

- *Number of organic producers*

'Organic' agricultural produce – ie, grown according to strict guidelines set by the Soil Association, without synthetic fertilisers or chemical pesticides –has been shown to be a niche product which can be sold at a premium compared to normal produce. The degree to which Pilot Area crofters are taking advantage of this market can be monitored over time.

To date, the only information available on this issue in Trotternish regards a single Enterprise Allowance Scheme provided for 'Buchanan Organics' horticultural produce (£1,600). Some original research may be required to establish a more complete record of organic crofters in the Pilot Area. The Scottish Organic Producers Association may also provide information.

Source: Disclosure Of Assistance Reports, Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise, April 1997-June/July 1999.

- *No. of woodlands under the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme*

Woodlands under the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme sets out standard requirements for sustainably managed forestry areas. To date, no information on the above indicator for the North Sutherland area could be obtained from the Forestry Commission, but further requests may result in successful data release.

- *Stocking densities*

The density of cattle or sheep on grazing areas will play a significant role on the status of the land on which they feed. A balance needs to be struck between the carrying capacity of the land and the economic needs of the resident crofters. Monitoring of stocking densities will help determine which way the balance is swinging. To date, no indicator of stocking density has been maintained by official bodies.

- *Index of grazing pressure*

Similar to stocking density above, an indicator of grazing pressure can help determine whether an area has reached or surpassed its 'carrying capacity', hence help shape agricultural management activities. Contributions to this grazing pressure can come from diverse sources including deer and sheep. There are many inter-relating factors contributing to grazing pressure and a single satisfactory index has yet to be developed.

- *Number of organic fish farming projects*
  Similar to organic produce, but still a relatively new concept, organic fish farming products would represent fish aquaculture without use of chemical pesticides or synthetic food additives, and with certain water flows and maximum cage densities. As for organic produce, such products can yield greater value in the market place.

- *Game*
  Recreational and commercial activities linked to game depend on resource numbers. No data relating to game-counts is available for the Trotternish area. The Deer Commission for Scotland has never counted in this area because of the very small numbers of deer, if any. With regard to other types of game, eg grouse and pheasant, data is held by private estates and is not publicly available.

  Source: Fax from Alan Corrigan, the Deer Commission for Scotland, 19 November 1999

- *Fisheries*
  All Dùthchas Pilot Areas encompass extensive areas of coastline and fishing harbours, and both fishing and aquaculture play significant roles in the land economy. Loch Snizort fishing creek is the main area of fishing activity in Trotternish. Uig is an important landing port, used by both local fishermen and those from other Western Isles. However, to date a suitable indicator of fisheries resources (for which reliable data is available) has not been identified.

Objective 4: Promoting sustainable and innovative use of cultural resources

Key topics considered in this objective: cultural tourism, activities, facilities, projects, products, use, productivity, events, groups, marketing, support.

Similar to Objective 3 above, this objective looks at how, and to what degree, cultural resources in the Pilot Areas are being sustainably managed and used. Because of the dynamic nature of this objective, status indicators also represent performance, and the two categories are therefore grouped together.

Status/performance indicators

- *Number of venues promoting cultural resources*
  Availability of venues where cultural activities can occur is an indicator of the potential for cultural events.

  In general, all Village Halls and some schools within the Trotternish Pilot Area are involved in promoting cultural resources to varying degrees. Below is a list of identified venues.

  - Staffin Village Hall
  - Uig Village Hall
  - Kilmuir Village Hall
  - Staffin Museum
  - Kilmuir Museum of Island Life

Sources: HI-Arts, Summer 1999, and Choir Newsletter, 1995

- *Use of centres and facilities*
  Intensive use of an interpretative centre can potentially result in stress of the associated resources. A review of levels of perceived stress can therefore be an important measure.

  To date, information has not been collected in a sufficiently systematic way to permit a measured view of the quality and usage of cultural/heritage interpretative centres in Trotternish.

Additional recommended indicators

- *Proportion of historic sites/monuments actively managed*
The first indicator reflects the degree of activity in the Pilot Area linked to publicising and exploiting the cultural and archaeological heritage.

- *Adaptive re-use of historic buildings*
This indicator would serve to demonstrate that historic sites or buildings do not necessarily need to be museums, and highlight other successful uses of culturally significant buildings.

Chapter 2

Goal 2   Retaining a viable and empowered community

Objective 5: Retaining a balanced and healthy population

Key topics considered in this objective: population total/dispersal, age structure, gender balance, health, population change and support measures, health change and support measures.

The health and balance of a population is of paramount importance to the economic well being of an area, overall quality of life and to individual fulfilment. The indicators chosen aim to provide a current picture of each area.

Status indicators

- *Age structure of resident population*
  The age structure can indicate obvious gaps in the numbers of any one age group.

  The population of Trotternish is estimated at under 1,500, with a density of less than 4 persons/ km^2. At the time of the 1991 census, the exact population number was 1325.

Percentage age distribution, Trotternish (1991 census data)

Age range	Trotternish Pilot Area	Highland	Scotland
0-15	20	22	20.5
16-29	18	19	21
30-44	18.5	23	22
45-retired	19.5	19	19
Retired +	24	17	17.5

(numbers are approximate as they are taken from a bar graph)
Source: Trotternish Pilot Area Profile, Highland Council (undated)

Percentage Age Distribution, Trotternish
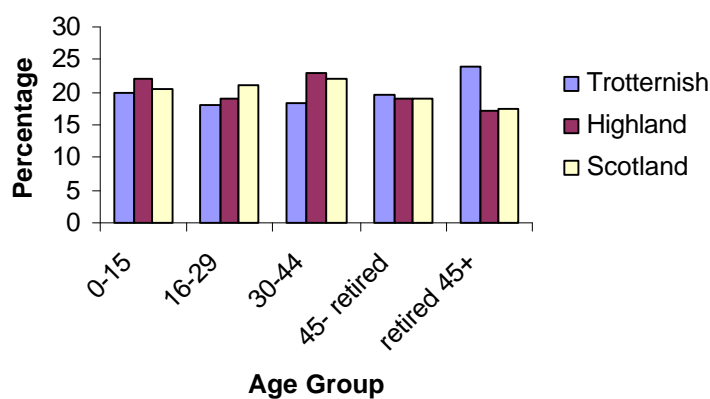
- *% change in populations (trends, 1981-91)*
  By monitoring the percentage change in numbers, a community can assess the situation and where appropriate consider ways of reversing unwanted trends.

  1981 Total Population Trotternish – 1435[1]
  1991 Total Resident Population Trotternish - 1325[1]
  % change = -7.7%

  Population change 1981-91 is presented below for Trotternish, the Highlands, and Scotland as a whole:

Year	Trotternish Pilot Area[1]	Highland[2]	Scotland[2]
1981	1435	187,008	4,861,854
1991	1325	198,621	5,035,315
% change	-7.7	6	3

  Source: [1] *1991, 1981 Census data, provided by Highland Council;*
  [2] *Trotternish Pilot Area Profile, Highland Council (undated)*

Rates of Population Change, 1981-91
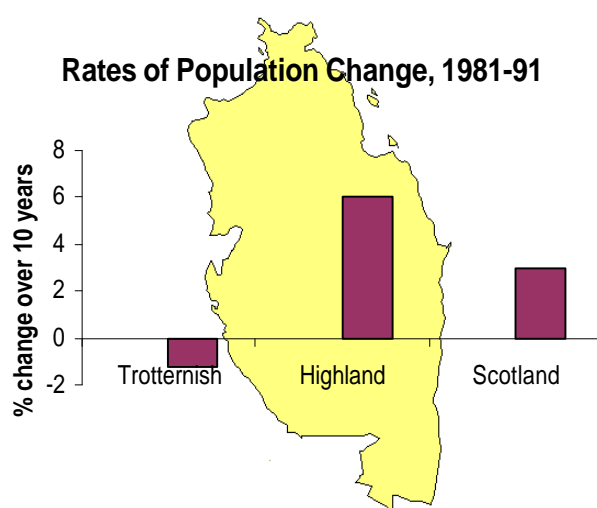
- *Gender balance in resident population*
  For growth and viability, a resident population needs to maintain a relatively even gender balance, and a sufficient proportion of women of child-bearing age. The data for Trotternish for 1981 and 1991, shows the balance to be evenly placed between the percentage of female/male. In 1981, women of child-bearing age(taken, generally, to be 16-44) constituted a healthy 31.4% of the total female population. This percentage closely matched that of the male population in the same age range (37.4%).

FEMALE	1981 CENSUS[1]	1991 CENSUS[2]
Total	714	656
%	49.8%	49.5%

MALE	1981 CENSUS	1991 CENSUS
Total	721	669
%	50.2%	50.5%

The percentage of each age group in terms of the whole population is shown in the chart below, based on 1981 figures:

Age	Female %	Male %
0-15	9.5	11.4
16-29	7	9.9
30-44	8.6	8.9
45 + Retired	12.3	11.7
Retired +	11.3	8.4

Sources: [1]E-mail from Jon Shepherd, GIS Manager, Planning and Development Service. 1981 Census, The Highland Council; [2] E-mail from Jon Shepherd, GIS Manager, Planning and Development Service. 1991 Census, The Highland Council, 4 October 1999

- *% of working age population*

This provides information on the earning potential of a population, hence its economic viability. Data for Trotternish from the 1991 census is compared below to data for the Highlands and Scotland as a whole. Working age population is taken to be the age group between 16-64.

	Trotternish[1]	Highland[2]	Scotland[2]
Number of working age population	771	99,993	2,348,795
% of total population	58.2	62.4	76.3

Source: 11991 census data, provided by Highland Council; 2Trotternish Pilot Area Profile, Highland Council (undated)

Measures of performance

- *Uptake of young crofters to new entrants scheme*

The new entrants scheme for crofters provides 'start-up' financial support to encourage the taking up of absentee crofts in the local area. This indicator can serve as a measure of the return of people to the local area, as well as the attraction of young people to crofting .

New entrants under The Croft Entrants Scheme, as of 15/9/99[1]:

AREA	No. new entrants	Total plan value	Total grant support	CES incentive payment
Kilmuir & Staffin	1	£13,965	£5,362	£3,000
Uig & Kensaleyre/ Borve	6	£79,419	£43,908	£12,010

It is important to note that the ages of these new entrants are unknown.

Sources: [1]Letter from J Kerr, The Crofters Commission, 15 September 1999

Additional recommended indicators

- *Health indicator*
  An indicator providing a measure of the health of Pilot Area populations is being sought, but to date none has been agreed on which would be meaningful given the small size of the population considered, and the confidential nature of much health information.

- *Number of initiatives to encourage "young returners"*
  The drain of young people from the Pilot Areas is one of the main concerns voiced by residents. By monitoring the opportunities and initiatives to encourage the return of young people, the effort being made to reverse the trend can be assessed. As an example, the LEADER-assisted Lochalsh and Skye Opportunities project aims to encourage former pupils of Plockton and Portree High Schools to settle back in the area. The project issues newsletters and maintains Internet web-sites in which information on the areas economic and social potential is provided.

Original research and community-based research may be required for this indicator.

Source: Skye Lochalsh Enterprise 7th Report 1997/98

Objective 6: Supporting community empowerment

Key topics considered in this objective: community-decision making, control of land and natural resources, access to funds, access to information, skills and expertise, community activity, functioning of democratic structures, local groups/activities, changes in land tenure, funding mechanisms, information provision, primary, secondary, tertiary education provision/uptake.

The involvement of local communities in decision making and the improvement of local democracy and individual citizen involvement in the local political process, are key features of sustainable development. The indicators linked to this objective reflect the initiatives or ongoing activities aimed at increasing communications and action within communities.

Status indicators

- *Number of community organisations (societies, clubs, volunteer groups)*
  This reflects the current activity level within the area, and the opportunities for residents to become involved.

  For the Trotternish area, a total of 59 community organisations were identified, 34 of which are based in Portree. The Portree-based organisations are considered relevant because of the town's proximity to the Pilot Area, which would allow interactions of residents.

  Source: Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations, Community Groups Register (undated)

Measures of performance

- *Number and amount of LEC provided Community Action Grants*
  Community Action Grants are funds made available by the Local Enterprise Companies to community groups, to improve facilities for local people. The degree of funding is indicative of the effort being put into improving the community infrastructure.

  For the period April 1998-July 1999, no Community Action Grants were provided to community groups within Trotternish by Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise. There have, however, been 7 Community Action Grants provided to community groups within Portree. Due to the close proximity of Portree to the Pilot Area, the information is considered relevant; The grants awarded are listed below.

  1. Skye and Lochalsh Sports Council, Portree – £800 toward Skye half marathon 15th anniversary.
  2. Togalach Na Gaidhlig, Per Ms M Deans, Portree – SALE £9,000/ERDF £3,000 toward feasibility study.
  3. Garadh Tigh Na Drochaid, Per Jane Taylor, Resource Centre, Portree - £650 toward Sheltered Employment Scheme.
  4. Skye & Lochalsh Young Music Makers, Portree - £1,500 towards updating tutors and players guide.
  5. Skye & Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations, Portree - £2,000 toward the purchase of a colour photocopier.
  6. Skye & Lochalsh Beekeepers Association, Portree – SALE £300/LEADER £424 toward the purchase of beekeeping equipment.
  7. Portree Angling Association, Portree - £3,130 towards the purchase of additional angling vessels

  Source: Andrew Prendergast, Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise Disclosure of Assistance reports April 1998-July 1999, Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise, 21 September 1999

- *Number of Crofting Township Grants awarded by Crofters Commission*
  The Crofting Township Grant Scheme requires local crofters and townspeople to agree together on a funding request to improve the local township. The number of grants awarded is a clear representation of the degree of local interaction, especially between groups who may not otherwise have opportunities for discussion.

  For Trotternish in 1999, no grants were awarded by the Crofters Commission under the Crofting Township Development Scheme. For the period 1/4/97 to 31/3/99, the following Crofting Counties Agricultural Grants were given:

Parish	No. of Claims	Expenditure
Kilmuir	68	£ 82,021
Snizort	46	£97, 963

  Source: Letter from J Kerr, Crofters Commission, 15 September 1999.

- *Number of community initiated projects*
  The number of activities initiated and undertaken is a reflection of the degree of participation and interaction within the community. To date there has been no available information regarding this issue.

Additional recommended indicators

Other potential indicators of the degree of community empowerment, for which no information can be gathered at this time, are listed below. Their community-specific nature requires original research for quantification.

- *No. of communities taking part in community planning process*
    This shows the degree of local participation in the planning process.
- *No. of Grazing Committees meetings/ activities*
    Grazing Committees play a key role in the management and planning of crofting communities. The number of meetings and activities undertaken reflect the degree of activity within the community.
- *Area of land under community ownership*
    This is an indicator of the level of a community's control of its environment.

In addition, certain indicators linked to other objectives presented in this profile report are also partly related to community empowerment. They include:

- *Access to information, skills and expertise*
    Objective 8 cover availability of essential services
    Objective 11 addresses the availability of Information Technology (IT) links in the Pilot Area
- *Education provision and take-up*
    Objectives 7, 8 discuss location of schools and fate of school leavers

Objective 7: Ensuring equal access to employment

Key topics considered in this objective: employment (levels/age/gender), range of jobs, dispersal of jobs, access to employment, employment training, childcare provision, employment changes and support measures, skill base, Investors in People (IIP), business start-up.

Work is an enormously important aspect of the lives of individuals, and where this is lacking it can have clear and measurable effects on households and communities. Employment is, therefore, a fundamental requirement for a viable community. Employment structure is also important and reflects historical and present day trends. It will clearly be influenced by the environmental surroundings in particular the natural resources. The availability and categories of employment, the ease of access to it, and the opportunities to prepare for it, are therefore important indicators to monitor.

Status indicators

- *% unemployment*
    This is an obvious indicator of economic viability of a community.
    Unemployment in the Trotternish Pilot Area is reported below for 1991 and 1997, and compared to Highland in general.

	Percentage unemployment 1991				Percentage unemployment 1997			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Trotternish	8	7	6	6	7	5	4	5
Highland	9	8	8	8	10	8	7	7

Source: Highland Council (undated)
(NB: numbers are estimated from graph information)

- *% employment levels (by category)*
  The Dùthchas Pilot Areas are aiming to break free from a focus on seasonal, tourism-related employment, or a primarily agriculturally-based economy. Diversity of employment is an important indicator for the future since this can provide some resilience against recessionary pressures. By monitoring employment categories, and changes in numbers employed in each, the viability of the economic base of the Pilot Areas can be determined.

  The figure below shows employment levels in each of eight categories, based on 1991 census data

Employment by category (Trotternish)
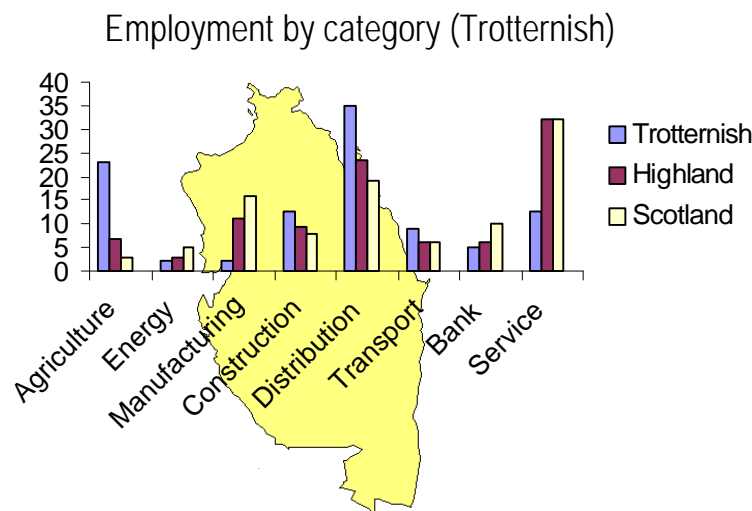
Source: Trotternish Pilot Area Profile, Highland Council (undated)

- *Number of adult training facilities*
  Skills training can be vital as preparation for employment, and can provide increased opportunities.

  Although there are no adult training centres specifically in Trotternish, Aros Heritage Centre has been identified as a potential outreach centre for Sabhal Mor Ostaig College, the representative branch of the University of Highlands and Islands. It is situated near Portree and has video conference facilities.

  Sabhal Mor Ostaig College in Sleat , although not in the Pilot Area, represents a resource accessible to Trotternish residents. The college offers courses in Business Studies, including business administration. In 1999, one student from Trotternish was enrolled at the College. Another Trotternish resident attended approximately 2 years ago.

  Source: Conversation with Mr Gavin Parson, Sabhol Mor Ostaig College, September 1999

- *% of school leavers going to university/further education*
- *% of pupils going to something other than unemployment*

  By monitoring the fate of local young people upon completion of their secondary studies, one can assess the availability and the take-up of opportunities in the local area.

  A total of 48% of students within Skye and Lochalsh continued to higher education (university) in 1997-98. No data specific to Trotternish is available. The high proportion

reflects the lack of other types of further education colleges in the area, as well as lack of recruitment options.

Source: Conversation with Vivienne Stellman, Highland Career Services, Inverness; September 1999.

Measures of performance

- *Number of new start-up businesses and grants allocated*
  The Local Enterprise Companies are a source of funding for new businesses; the number of such funding provided for the Pilot Areas serves to measure the entrepreneurial spirit of the area, and the development of new employment opportunities.

  For the period April 1998-July 1999 the following new business start-ups were assisted by SALE:

  1. Development of audio visual business, Joanna Mackinnon, Uig – SALE £5,100/ERDF £5,100 Finance For Business
  2. 'Weresheep' Knitwear/Designer Textiles, Margaret Grounds, Skeabost Bridge – SALE £1,600 Enterprise Allowance Scheme
  3. "Buchanan Organics" Horticultural Produce, Sharon Buchanan, Kilmuir – SALE £1,600 Enterprise Allowance Scheme

For the period 1998-99, there were 191 Business Start-Ups within the Highland Council area that were assisted by Local Enterprise Companies. This averages out at 0.0019 per head of population[2]:

Area	Number
Argyll & the Islands	83
Caithness & Sutherland	19
Inverness & Nairn	23
Lochaber	9
Moray Badenoch & Strathspey	27
Ross & Cromarty	17
Skye & Lochalsh	13

Source: Skye & Lochalsh Enterprise Disclosure of Assistance reports April 1998-July 1999, Skye & Lochalsh Enterprise, 21 September 1999. [2] Highlands and Islands Enterprise 8th Report, 1998-99.

- *No of Investors in People (IIP) recognitions per area*
  The Investors in People National Standard is a practical way in which businesses can improve their performance, by training and developing their employees. A high number of IIP businesses represents a community where employees are provided with opportunities to improve their skills and abilities.

  For the period April 1998-July 1999 there have been no Investors In People recognitions by SALE in the Trotternish Pilot Area. For the period April 1998-July 1999 the following Trotternish organisations have, however, committed to the Standard:

  1. Skye Riding Centre, Borve
  2. Columba 1400, per Fiona Macleod, Staffin

3. Skeabost House Hotel
4. The Isle of Skye Brewing Company, Uig
For the period 1998-99 a total of 235 IIP recognitions and 263 commitments were recorded for the Highlands and Islands as a whole[2].

Source: Andrew Prendergast, Skye & Lochalsh Enterprise Disclosure of Assistance reports April 1998-July 1999, Skye & Lochalsh Enterprise.[2] Highlands and Islands Enterprise 8th Report, 1998-99.

Additional recommended indicators

Additional indicators of the degree of access to employment, for which original research may be required to obtain viable data, include:

- *Dispersal of employment opportunities*
  A viable community will not concentrate its employment opportunities in one or two key locations, but will ensure that employment, within a variety of categories, is available throughout its area.

- *Availability of child care*
  Child care is an essential requirement to free parents in need of double income for economic viability. The availability of inexpensive, subsidised childcare is therefore an important measure.

Objective 8: Ensuring equal access to essential services

Key topics considered in this objective: housing, utilities (power, telecoms, sewerage etc), services (Post Office, shops, doctors), care provision (child, disabled, elderly), changes, initiatives and support for the above.

If access to essential services is limited in any way this tends to create "underprivileged" households or even whole areas. This is a barrier to a sustainable future, which aims to ensure that all members of society have access to those services and opportunities that can allow them to achieve their personal potential. The indicators selected below give an indication of the availability of services, and the ease of access to them.

Status indicators

- *Rented vs owned homes*
  The percentage of home ownership can indicate the degree of stability and security within an area, as well as some indication of the availability of affordable housing.

Trotternish   **Appendix 1**

The pie chart below shows proportion of owner occupation vs other types of housing arrangements in Trotternish (1991 census data):
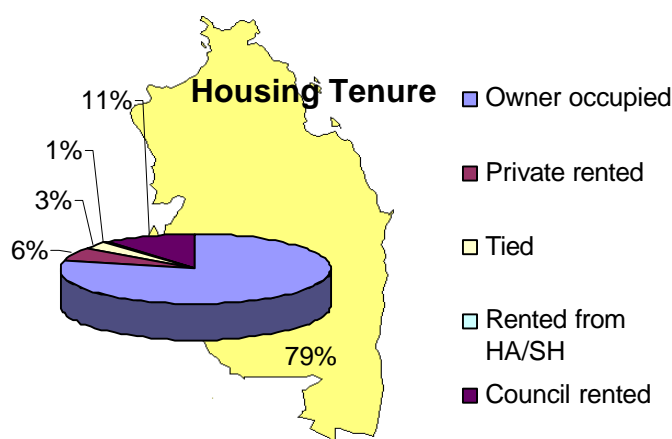
Source: Trotternish Pilot Area Profile, Highland Council (undated)

- *Number of essential services*

  Certain public services are viewed as 'essential' for a community, and can be used as a benchmark to determine its sustainability. Such services include, GP, post office, food shop, petrol station, recreational facilities and primary and secondary schools . Few communities within the Pilot Areas are within easy reach of all such services. By establishing the baseline situation it is possible to identify the important gaps which will need attention in the future.

Township	Essential Service					
	Doctor's[1]	Primary School	Petrol Station[1]	Post Office[1]	Food Shop[1]	Recreation[2]
Staffin		y	y	Y	y	Indoor bowls; Staffin football club
Culnacnock				Y		
Kensaleyre		y			y	
Snizort				Y		
Uig		y		Y	y	Badminton Club Bowls
Kilmuir		y		Y		(Tennis & Squash Club, Borve)

There are no secondary schools in Trotternish. The closest secondary school to the Pilot Area is in Portree.

The Skeabost Golf Club is the only Council-run recreational facility in Trotternish. The following Council-run recreational facilities are in Portree: unspecified Sports Hall at Portree High School; Isle of Skye Swimming Pool is at Camanachd Square[3].

*Sources: [1]Trotternish Pilot Area Profile, Highland Council (undated)*
[2]Skye & Lochalsh Community Groups Register.   [3]Fax from Jim Ronald Highland Council Cultural & Leisure Services, Portree; 27 September 1999.

- *Bus frequency per sub-area in each pilot area*

  Frequent, reliable public transport is a key requirement within the Pilot Areas, especially to facilitate access to essential services that may not be locally available.

  Bus service along the main Trotternish road is provided by the Sk12 circular bus line. This serves all of the communities along the ring road, and links to other services in Portree. Frequency of the Sk12: varies depending on day of week, schoolday/school holiday. Twenty partial route times are listed, four full routes.
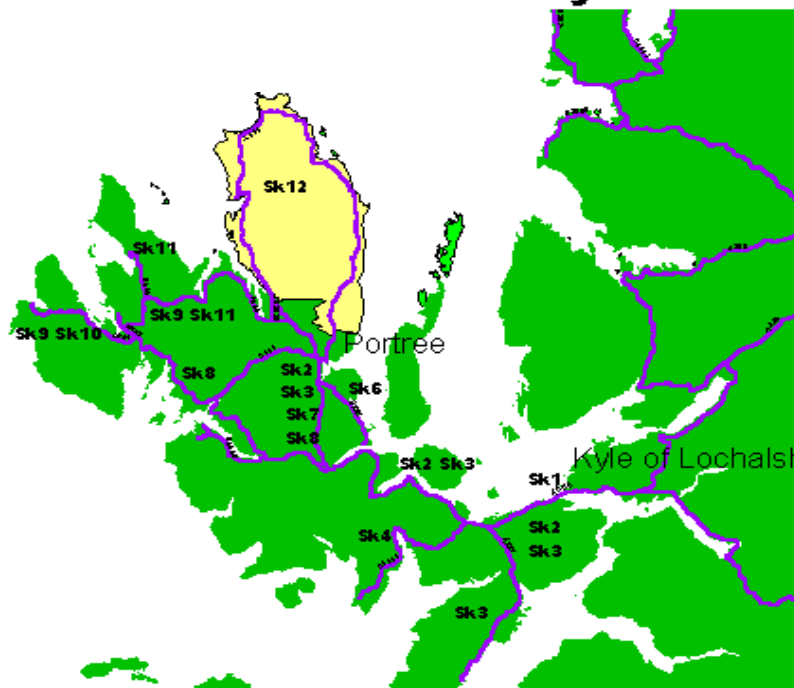
Source: Public Transport Travel Guide, Skye and Western Isles, Valid from 2 April 1999 to 16 October 1999.   Transport Marketing Ltd, May 1999.

Measures of performance

- *Housing Grant take-up*

  Grants are available from the local Council for housing improvements, which are most frequently linked to insulation. A measure of the degree of take-up of such grants will give some indication of the effort placed within the Pilot Areas for improving housing facilities. Housing Grant Allocations for Trotternish area are shown below:

FINANCIAL YEAR	NO. OF GRANTS	GRANT VALUE
1994/95	24	£197,506.99
1995/96	20	£115,953.38
1996/97	5	£14,315.07
1997/98	14	£65,789.07
1998/99	28	£203,324.78
1999/30th September	18	£97,713.85

Source: Fax from Donnie Martin, Assistant Protective Services Officer, Highland Council, 1 October 1999

- *Degree of implementation of local integrated transport planning initiatives*
  Integrated transport allows ease of connection between different services, eg distinct bus lines; ferries and buses; flights and buses. The degree of integration is a measure of the level and quality of public services available.

  To date, no integrated transport policy has been put into place affecting specifically the Isle of Skye and Trotternish; however, Highland Council has been successful in obtaining government funding for the Rural Bus Grant in 1998. Following receipt of the grant, it conducted a consultation exercise to determine the need for new or improved services in the areas of the various Community Councils. The Council then prioritised the responses received and subsequently awarded appropriate contracts for the services recommended or requested.

  According to the report on the initiative published by the Council in spring 1999, 'it is too early to assess the success of individual routes'. It is expected that the passenger numbers on most new routes will grow slowly over the first few months. Continued development of the initiative requires monitoring and analysing services, doing further publicity where necessary, and making adjustments as appropriate. No specific information about Skye or Trotternish is provided.

  Source: David Summers, Transport Development Officer, Highland Council: "Highland Moves quickly to use biggest Rural Bus Grant shareout in Scotland"; ATCO News, Spring 1999.

Additional recommended indicators:

Other essential services that can serve as indicators of sustainable communities include:

- *Sewerage Provisions* – Many of the residents in more remote areas are provided with septic tanks. These may have limitations in certain situations, as external support is required for periodic emptying.

- *Power/Telecommunications* – Although very few if any residents in Trotternish are not supplied with electricity and telephone lines, the reliability of these lines may suffer, especially in severe weather, and the distance of some locations from support centres may result in residents being disconnected for some time.

- *Radio/TV Reception* – Remote communities may not be able to obtain clear reception for telecommunication, due to distances from relay points. Radio and television may represent the only links to the 'outside world' in some locations.

- *Care Provision* – Distinct from GP facilities and availability of hospitals, this indicator reflects the availability of visiting nurses and caretakers, as well as proximity of nursing homes or care centres. In an area with an increasing percentage of ageing population, such services may be considered essential.

Chapter 3

Goal 3	Reducing problems of remoteness by delivering local needs locally and reducing dependence on external inputs

Objective 9: Improving the local market for goods and services

Key topics considered in this objective: local goods, local services, local markets, local retail/wholesale outlets, local marketing schemes, uptake, changes, supports.

Some of the issues stemming from the remoteness of the Pilot Areas can in part be addressed by improving the local market for locally supplied goods and services. Greater local provision of local needs also meets other sustainability goals, by reducing transportation needs and improving local employment.

Status indicators

- *Number of local producers supplying locally and number of local markets/outlets*
  A focus on selling locally rather than exporting can provide the local community with supplies, whilst decreasing transport costs for producers.
  At this time, no such businesses are known to be established in Trotternish. However, local growers sometimes set up businesses selling seasonal produce, eg strawberries.

  Source: conversation with Sally Phellps, Kilmuir Community Council, Skye.

- *Number of local transport companies*
  An example of how local transport needs may be serviced by local enterprise, thus providing local employment whilst serving local needs.
  No major haulage companies are known to be present in Trotternish, other than McLeods based in Portree. There are local taxi business and school contracts for student transport. Borve Bus Company is in place.

  Source: conversation with Sally Phellps, Kilmuir Community Council, Skye.

Measures of performance

- *Number of new start-up businesses servicing local needs*
  This indicator measures the potential for local needs to be serviced locally, thus reducing transport and import.

  For the period April 1997-July 1999 the following new business start-ups were assisted by SALE:

  1. Development of audio visual business, Joanna Mackinnon, Uig.
  2. 'Weresheep' knitwear/Designer Textiles, Margaret Grounds, Skeabost Bridge.
  3. 'Buchanan Organics' Horticultural Produce, Sharon Buchanan, Kilmuir.

  Source: Andrew Prendergast, Skye & Lochalsh Enterprise Disclosure of Assistance reports, April 1998-July 1999, Skye & Lochalsh Enterprise, 21 September 1999

Additional recommended indicators

- *Number of boxing schemes*
  Boxing schemes stimulate local consumption of fresh produce, through direct supply by producers, and are therefore an example of local needs being serviced locally.
- *Percentage of workers whose place of work is within Pilot Area*
  People working locally are maintaining and sharing skills and knowledge within their community, whilst satisfying local needs. This is an effective example of sustainable development.
- *Number of local direct marketing opportunities*
  This is another indicator for measuring the potential for growth and development of local businesses and services.

Objective 10: Promoting equal and effective access to goods, services and markets

Key topics considered in this objective: transport infrastructure, public transport, car ownership, fuel prices/availability, integrated transport links, subsidised transport, changes/initiatives/supports for the above.

Because travel is increasingly being taken for granted by individuals and businesses, society is becoming dependent on effective transport systems. This is even more pronounced in remote areas and communities.

The degree of public transport availability and how well it is integrated indicates the ease with which goods and services can be accessed. The issue here, in contrast with Objective 8, is accessibility *outside* the Pilot Area. The challenge here is to meet economic and social needs for access to facilities in ways that do not place unacceptable burdens on the environment.

Status indicators

- *Cost of fuel per journey distance to nearest larger town (Inverness)*
  A rough estimate of the distance from Kilmaluag, at the northern tip of Trotternish, to Inverness is approximately 220 km. The cost of such a journey is compared below to the cost of a trip to Edinburgh/Glasgow for an inhabitant of the Central Belt (living approximately 40 km from either city):

	Trotternish	**Central Belt**
Total driving distance from Kilmaluag to Inverness (approx) [1]	**220 km**	**40km**
Average price of fuel	76.5 p/l [2]	73 p/l
Average value for vehicle efficiency [3]	30 miles/gallon	30 miles/gallon
Conversion assuming imperial gallons (4.55 l)	10.62 km/l	10.62 km/l
Required fuel for journey Kilmaluag -Inverness return	41.4 l	7.5 l
Cost of fuel for return journey	**£31.70**	**£5.50**

Sources: [1]Road Atlas Great Britain, AA 2000
[2] conversation with Sally Phellps, Kilmuir Community Council, Skye.
[3]conversation with AA representative, Basingstoke

Main Roads in Trotternish Area
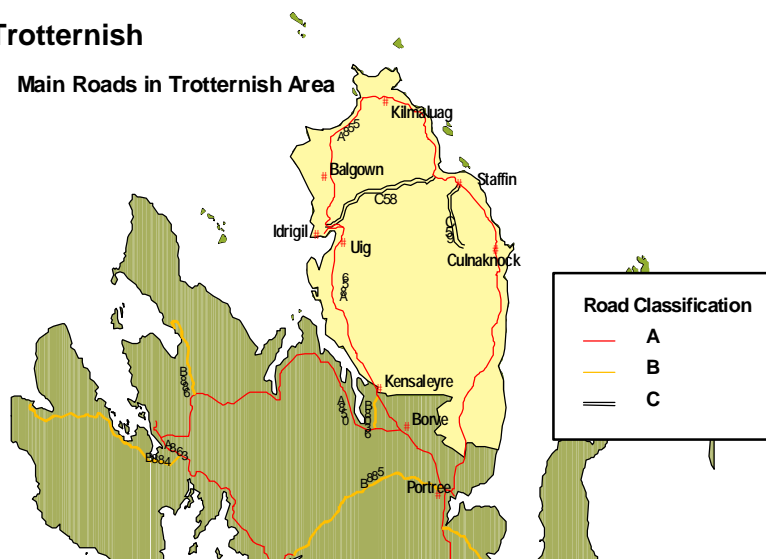
- *State of local roads (Grades A, B, C, U)*
  This is a representation of ease and cost of access to greater markets. The classification status shown below has been obtained by the North Skye Composite Plan showing road classifications, provided by the Highland Council Department of Road and Transport. The smallest U roads have been ignored. The Portree roads have been omitted.

Location	Road Classification			
	A	B	C	U
Trotternish	A855 A856		C58	0
Lealt				U96
Grealin				U74
Elishadaer				U89
Staffin			C59	8 U roads
Flodigarry				U46 U172
Aird				4 U roads
Kilvaxtar				4 U roads
Uig				14 U roads SK80
Kingsburgh				U36 U76 U101
Borve		B8036		6 U roads
Total	2	1	2	45

Source: map of road classifications provided by the P H Shimmin, Highland Council Director of Roads & Transport (no date on map).

- *Number of ferry landings at nearest ferry port*
  The nearest ferry port is Uig, with ferries to Lochmaddy in North Uist and Tarbert in Harris (max. two per day in either direction, depending on the day.)

The ferry to the mainland is at Armadale, with sailings to Mallaig (five per day Mon-Sat, both directions) but a bridge is in place to Kyle of Lochalsh.

Source: Public Transport Travel Guide, Skye & Western Isles; Valid from 2 April 99 to 16 October 99. Transport Marketing Ltd, May 1999.

Measures of performance

- *Degree of implementation of local integrated transport planning initiative*
  (see description under Objective 8 above)

Additional recommended indicators

- *Available level of public transport out of the Pilot Area*
- *Degree of integration between public services*
  The frequency of buses and trains to centres such as Aberdeen and Inverness provides a more sustainable form of access to greater markets and wider resources. The ease of transfer from one transport system to another, through designed connections, maximises the availability of transport to the community. Both of these pieces of information require some local research.
- *Car-sharing schemes*
  Organised car-sharing schemes can render transport available to people who may not own cars. Many such schemes may be informal and it may therefore be difficult to obtain information about them.

Objective 11: Providing an adequate Information Technology (IT) resource

Key topics considered in this objective: IT infrastructure, access to IT, training for IT, levels of use, levels of skill, levels of awareness.

The use of IT is rapidly becoming recognised as an effective way of accessing information and communicating from remote areas, and is regarded as a key means by which people and communities can fulfil their potential. IT connection, availability and use can breach distance and allow access to information and markets. Availability of IT facilities to the local community, and courses to increase usage, are therefore key indicators.

Status indicators

- *Number of IT centres*
There are no IT centres within Trotternish, however, an Internet Centre is currently under construction in Staffin and should be complete by early 2000.
Source: Conversation with Mr Alaistar Nicolson, IT Advisor, Skye & Lochalsh Enterprise

- *UHI access points*
Aros Heritage Centre has been identified as a potential outreach centre. It is situated near Portree and has video conference facilities.
Source: Conversation with Mr Gavin Parson, Sabhol Mor Ostaig College, September 1999.

Measures of performance

Provision of IT training courses available, and IT training requested
Although there are no adult training centres specifically in Trotternish, Aros Heritage Centre has been identified as a potential outreach centre for Sabhal Mor Ostaig College, the represenative branch of the University of the Highlands and Islands. It is situated near Portree and has video conference facilities.

Sabhal Mor Ostaig College in Sleat, although not in the Pilot Area, represents a resource accessible to Trotternish residents. The college offers courses in Business Studies, including business administration.

Additional recommended indicators

Number of users of local IT centres
Number of community web sites
Number of business web sites
Extent of ISDN access

The first three indicators provide information on the degree to which the Pilot Area is taking advantage of IT as a resource. The fourth reflects the ease of access to IT facilities in the area. Original research or It searches may be the means to obtain this information.

Objective 12: Reducing reliance on imports and subsidies

Key topics considered in this objective: imported goods, imported services, imported skills, levels of public subsidy, changes in levels of imports/use, uptake of subsidy, initiatives to reduce levels of imports.

Heavy reliance on imported goods together with imported skills and services tends to reinforce the disadvantages of living in remote areas, and is usually reflected in the higher cost of living. This is further reflected in the levels of public subsidy.   The goal of the indicators for this objective is to assess the current degree of reliance within the Pilot Area, and monitor changes and potential decreases over time.

Information on this topic is scarce, especially with regards levels of imported goods and skills. Additional research is recommended.

Status indicators

Amount of EU funding
EU funding provided to local areas comes in a variety of forms, including pan-Highland grants, and area-specific grants. LEADER grants and Objective 1 grants are specific categories of EU funding, administered by Local Enterprise Companies, that play an important role in the local economy

EU funding awarded within Skye & Lochalsh in the period 1994-99 is as follows:

ERDF Award - £7,142,956
Eligible Costs - £19,662,188
Total Costs - £22,720,888

Numerous other pan-Highland projects funded by the EU may also affect the area.

Source: List of EU funded initiatives from Highland and Islands Partnership Programme, 29 September 1999

Measures of performance

Level of skills import
Level of goods import
Although difficult to monitor, these indicators can provide a clear picture of the degree to which a Pilot Area is dependent on external inputs. The level of skills import is a reflection of the professional expertise that is required locally but cannot be obtained among the local work force. Similarly, the numbers and types of goods imported may indicate the limitations of local agriculture, climate or manufacturing facilities.

Additional recommended indicators

Number of crofters taking up agricultural subsidies
The main source of subsidy in the area is the Scottish Executive for Rural Affairs Department (SERAD), via agricultural grants. Information on grants given to individual crofters or in specific sub-areas of Scotland is considered confidential and is not available.

Chapter 4

Goal 4   Avoiding harmful effects on other people, places and future generations

Objective 13: Supporting the wise use of energy

Key topics considered in this objective: renewable energy, energy efficiency, changes, initiatives, support for the above.

Energy enables people to provide for their well-being, health and safety and is a key factor in the local economy. The production and use of energy has the potential to have a significant impact on the environment at both a global as well as local level. There is a need, therefore to focus on improvements in efficiency and conservation as a means of implementing our sustainability goals. Renewable energy sources (wind, sun, wave, biomass and water) offer additional opportunities if these are pursued where it is technically, economically and environmentally sensible to do so.

Although limited activities are currently occurring in renewable energy in the Dùthchas Pilot Areas, by monitoring the suggested indicators over time, improvement trends can be established.

Status indicators

- *Number of renewable energy projects*
  There are currently no renewable energy projects in the Trotternish Pilot Area. A study undertaken by Scottish Hydroelectric plc et al in December 1993 reviewed the potential renewable energy resource in Scotland. According to the study results, for the whole of Skye and Lochalsh, the following *theoretical* renewable energy resource was identified:

Form of energy	Resource available at less than 10p/kWh (discounted at 8% over 20 years)
Wind	3289
Hydro	70
Wave	0

  After taking account of planning, environmental and practical issues, the theoretical renewable energy resource in Skye and Lochalsh is estimated at between 100-200 MW (resource at less than 10p/kWh, discounted at 8% over ten years).

  Although this information cannot be disaggregated for Trotternish, it suggests that potential for the use of renewable resources is not very high, and may discourage plans for renewable energy initiatives.

  The feasibility of renewable energy also depends on the available infrastructure. There is a single 132 kV transmission line in the Skye and Lochalsh district which runs from Kinloch Hourn in the south-east, across to Skye then up to Broadford and then on to Dunvegan and Ardmore. The nearest 275 kV connection point is at Beauly, well outside the district

boundaries. There are 132/33 kV substations at Broadford, Dunvegan and Ardmore which each have a single transformer.

Source: [1]Scottish Hydro-electric plc , Scottish Power plc, Department of Trade and Industry, Scottish Office, Scottish Enterprise and Highlands and Islands Enterprise, An assessment of the Potential Renewable Energy Resource in Scotland; December 1993.

Measures of performance

- *% of power from renewable sources*
  Use of electricity from renewable resources indicates a sustainable approach to energy consumption.

  At this time it is impossible to disaggregate the percentage of power from renewable resources provided to the Trotternish Pilot Area specifically. Data on fuel mix use during 1997/98 for Scottish Hydro-Electric (country-wide) is shown below:

Fuel Source 1997/98	Mix (%)
gas	53
nuclear	20
renewables	14
coal	12
oil	1
Total	**100**

Source: Scottish Hydro-Electric Environmental Report, 1998

  As Scottish Hydro-Electric is the principal supplier of electricity on Skye, one can extrapolate these values, very generally, to the Pilot Area.

- *Level of investment in insulation (private houses)*
  This indicator reflects the Housing Improvement Grants provided by the local Council and gives some indication of energy efficiency measures being taken by individual householders.

  As described for Objective 8, grants are available from the local Council for housing improvements, which are most frequently linked to insulation. Housing Grant Allocations for Trotternish area are shown below:

FINANCIAL YEAR	NO. OF GRANTS	GRANT VALUE
1994/95	24	£197,506.99
1995/96	20	£115,953.38
1996/97	5	£14,315.07
1997/98	14	£65,789.07
1998/99	28	£203,324.78
1999/30th September	18	£97,713.85

Source: Fax from Donnie Martin, Assistant Protective Services Officer, Highland Council, 1 October 1999

Objective 14: Promoting waste minimisation and management

Key topics considered in this objective: waste management, waste minimisation, recycling, levels of activity, changes, initiatives, support for the above.

The traditional view of waste as being "refuse to dispose of" has been changed in enlightened sustainable communities. There is now an increased recognition that the disposal of waste can harm other people and places and create a liability for future generations. In addition, the actual commercial and economic value of recyclable waste is becoming recognised. The following approach, known as "the waste hierarchy", is being introduced:

- reducing the amount generated in the first place;
- reusing waste items;
- recovering and recycling waste;
- disposal of residual wastes safely.

Recycling may not be a viable option in remote areas of the Highlands and Islands at this time, as the limited volumes which may be collected may not be sufficient to justify travel and transport by recycling operators. Similarly, the siting of a dedicated recycling plant in the local area may not be economically viable if not enough waste is generated locally.

The indicators selected here reflect activities which may be ongoing to minimise or recycle waste, and to raise awareness levels in the local area. To date however, it is understood that relatively little is occurring in the area of waste recycling or minimisation. Indicators are recommended only at this time, because of the lack of activity.

Recommended status indicators

- *Quantity of waste by material type*
- *% of waste going to each of the hierarchy options (above)*
- *Distance travelled by waste*

Measures of performance

- *Number of waste minimisation schemes and successful waste minimisation initiatives*
  Such schemes are likely to be sponsored by the local Council or by volunteer bodies. Waste minimisation may be more appropriate than waste recycling as a goal for remote areas.

  Again, at this time no waste minimisation schemes are in place in Trotternish.

  Source: E-mail from Henderson Pollock, Protective Services, Highland Council

- *Number of recycling centres within and in proximity of the Pilot Area*
  Recycling centres are represented on the one hand by bottle banks and newspaper recycling points; and on the other by actual recycling plants which collect the waste and re-process it for re-use.

  With regards recycling points, these do not need to be present within the Pilot Areas, as long as they are within a reasonable distance, or at locations also offering other services.

Recycling activity within Trotternish has been very limited. No recycling centres/plants have been identified by the Highland Council or the Highland Environmental Network.

Source: E-mail from Henderson Pollock, Protective Services, Highland Council

Additional recommended indicator

- *Ratio of quantity of material minimised to quantity of waste disposed, by waste type*
  Although difficult to obtain, this information would provide a good indicator of the degree of awareness and waste recycling activity occurring in the Pilot Areas.

Objective 15: Supporting 'green' business and community initiatives

Key topics considered in this objective: green produce, green business, green labelling, product development, environmental management systems, awareness raising.

Businesses are recognising that positive environmental resource management together with the support of ethical practices can bring substantial economic benefits. Such benefits are attractive irrespective of the size of business, although the process of achieving them can be complex and some smaller enterprises may require assistance. In recent years there has been a rapid increase in so-called "green" or "environmentally friendly" products which has become a significant growth industry. The involvement of business in the move towards a more sustainable future is absolutely crucial.

'Green' initiatives may still be relatively novel within the Pilot Areas, but their monitoring over time will be vital to determine the drive towards a more sustainable future.

Status indicators

- *No. of green labelled products/services available*
  Green products/services may reflect recyclable content, organic origin, low energy consumption and other design parameters for preventing or minimising environmental impact or damage caused by the product/service.
  They are covered under Objective 3 of this Profile.

Measures of performance

- *Number of businesses meeting the Green Tourism Business Scheme requirements*
  The Green Business Tourism Scheme provides three levels of environmental achievement for tourist facilities, visitor centres and hotels. Businesses can aim for any of the three levels to improve their environmental standard and attract environmentally-conscious tourists.

  At this time, in Trotternish, only Uig Youth Hostel is a registered member of the Green Tourism Business Scheme, with a silver award.
  No other information regarding this issue has been obtained.

  Source: Green Tourism Business Scheme Members List, 2 September 1999.

- *Number of green initiatives sponsored by LECs*
  Environmental Renewal grants are provided by the LECs to fund projects which repair and renew the local physical environment. See earlier description under Objective 3 of such projects for Trotternish.

Additional recommended indicators

- *Number of fair trade products available*
  These are typically produce from developing countries which have been grown, processed and exported within an ethical economic framework.
- *Number of 'green' initiatives*
  Any initiative reflecting environmental concern
- *Number of businesses meeting green/ethical standards*
  Such standards include EMAS, the European Eco-Management and Audit Scheme; and International Standard ISO 14001 for Environmental Management Systems
- *No. of woodlands achieving the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme*
  The UK Woodland Assurance Scheme grants recognition to forest areas managed in an environmentally appropriate fashion.

Objective 16: Promoting co-operation with other communities

Key topics considered in this objective: co-operative initiatives, inter-community links, rural-urban links, trans-national links, information exchange, national/international exchanges, awareness raising.

Communities around the world are recognising that becoming more sustainable can be accelerated through sharing ideas and experiences and promoting "know how" exchange. The exchange of ideas and information prevents the unnecessary "re-invention of wheels" and rapidly raises awareness of the key issues.

The indicators proposed here aim to determine the degree to which communities within the Pilot Areas interact with each other, and with external bodies. To date, very limited date is available on these indicators. Original research and inter-community discussion would help in data collection

Status/performance indicators

- *Number of inter-community meetings*
- *Number of inter-community initiatives*
  Many local community councils participate in a periodic inter-community meetings to discuss issues which reach beyond local boundaries. Joint initiatives may result, depending on the issues at hand. For example, in Trotternish, Kilmuir Community Council meets once a month; meetings with other Community Councils are held once per year.

  Source: conversation with Sally Phellps, Kilmuir Community Council.

- *No. of study visits/conferences attended.*
  These are opportunities for communities to learn and communicate beyond their local areas.

APPENDIX 2 :
GAP ANALYSIS - RELATIONSHIP
WITH SUSTAINABILITY

1   INTRODUCTION

This Appendix presents an overall review of the profile findings and discusses them with reference to the findings of the Initial Review. In *Section 2* the Goals are reviewed in turn and the section highlights where there appear to be gaps in achieving the sustainability objectives that make up each of the four goals. The gaps are then presented in *Section 3* as priority issues with the key findings being divided into what might be considered as "Sustainability Challenges" and "Sustainability Opportunities". In *Section 4* the issues are arranged as suggested "Sustainability Topics" for consideration by the Programme Area Advisory Groups as a basis for selecting priority topics to take forward in their Strategies.

The methodology used to review the profiles, identify the gaps and select the priority issues is given in *Appendix 3 Methodology*.

2   REVIEW OF SUSTAINABILITY GOALS AND SUPPORTING OBJECTIVES

GOAL 1 - Making the most of natural and cultural resources without damaging them

Objective 1 - Protecting and enhancing natural resources and promoting their value

Status

Overall the evidence from the available information confirms that coastal water, river water and air quality are currently all of the highest category in the Trotternish area.

The unique peatland habitat of Trotternish is significant and covers approximately 45% of the land area. With regard to statutory designations, there are 7 Sites of Special Scientific Interest covering around 14% of the land. The total area covered by natural heritage designations (32%) is, however, more significant with one of the Highlands National Scenic Areas situated within Trotternish and covering over 75 km^2. Woodland cover is low (1%), reflecting in part the unsuitability of some of the area for growing trees. The area supports important breeding bird populations of corncrake and the Skye Grasslands for Corncrakes Scheme has been running since 1993.

This all supports the emphasis placed in the Initial Review on the quality of the fresh air, beaches, wild birds, flowers and animals and also the recognition of the importance of the sea.

Performance

Evidence suggests that there area no major interpretive facilities dedicated to natural resources in Trotternish. The Staffin Museum does, however, contain some natural history artifacts. Within the Pilot Area there are 20 major footpaths which allow access to the rich natural environment. Habitat management plans in Trotternish are represented chiefly by habitat creation projects

aimed at species such as the corncrake, and ranging to tree planting under the Woodland Grant Scheme. No local Biodiversity Action Plans are currently being implemented.

Gaps

Possible areas for further action could be:

Increasing the areas of land under active habitat management, encouraging some diversification where appropriate and encouraging more native woodland projects.
Initiating a local area Biodiversity Action Plan, currently absent for the local area but which would take a strategic look at protecting and enhancing the already very valuable populations of wild birds, animals and plants.
There is scope for the community to establish a major interpretative centre.

Objective 2   Protecting and enhancing cultural resources and promoting their value

Status

Trotternish has a total of 345 recorded sites and monuments, ranging from forts, cairns, brochs, standing stones, a monastic settlement and a variety of buildings. There is a strong recognition here of the importance of traditional culture with approximately 50% of the population speaking Gaelic. Evidence suggests that activity promoting the Gaelic tradition is ongoing, although much of it occurs in nearby Portree or at the Sabhal Mor Ostaig College facilities.

The evidence again supports the recognition in the Initial Review that the Pilot Area has an abundance of historic sites and a cultural tradition that the community could take advantage of to help preserve, interpret and promote.

Performance

Available information indicates that there are a number of Gaelic related events, ceremonies and initiatives embraced within the communities of Trotternish. It is difficult, however, to obtain a meaningful measure of the quality and quantity of such activity.

There are a number of heritage trails and two small museums (Kilmuir and Stafffin) in the area.

Gaps

Possible areas for further action are:

- Collect and record more systematic information on the cultural resources (heritage, art, music etc) and how these are currently preserved and promoted, in order to better identify gaps to concentrate on.
- Explore the scope for more specific heritage trails linked to historic sites and traditions currently undeveloped. Is there scope for a major heritage theme trail?
- Develop, improve and promote interpretation facilities. Duntulm castle has a lot of potential as a heritage resource and would be worthwhile developing.

- Develop further existing centres (*eg* Museum of Island Life, Staffin Museum).

Objective 3   Promoting sustainable and wise use of natural resources

Status

With regard to agriculture the information demonstrates that crofting is active, although there is a relatively high percentage of absenteeism within Kilmuir parish (17.8%). There was little evidence of diversification of crofting into for example organic production or other sustainable non-agricultural activity.

Information suggests that fisheries is an important resource but there was little readily accessible quantified information to measure or assess how well the resource is being sustainably managed.

Forestry accounts for only 1% of land cover in the Pilot Area, of which 16 areas are receiving Woodland Grant Scheme money.

The status and potential for renewable energy is dealt with under Goal 4, Objective 13.

Crofting and its potential was identified in the Initial Review as a way of sustainably managing the land and this is supported by information collected for the profile. Evidence collected so far also supports the emphasis put on marine fisheries as an important resource for sustainable use and management.

Performance

There is little quantified information on numbers and status of organic crofters or information relating to other sustainable non-agricultural activities that crofters could move into (habitat management schemes *etc*). Similarly there was no information on sustainable fisheries management initiatives, shellfish farming or organic fish farming. Loch Snizort fishing creek is the main area of fishing activity.

The uptake of "green" grants is significant and between June 1998 and July 1999 £114,055 was provided in the form of grants relating to Environmental Renewal, the Enterprise Allowance Scheme and Special Projects funding.

Gaps

Possible areas for further action:

- Crofting initiatives offer a lot of potential in areas such as organic products, "healthy meats", other sustainably managed products etc.(see also Goal 3 Objective 9)
- Forestry developments particularly into native woodlands and participation in the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme.
- Developing fisheries opportunities (linked also to Goal 3 Objective 9); there is a lack of information here to establish an effective indicator/measure.

Objective 4 Promoting sustainable and wise use of cultural resources

Status/Performance

There was found to be quite a lot of overlap with Objective 2 in the case of this Objective and a general lack of information for some of the proposed indicators.

There did not appear to be sufficient information to establish the proportion of historic sites and monuments that are actively managed. From events calendars and discussions with local representatives of, for example, Community Councils it was evident that there were events celebrating local arts and music, although most of these tend to be outwith the area, in Portree. It was also evident that many of the village halls and some schools get involved in promoting cultural resources.

Gaps

Possible areas for further action:

- It would be a great advantage if an efficient way of gathering and putting together the relevant information was developed so that a clearer picture of the effectiveness of the area in celebrating and promoting its cultural resources could be established.
- An assessment of how sustainable current management activities are for some of the key historic sites would also be helpful particularly for planning future developments.
- There is scope to establish a major interpretive centre dedicated to promoting and protecting cultural resources in the area.

GOAL 2 Retaining a viable and empowered community

Objective 5 Retaining a balanced and healthy population

Status

The information on age structure and percentage change in population indicates that the highest proportion of the population is in the more elderly or retired age range with the 16 – 29 year old age bracket showing the lowest percentage. Between 1981 and 1991 the population appears to have shown a decline of around 7.7%. Gender balance is around 50% male/female.

No effective indicator (at this stage) could be established for health.

The evidence obtained supports the concerns raised in the Initial Review over the loss of young people from the area and of a trend tending to show an overall decline in the population.

Performance

There was little information relating to initiatives aimed at encouraging "young returners" or any other measures that might help to retain young people. The LEADER assisted Lochalsh and Skye Opportunities project aims to encourage former pupils of Plockton and Portree High Schools to settle back in the area. The project issues newsletters and maintains Internet web-sites in which information on the areas economic and social potential is provided (see also Objective 7).

The lack of an effective health indicator together with no clear information on current measures being taken to support a healthy population make it difficult at this stage to measure the overall performance of the area in meeting this objective.

Gaps

Possible areas for further action could be:

- Establishing an effective health indicator and a way of determining trends.
- It is vital to establish some key initiatives to encourage young returners into the area.
- Monitor the effectiveness of the LEADER initiative, although it does not relate directly to the Pilot Area but is nearby.

Objective 6   Supporting community empowerment

Status

Communities appear to be very active with a total of 59 community organisations identified. Although 34 of these organisations are Portree-based, the town's close proximity to the Pilot Area would encourage interaction of residents.

There was little available information regarding levels of decision making and the control of the land and natural resources.

The anecdotal evidence supports the view in the Initial Review that the communities are generally strong with a caring, friendly community spirit.

Performance

Again there was little available information on how involved communities are in the planning process or the extent to which any land is under the ownership of the community.

There was however evidence of take-up of LEC provided Community Action Grants and Crofting Township Grants.

Gaps

Possible areas for future action could be:

- Coordinating records of community activity in the Pilot Area.
- Exploring ways of involving communities more in the local planning process (*eg* transport planning, land use planning and community planning).
- Publicising more information about access to funds, information, and skills (see Objectives 7 and 8).

Objective 7   Ensuring equal access to employment

Status

The Trotternish area has a lower percentage economically active population as a proportion of its total population when compared with Highland generally and the rest of Scotland. This could reflect both the higher proportion of elderly or retired people in the population and/or the loss of younger people out of the area.

Most employment tends to cluster around the distribution/hotels/catering sector, suggesting that a better spread of employment opportunities is necessary. Unemployment in the Trotternish area has been consistently lower than the Highland average according to 1991 and 1997 data.

There have been 3 new business start-ups between April 1998 - July 1999 assisted by Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise.

Adult training courses are run from Sabhal Mor Ostaig College, outwith the Pilot Area.

The evidence tends to support the conclusion in the Initial Review that there is a lack of locally based further education and job opportunities. As a result, retention of younger people is a problem.

Performance

Although precise figures were not available for the Pilot Area, a total of 48% of students within Skye and Lochalsh continued to higher education (University) in 1997-98. This high proportion, although not specific to Trotternish, reflects the lack of other types of further education Colleges in the area, as well as the lack of recruitment options.

Given that there appear to be a number of adult training courses available from Sabhal Mor Ostaig College there is the need for a better assessment of the proportion of available adults taking advantage of such courses.

Gaps

Possible areas for further action could be:

Improving employment opportunities for both younger and older adults.

Better information and tracking of the uptake of adult training.
Initiatives to retain or attract back younger people (see also Objectives 5 and 11).
There needs to be more emphasis on employment opportunities in sectors other than
distribution/hotels/catering.
Establish locally based training and further education facilities

Objective 8 Ensuring equal access to essential services

Status

With regard to essential services, the data shows that whilst Primary Schools and post offices
are reasonably spread across communities many of the other essential services, such as
doctors surgeries, petrol stations and recreational facilities, are very thinly spread.

Public transport (Bus) is available to all communities along the main Trotternish road (SK12)
and links to other services in Portree. Frequency of this service varies depending on the day of
the week and whether it is a school day or school holiday. There are 20 partial route and 4 full
route times listed.

The evidence confirms the concern expressed in the Initial Review over the availability of
certain essential services and also over accessing these with effective public transport.
(see also Objective 10 on access issues).

Performance

To date, no integrated transport policy specific to the Isle of Skye or Trotternish has been put
into place. The Highland Council was, however, successful in obtaining funding for the Rural
Bus Grant in 1998, and has conducted a consultation exercise to determine the need for new
and improved services in the areas of the various Community Councils. Contracts for services
have since been awarded, however, no information relating directly to Skye or Trotternish has
been obtained.

Gaps

Possible areas for further action are:

There needs to be more emphasis on transport initiatives to establish an integrated transport
plan for the area.
Encourage initiatives to focus transport on local needs.
Develop local recreational facilities
Review the needs of remoter communities and prioritise the essential services that most need
addressing.
There needs to be better integration between bus, ferry and airport services.

GOAL 3 Reducing problems of remoteness by delivering local needs locally and reducing dependence on external inputs

Objective 9 Improving the local market for goods and services

Status

There was generally very little if any quantified information available on the degree to which local crofts or other producers (forestry, fisheries) were supplying produce locally. Neither was there information on local service provision or local markets and marketing opportunities.

Performance

Evidence suggests that there have only been three successful start-up businesses focusing on local needs in the last two years.
There is generally insufficient information to set a baseline and assess the performance of the area in addressing the improvement of the market for local goods and services.

Gaps

Possible areas for further action could be:

- There is an urgent need to gather information and establish the extent of the local market for locally produced products and how well it is being targeted.
- There needs to be more of an emphasis on possible cooperative ventures, local markets and local distribution centres.
- There is scope for the community to set up a local transport role for servicing the local markets.

Objective 10 Promoting equal and effective access to goods, services and markets

Status

Evidence from the available information indicates that fuel costs are disproportionately high for people living in the Pilot Area. Travel costs to the nearest major city are around six times that of people resident in the central belt of Scotland.

Data also indicates that there is a very high ratio of unclassified roads in the area.

The data supports, therefore, the feeling of remoteness outlined in the Initial Review, confirms the higher travel costs and accentuates the transportation issues (see Objective 8).

Performance

This relates again to the need for an integrated transport plan and a coordinated effort to tackle the many transport related issues. There is a sustainability challenge posed here in so far as on the one hand we don't necessarily wish to promote the car and embark on major road building programmes and yet there is a clear need to tackle the "remoteness" factor and provide a more "level playing field" for the communities in this area (in terms of cost, road facilities etc). At this time, ferry services do not appear to be a priority issue.

Gaps

Possible areas for action could be:

- Prioritise certain critical roads for improvement.
- Progress the integrated transport initiative.
- Consider possible options for improving ferry-links

Objective 11 Providing an adequate information technology (IT) resource

Status

There appears to be very little activity with regard to IT facilities and usage for this Pilot Area. The majority of IT related services are centred around Portree. Due to a lack of available data it is difficult to gain any impression as to the development and usage of, for example, community or business web sites. The IT resource will be an essential tool in the fight to retain or attract back younger people (see Objectives 5 and 7).

Performance

There are no IT centers within Trotternish, however, an Internet Centre is currently under construction in Staffin and should be complete by early 2000. IT courses are offered through Sabhal Mor Ostaig College, outwith the area.

Gaps

Possible areas for further action:

- There is an urgent need to increase awareness as to the availability and potential for IT for both community and business purposes.
- The use of IT could be a powerful tool to tackle some of the issues connected with the "remoteness" factor and in the battle to retain young people or attract back young returners (see Objectives 5 and 7).

- More development, publicity and use of the IT outreach facilities.

Objective 12   Reducing reliance on imports and subsidies

Status/Performance

Apart from an indication of the EU funding made available to the Pilot Area there was no information made available that could provide data on the levels of imported goods, services or skills. There was also no information available on the levels of public subsidy.
In the absence of so much data it was also difficult to establish any realistic performance indicators on which to base the delivery of this Objective.

The Initial Review noted the dependence of the Pilot Area on imports and cited this as a key issue that needed addressing

Gaps

Clearly this whole area needs a lot more work done on it. If the Objective is to reduce the reliance on imports we need to establish:

- How are we going to measure it?
- How do we start to reduce it?

Progress with this objective ties in with Objective 9.

GOAL 4   Avoiding harmful effects on other people, places and future generations

Objective 13   Supporting the wise use of energy

Status/Performance

Although there are currently no renewable energy projects in the Pilot Area a recent study by Scottish Hydroelectric indicates that wind power is the most promising and significant renewable energy source to pursue.

No detailed information is available on the percentage of power derived from renewable sources within the Pilot Area but on general data for Scotland given by Scottish Hydroelectric (the main provider in Trotternish) it is likely to be around
10–15%.

In terms of energy efficiency within households the data indicates that there is some awareness and activity in loft insulation and other efficiency measures.

Gaps

Possible areas for future action could be:

- Consider a possible community/utility business joint venture to explore locally supplied renewable energy.
- Promote and raise awareness as to the simple energy efficiency measures that can be taken at home.

Objective 14   Promoting waste minimisation and management

Status/performance

The available information indicates that there are no waste minimisation schemes in Trotternish and there do not appear to be any waste recycling centres.

The problems of waste management have clearly been recognised in the Initial Review and relate to issues such as fly tipping and litter.

Gaps

Possible areas of action for the future:

- There is an urgent need to raise awareness on waste management and minimisation in order to start to address the problem.
- Although recycling may not be a viable option (although this needs confirming) it would be possible to set up initiatives such as segregation, composting and looking at reduction at source.

Objective 15   Supporting "green" business and community initiatives

Status/Performance

The available data indicates generally very little activity specifically on "green" product initiatives. With respect to the service sector the Uig Youth Hostel appears to be the only tourism facility that is a registered member of the Green Tourism Business Scheme, with a silver award.

The Initial Review recognises the potential for developing niche "green" products when considering crofting developments and the sustainable use of other resources (see also Objective 3)

Gaps

Possible actions that could be taken in the future:

There is a lot of potential for exploring the development of "green" organic produce from the area (see Objective 3).
In view of the large number of hotels, guest houses and other tourism facilities these is plenty of scope for increasing the number of Green Tourism Business Scheme Awards (and possibly making Trotternish a centre of excellence for "green" tourism – this could also be linked to Objective 1).

Objective 16   Promoting co-operation with other communities

Status/Performance

There was little quantified data regarding this Objective. Anecdotal information suggests that local Community Councils meet periodically to discuss mutual issues.

There was generally little information on any exchange visits or initiatives promoting the exchange of information.

Gaps

Possible areas where action could be taken:

Consider organising some local inter-community meetings to share ideas on sustainability challenges and opportunities as a way of "kick-starting" co-operation and collaboration.
Use experiences within the Dùthchas project to launch collaborative initiatives.

3   PRIORITY ISSUES

From the preceding sections a number of gaps in achieving the sustainability goals have been identified. This section highlights the key findings by dividing them into what might be considered "problem areas" or **sustainability challenges** and **sustainability opportunities**. They are grouped together with the principle findings from the initial review, where appropriate, which are shown in brackets in italics next to the corresponding finding from this study.

3.1   PROBLEM AREAS – SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES

- **Goal 2 –** Initiatives to encourage young returners (*Exodus of young people)*
- **Goal 2 –** Involving communities more in local planning process
- **Goal 2 –** Improve employment opportunities for young and older adults (*Lack of employment)*
- **Goal 2 –** Improve transport links/infrastructure through integrated transport plan and focus on local needs (*Transport links/infrastructure*)
- **Goal 3 –** Address access to essential services in some localities (*Lack of recreational facilities*)
- **Goal 3 –** Progress integrated transport initiative – road improvements/rail links? (*Transport links/costs/state of roads/infrastructure*)
- **Goal 3 –** Establish indicators and performance measures to help reduce imports (*Dependence on imports*)

3.2   SUSTAINABILITY OPPORTUNITIES

- **Goal 1 –** Initiatives to promote further the unique natural environment in a sustainable way (*the landscape and magnificent scenery)*
- **Goal 1 –** Explore scope for more heritage trails linked to historic sites and traditional arts and music (*Tourist routes, trails and cultural resources*)
- **Goal 1 –** Consider the diversification of crofting particularly organic/"safe" products (*Diversification of crofting*)
- **Goal 3 –** Establish local markets for local products and consider cooperative ventures (*More local production*)
- **Goal 4 –** Consider a project to explore renewable energy from wind power, possible joint venture with utility business?
- **Goal 4 –** Raise awareness on waste minimisation and explore strategies to minimise waste
- **Goal 4 –** Investigate potential for "green" products in general and promote more green tourism initiatives (*Promoting local products/action holidays*)

4   TROTTERNISH SUSTAINABILITY TOPICS

4.1   THE TOPICS

From the Initial Review	From the Profile

Goal 1: making the most of natural and cultural resources without damaging them	
Landscape, Scenery	**Natural environment and interpretation**
Tourist routes, trails and cultural resources	**Heritage trails**
Crofting	***Sustainable land use***

Goal 2: Retaining a viable and empowered community	
Exodus of young people	***Young returners***
....	**Local involvement with Planning**
Transport links/infrastructure	**Integrated transport Plan**

Goal 3: Reducing problems of remoteness by delivering local needs locally, and reducing dependence on external inputs	
Lack of recreational facilities	***Essential services***
Dependence on imports	**Reduce imports**
More local production	**Local markets**

Goal 4: Avoiding harmful effects on other people, places and future generations	
....	***Renewable energy***
....	**Waste reduction**
Promoting local products/ action holidays	***"Green" business***

4.2 SUSTAINABILITY TOPICS – IDEAS FOR SHAPING TOPICS

Key ideas originating from the initial reviews and profiles

Goal 1 - Natural environment

- Increase areas of land under active habitat management
- Diversification where appropriate and encouraging more native woodland
- Local area Biodiversity action plan
- Initiatives to promote in a sustainable way the unique natural environment
- "Green" tourism initiatives
- Provide more interpretative facilities (eg, expand Staffin Museum)

Goal 1 - Heritage trails

- Collect/record information on cultural resources not fully recorded
- Scope for heritage trails and guides linked to sites/traditions undeveloped
- Develop further existing centres (eg Museum of Island Life, Staffin Museum)

Goal 1 - Sustainable land use

- Organic crofting
- Sustainable non-agricultural activities
- Forestry developments – native woodlands
- UK Woodland Assurance Scheme

Goal 2 - Young returners

- Initiatives to encourage young returners
- Training opportunities
- Availability of Information Technology (IT)
- Use of IT to maintain networks of school leavers (eg, Newsletter)

Goal 2 - Local involvement with planning

- Involvement with development control
- Input to transport planning
- Involvement with land use planning
- Involvement with community planning
- Crofting township grant

Goal 2 - Integrated transport plan

- Transport services
- Focusing on need
- Identifying special transport needs (eg, young people, elderly)
- Better integration with Portree and airport services

Goal 3 **- Essential services**

- Needs of remoter communities
- Recreational needs
- GPs; day care
- affordable housing

Goal 3 **- Reduce imports**

- Reducing reliance
- Establishing clear measures
- Status of imported goods, services, skills

Goal 3 **- Local markets**

- Establish size of market
- Co-operative ventures
- Promote local distribution
- Local service provision
- Resource availability (fisheries)

Goal 4 **- Renewable energy**

- Feasibility of wind power
- Joint venture with utility company
- Other alternatives

Goal 4 **- Waste reduction**

- Raising awareness
- Segregation, composting schemes
- Recovery, re-use, recycling options

Goal 4 **- "Green" business**

- Green Tourism Business Scheme
- Agricultural products
- Fishery products
- Organic produce
- Indigenous crafts

APPENDIX 3 : METHODOLOGY

1 INTRODUCTION

This appendix which describes in broad outline the methods used in developing the Sustainability Profiles and supporting documents is divided into three main sections.

Section 2 deals with how the guiding framework for the profiles was devised and discusses the terms used such as "Goal", "Objective", "Criteria" and "Indicators".

Section 3 goes on to describe the methods used for researching and collecting the data used.

Section 4 describes how the "Gap Analysis" was carried out and a methodology for selecting priority topics for the Strategy Groups.

2 DEVELOPING THE FRAMEWORK

2.1 GOALS

The framework for the profiles was based on the Dùthchas definition of sustainability provided in the original brief for the programme of work. This definition was put together by the Dùthchas Project Team following the Initial Review work. It is based on concepts developed during the Initial Review and thus has a very local "feel" to it but at the same time there were great efforts to make sure that it "nests" well with existing national definitions.

The definition consists broadly of four key "goals":

1. Making the most of natural and cultural resources without damaging them.
2. Retaining a viable and empowered community.
3. Reducing problems of remoteness by delivering local needs locally and reducing dependence on external inputs.
4. Avoiding harmful effects on other people, places and future generations.

OBJECTIVES

Stemming from the Dùthchas Project vision , therefore, these goals provide the broad framework on which to structure the profiles. At this stage, however, they are still too broad for providing the more detailed framework that is necessary to give the profiles the detail they will need. The goals were therefore divided further into a series of underlying "objectives". Four objectives were developed for each of the four goals giving 16 underlying objectives altogether. The objectives were selected from a consideration of the Initial Review findings, evaluations of objectives and criteria developed within previous studies done within the HIE Sustainable Development Project, consideration of a variety of sustainability reference documents and consultation with the Dùthchas Project Team and Partners.

The objectives are given in *Figure 1*.

Figure 1. Objectives developed within the four sustainability goals

GOAL 1: Making the most of natural and cultural resources without damaging them

Objectives:

- Protecting and enhancing natural resources and promoting their value
- Protecting and enhancing cultural resources and promoting their value
- Promoting the sustainable and innovative use of natural resources
- Promoting the sustainable and innovative use of cultural resources

GOAL 2: Retaining a viable and empowered community

Objectives:

- Retaining a balanced and healthy population
- Supporting community empowerment
- Ensuring equal access to employment
- Ensuring equal access to essential services

GOAL 3: Reducing problems of remoteness by delivering local needs locally and reducing dependence on external inputs

Objectives:

- Improving the local market for goods and services
- Promoting equal and effective access to goods, services and markets
- Providing an adequate information technology resource
- Reducing the reliance on imports and subsidies

GOAL 4: Avoiding harmful effects on other people , places and future generations

Objectives:

- Supporting the wise use of energy
- Promoting waste minimisation and management
- Supporting "green" business and community initiatives
- Promoting co-operation with other communities

2.2   INDICATORS

Having established the framework around the four key sustainability goals with their associated objectives there was a need now to establish the measures or indicators that would be used to judge:

- the position of the pilot areas in terms of their current state of "sustainability";
- the current performance of the pilot areas in terms of delivering the four sustainability goals.

It was decided therefore that two types of measure or indicator would be needed:

- so-called "status" indicators that would act as a measure of the current state of the pilot area, as a "snapshot" in time and would act to establish a baseline situation;
- indicators that could be used as a measure of "performance" with particular reference to how well an area was delivering a particular objective within the four goals.

In practice a very large number of potential status and performance indicators were generated. These clearly needed to be refined down to a manageable number that could be used practically to generate profiles that would be meaningful, relatively simple, practical to use, but that could also be further refined and developed in the future as more information became available or was generated. The following set of criteria were used in the selection process for indicators:

- relevant data/information must be available;
- indicators needed to be truly "sustainable" where possible (*ie* should have a degree of integration to include an environmental, economic and social dimension if possible). In practice many of the status indicators tended to reflect one of the dimensions but these can be replaced by more appropriate indicators/measures where they exist and when the data becomes available;
- indicators need to be specific, measurable, trackable and easily understood.

The overall framework is illustrated in *Figure 2*.

3   RESEARCHING METHODS

For each of the 16 objectives a step by step process was used to research out and compile the information needed to build up the profiles.

STEP 1   SCOPING THE OBJECTIVE

- Identify the obvious parameters linked with the selected Objective – using Objective 1 as an example:

  Objective 1 - *"Protecting and enhancing natural resources and promoting their value."*
  Key topics to consider: **Status:** sea, fresh water, land, air, biodiversity, habitat, landscape **Performance:** management, stewardship, use, presentation.

- Identify measures/indicators linked to these parameters

  Objective 1 – *'Status indicators'* measure the current status of a given area in relation to "protecting and enhancing natural resources and promoting their value";

Examples : coastal water quality, river water quality, air quality, percentage of nationally important habitat types.

Objective 1 – *'Performance indicators'* measure the performance of a given area in relation to "protecting and enhancing natural resources and promoting their value";

Examples: interpretative facilities relating to conservation/environment (number, success and quality of the facility, quality of promotional material, trends in visitor numbers), the amount of land under habitat management.

STEP 2 SOURCING THE DATA/INFORMATION

- Identify data sources from which information can be sought. These may include the main regulatory bodies or local authorities (such as SEPA, SNH, Highland Council), public agencies (such as HIE, the Local Enterprise Companies), agencies such as the Crofters Commission and the Tourist Boards, local communities (such as community councils) and from local people and local knowledge.

  Task 1 Contact chosen source (telephone)

  - introduce yourself, the project, and the area for which you are seeking information

  - discuss the indicators/measures selected and determine whether additional or more appropriate indicators/measures may be available
  - confirm this source can best provide the necessary data,
    if not, request suggestions regarding more appropriate data sources

  - request relevant information and indicate a time-scale.

  Task 2 Follow-up your initial request in writing (e-mail, fax, letter)

  - re-iterate who you are and the project/ area for which information is being sought.

  - define the boundaries of the area/ indicator for which you are seeking information

  - clearly and concisely re-state your request (what piece of information you are seeking)

  - re-state the time frame you are working within and assert a date by which information must be received (or negotiate a compromise date if necessary)

  - provide the source with address / fax number / e-mail address to which information must be sent

- Follow-up written

- Contact source and confirm information has been received.
        Thank source for their help.

STEP 3   INCORPORATING THE INFORMATION

Having received the information it will have arrived in a fairly "raw" state and will need to be incorporated into the profile in a form that is clear, succinct, understandable and relevant to either the status indicator or measure of performance that is being developed.

Ideally numeric data is best incorporated into a graph, chart or figure which in time can be updated to illustrate trends in the particular measure that is being considered.

In some cases where data collection is at an early stage there may be no alternative but to provide descriptive summaries of the information, until "harder" more statistically valid data has been collected. Trend analysis will only be possible with data that has been collected over a number of years.

4   GAP ANALYSIS METHODS

4.1   ASSESSING THE GAPS

The gap analysis was essentially a qualitative assessment of the extent to which each of the pilot areas was delivering the 16 objectives which underlie the 4 sustainability goals. This was carried out in 3 simple stages:

STAGE 1   Describing the current status

Here under each of the main objective headings the current status was briefly evaluated and summarised and referenced back to the findings in the Initial Review.

STAGE 2   Assessing the current performance

Here with reference to the measures or indicators selected for assessing performance a qualitative assessment of performance in achieving the objective was made.

STAGE 3   Identifying the gaps

Here in view of achievements made in performance and with reference to some of the more "sustainable" indicators, judgements were made as to where the key gaps for more effective delivery of the objectives might be and of what actions should be taken to accelerate the move towards sustainability.

4.2   IDENTIFYING PRIORITY TOPICS

Having identified where some of the key gaps were in achieving the objectives, the next stage was to prioritise these into a more manageable number that could be used as a basis for selecting topics for the Strategy Groups to focus on.
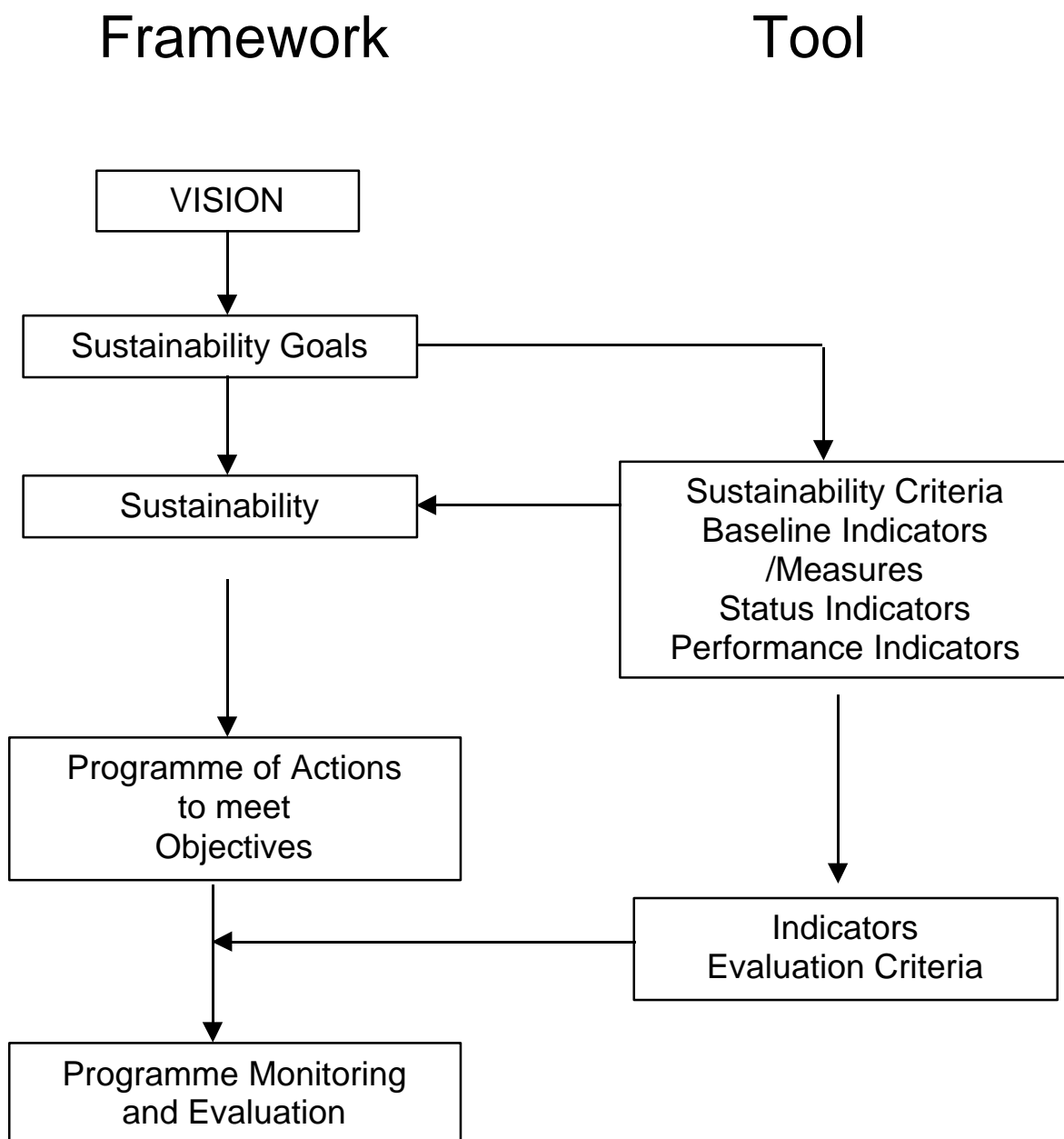
In practice for each of the pilot areas around forty gaps or topic areas were identified in the gap analysis studies. It was decided that these should be reduced to around a dozen topic headings to facilitate the PAAGS in ultimately carrying forward around five topics for the Strategy Groups to work on.

A crude scoring method was devised to help prioritise the topics. The forty topics suggested by the gap analysis were each scored for the following:

- did they offer an environmental benefit;
- did they offer an economic benefit;
- did they offer a social benefit;
- had they been highlighted in the Initial Review.

Each was given a point if they scored in any of the categories and the topics with the highest scores were the ones selected. There had to be a reasonably equal spread of topics within the 4 main sustainability goals.

In practice many of the topics for the Strategy Groups to work on were still reasonably broad ranging so to accompany the table of recommended topics a number of additional aspects that might help to shape the topic were included.

Fig. 2 Dùthchas Framework for Sustainability

Framework   Tool

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        ┌──────────────┐
        │    VISION     │
        └──────┬───────┘
               │
               ▼
        ┌──────────────────┐                    ┌────────────────────────┐
        │ Sustainability    │────────────────────│ Sustainability Criteria │
        │     Goals         │                    │ Baseline Indicators     │
        └──────┬───────────┘                    │     /Measures           │
               │                                 │ Status Indicators       │
               ▼                                 │ Performance Indicators  │
        ┌──────────────────┐ ◄──────────────────└────────────┬───────────┘
        │  Sustainability   │                                 │
        └──────┬───────────┘                                 │
               │                                              ▼
               ▼                                 ┌────────────────────────┐
        ┌──────────────────┐                    │       Indicators        │
        │ Programme of      │ ◄──────────────────│  Evaluation Criteria    │
        │ Actions to meet   │                    └────────────────────────┘
        │   Objectives      │
        └──────┬───────────┘
               │
               ▼
        ┌──────────────────┐
        │ Programme         │
        │ Monitoring and    │
        │   Evaluation      │
        └──────────────────┘
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APPENDIX 4 :
BIBLIOGRAPHY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX 5 -
ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS
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Assistant Protective Services Officer – Donnie Martin
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APPENDIX 6 :
PROPOSED INDICATORS

The following table documents all proposed indicators recorded during consultation exercises relating to the Area Sustainability Profiles. The indicators highlighted in bold italics were included in the Profiles (in varying formats).

Objective 1

Protecting and enhancing natural resources and promoting their value

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
PAC Skye		• Level of community awareness and pride • Number of school initiatives on the local environment • Wildlife diversity • Infrastructure relating to landscape and coastal use • Level of investment in marketing
Forestry Commission	• Condition of woodland through sound management	• Number, area, % woods coming into active management
SEPA		• ***Numbers served by biological or better treatment/ septic tank/ no treatment*** • ***SEPAs River Classification Scheme***
Scottish Tourist Board		• ***Quality of interpretative facilities*** • ***Number of repeat visitors to interpretative facilities/ level of consumer satisfaction*** • ***Intensity of use of site/ any level of perceived stress***
Scottish Natural Heritage	• Drinking water quality • Standing water quality • ***Breeding bird population*** • Quality of uplands habitat in Trotternish • Quality of species rich grasslands in Trotternish • Relationship between area of quality habitats/ landscapes worthy of designation and the total area • % of native woodland cover in relation to previous cover/ predicted cover/ land capability	• Income from environmental management payments (total value) • ***Success and quality of interpretative facilities***

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
Scottish Native Woods	• ***% native woodland cover and condition***	
RSPB Sutherland	• ***Air quality*** • Soil quality • ***Water quality*** • Habitat condition - % of designated land in favourable condition and condition of land outwith protected areas -–is it sustainably managed? • ***Biodiversity – performance of key species/ number of species increasing/ decreasing*** • Quality of promotional material • ***Quality of visitor infrastructure (all aspects)***	• Air quality – is the air getting cleaner • Water – free of sewage/ other pollutants • Key species – not declining in numbers or contracting in range • Designated areas in favourable condition • ***Habitat management and habitat restoration projects*** • Damaged habitat returned to favourable condition • Number of crofters/ farmers managing land under agri-environment schemes (e.g. Rural Stewardship Scheme, Peatland Management Scheme) • Total area of land managed under these sort of schemes • Uptake of any species work proposed in a Local Biodiversity Action Plan • ***Uptake of any individual Species/ Habitat Action Plans*** • Visitor numbers increasing without damage to infrastructure/ natural heritage • Number of visitors who cite natural/ cultural heritage and environment for visiting the area Focus attention on: • Suitability of the area to support visitors • Impact of visitor facilities • Impact of visitors on quality of experience/ lives of local people/ natural heritage • Value of tourism to the local economy
Highland Council	• ***Number of interpretative facilities/ provisions***	
The Wildlife Trust		• ***% increase in native woodland cover*** • Expansion of key woodland types identified within Habitat Action Plans

Objective 2

Protecting and enhancing cultural resources and promoting their value

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
PAC Skye	***Number of recorded sites and monuments*** ***Presence of indigenous community and/ or tradition bearers*** ***Number of interpreted sites and number not yet interpreted***	***Number of Gaelic related initiatives (e.g. the croileagain, feisean, Gaelic learners' opportunities)*** ***Number of people who speak Gaelic to a near fluency level*** ***Number of projects in community ownership*** - Level of archaeological investigation (excavation, field survey etc.) - Level of investment in marketing
Forestry Commission		***Number of Gaelic related initiatives including Government, agency and NGO publications in bi-lingual format***
Scottish Tourist Board	% of accommodation sector which is locally owned/ independent % of which has membership of local Area Tourist Board	
NTS Society of Antiquities	***Number of 'nationally important' monuments***	
Historic Scotland	***Total number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments plus those monuments listed on a non-statutory register awaiting consideration for scheduling*** - Extent of deterioration of Scheduled Ancient Monuments over (recent) time - The number of sites which are of cultural/ social/ historical significance to the community, despite national criteria (measure local vs national perspective) - The number of accessible sites which are of	

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
	cultural/ social/ historical significance	
Highland Council	• ***Number of interpretative facilities/ provisions***	
Sabhal mor Ostaig	• ***Breadth of opportunity for use/ hearing of Gaelic***	

Objective 3

Promoting sustainable and innovative use of natural resources

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
PAC Skye	• Tonnage of prawns • Tonnage of velvet and brown crabs	• ***Uptake of young crofters to new entrant's scheme*** • Number of crofters entering the Countryside Premium Scheme • Area of land under community ownership
Scottish Natural Heritage	• Fuel consumption per head for transport/ heating etc • Ranger services • LA21 groups • Time spent on environmental education within schools	
RSPB Sutherland	• Use of water – how much? For what? Agriculture: • Loss of habitat to farming/ forestry – how much have we got? How fast is it going? • Is current agriculture sustainable (intensification etc) • Crofting – number of sheep/ number of cattle/ are of in-bye managed/ area of hay grown/ area of root crops grown/ number of Common	Agriculture: • Use of pesticides • Use of inorganic/ organic fertilisers • Waste management on farms • ***Number of sheep/ cattle (stocking densities)*** • Crop selection • Management practices on farms • ***Dependence on agricultural support mechanisms*** • Agri-environment alternatives • Value of crofting/ farming to local economy

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
	Grazings in machinery rings, in agri-environment schemes/ **number of crofts occupied/ number of crofters actively managing the land (e.g doing some of the above)** *Fisheries:* • Impact of hunting/ fishing on wild population • Coastal fisheries – number of boats/ number of fishermen/ number of lobster/crab landed/ number of shellfish farms • Impact of sea fishing on wild fish populations • Freshwater fisheries – river catches of Salmon and Sea Trout/ loch catches of Brown Trout (number of rod days/ number of fish caught/ size and age class)/ predator control – number of Cormorants, Red-breasted Mergansers and Goosanders shot • ***Game – annual cull figures for Red Deer/ Deer numbers (estimates)*** Forestry: • Number of people/ communities involved in managing woodland • Use/ management of existing woodland • Number of forestry related jobs (planting, woodland management, extraction/ timber processing) • Minerals – peat (e.g. number of people cutting peat at a parish or grazings level)	• ***Organic farming*** - level of subsidy available to organic producers/ proportion of consumers buying organic • ***Stocking densities*** – condition of habitat to determine if it is over grazed or undergrazed/ ***index of grazing pressure*** Forestry: How is timber crop performing? Added/ local value/ benefits to environment • Habitat loss to forestry • Balance of native vs non-native planting – changes • Use of pesticides – increasing/ decreasing • Use of fertilisers • ***Forest management*** (roads, fences, drainage) • Value of forestry to local economy Fishing: Is current level sustainable? Is fishing impacting on fish populations/ natural heritage? • Impact of fishing on wild fish populations – how are they performing? • Impact on fishery management on wild populations • Value of fishing to local economy – increase/ decrease Fin-fish farming: Is current level sustainable? Fresh and marine management practices • Use of chemicals/ feed etc • Impact of escapees • Impact of management on safety/ quality of product • Value to local economy

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
		Shell-fish farming: • Management practices • Impact on landscape/ wildlife • Value of shell-fish to local economy • ***Availability of resources to set up "green" projects/ number of applications made/ proportion of successful applications*** • ***Number of local initiatives which are using local natural products (e.g. dairy, honey, fish, shellfish, game, lamb, beef, wool, wood etc)***
The Wildlife Trust		• ***Index of grazing/ browsing*** • Number of deer per 100ha • ***Density of sheep/ cattle within a given area***
Forest Enterprise		• ***Grazing pressure indicator*** • Number of grant aided woodland schemes • ***Number of certifications under the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme***
Sabhal Mor Ostaig	• Area of land/ number of crofters producing crops/ number of cattle	

Objective 4

Promoting sustainable and wise use of cultural resources

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
PAC Skye	• Percentage of schools offering Gaelic medium education • Number of active musicians and artists in the community	• ***Number of events which have a distinctive flavour*** • Number of people who are computer literate • Number of specialist/ distinctive tourism opportunities (e.g. real experiences - such as activity holidays, learning

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
		step dancing, Gaelic, fishing etc.) • Level of Gaelic use as a marketing tool • Use of Gaelic in software packages, and also level of software which acknowledges Scottish surnames and place names • Number of products which have emanated from the locality
Forestry Commission		• Number of active/ specialist broadcasts/ + articles in the press
Scottish Museums Council		• Level of volunteers/ community members involved in individual cultural projects
Historic Scotland	• ***Proportion of historic sites/ monuments actively managed to the benefit of the sites/ monuments***	• Use of cultural resources by schools/ students
NTS Society of Antiquities		• ***Adaptive re-use of cultural resources*** • Number of sites/ monuments compromised or damaged

Objective 5

Retaining a balanced and healthy population

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
PAC Uist	• ***% elderly cared for by/ in the community***	
PAC Skye		• ***Resources available to distance learners*** • Number of community-led classes relating to ***health***
Forestry Commission	• ***% breeding females***	•
Scottish Homes		• ***% change in total population – both population size and age distribution*** • ***% change in population of working age (16-65)***

Objective 6

Supporting community empowerment

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
PAC Skye	• Level of resources in community ownership (forests, lochs, minerals etc)	• ***Number and amount of LEC provided Community Action Grants*** • Relationship between community groups
PAC North Sutherland	• Proportion of local people employed by agencies/ decision-making bodies to work in the area. And proportion of workers "imported" • Number of business start-ups with agency support; quantity of this support; associated benefits	• Proportion of ideas that come out of the community for their own development and how many of these are fulfilled • Extent to which the community members volunteer time/ donate money to local causes • Local response to external pressure e.g land designations, superquarry • How much of the money being spent on environmental measures directly benefits the community, and how much goes to absentee landowners • Level of community influence on land use management
Forestry Commission		• ***Number of societies, clubs etc***
Highland Council	• Number of landowners within each Pilot Area • Average land tenure • Number of land holdings below a certain size	• Number of articles in local press relating to community projects and local involvement
Sabhal Mor Ostaig	• ***Amount of activity within Grazings Committees (meetings)***	
Scottish Homes		• ***Number of communities taking part in community planning process***

Objective 7

Ensuring equal access to employment

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
PAC Skye	• *Number of educational establishments*	• *% of school leavers going to university and/or further education* • Level of school rolls • *% of workers whose place of work is in the locality in question*
Highland Council		• *Grants allocated for business start-up*
Scottish Homes		• *% of pupils going on to something other than unemployment* • *% of employees in Investors In People (IIP) organisations* • *% employment in tourism and primary sectors*

Objective 8

Ensuring equal access to essential services

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
PAC Skye	• Frequency of health services including clinics • Level of accessibility for disabled and adherence towards social inclusion	
Highland Council		• *Absolute number of elderly people requiring residential care who are not cared for within their local community*
Scottish Homes		• Levels of BTS properties in the area • Tenure of properties

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
		• Number of empty/ second/ holiday homes in the area • ***Rental levels*** • Number of homeless/ hidden homeless • Waiting list information • ***Accessibility - % population within 10 minute drive time from 5 key services (GP/ petrol/ Post Office/ food shop/ primary school)***

Objective 9

Improving the local market for goods and services

Objective 10

Promoting equal and effective access to goods, services and markets

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
PAC Skye	• ***links between public services***	

Objective 11

Providing an adequate IT resource

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
PAC Skye	• ***Number of courses available to resident population*** • ***Public awareness of the availability of IT***	

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
	training	
Highland Council		• *Provision of IT training requested - provided*

Objective 12

Reducing reliance on imports and subsidies

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
PAC Skye		• Number of crofters involved in research projects for diversification
Scottish Homes		• *Level of external subsidies (reduction can indicate vulnerability)*
Scottish Ornithologist Club		• *Number of crofters taking up environmental subsidies*

Objective 13

Supporting the wise use of energy

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
Forestry Commission		• *Number of woodlands achieving UK Woodland Assurance Scheme certification*

Objective 14

Promoting waste minimisation and management

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
SEPA	• Quantity of material recycled compared to waste disposed of in the area/ elsewhere	• *% waste recycled* • *Number of successful waste minimisation initiatives (vs those promoted by Councils which may include unsuccessful ones)* • *Amount and type of waste recycled*
Scottish Natural Heritage	• Number of landfill sites • Waste tonnage per head	
Highland Council		• Total number of waste minimisation schemes • Tonnage of domestic waste put to landfill

Objective 15

Supporting 'green' business and community initiatives

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
Highland Council	• Number of businesses with ISO 9000 certification • Number of businesses with ISO 14001 certification	

Objective 16

Promoting co-operation with other communities

Organisation	Proposed Condition Indicators	Proposed Performance Indicators
Highland Council		• *Number of study visits and conferences attended*
Historic Scotland	• The number of positive initiatives as a ratio to the number of meetings • Number of person-hours spent in *inter-community meetings*	