

1. ANNEX E – TRACKER GRID – OUTCOMES FROM STORNOWAY 7 MARCH 2016

<p>DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CoHI leaders to write, collectively, to BT underlining the importance of obtaining clear and accurate information on coverage and speeds provided as part of the Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband programme. • A note of thanks to be sent, from CoHI leaders, to the Mobile Network Operators for their engagement to date. • Senior members of CoHI and the Deputy First Minister to meet with Ofcom and BT as soon as possible to discuss gaining access to reliable data on coverage and speeds. A report from this meeting will be provided to the next meeting of CoHI. • A monthly update on rollout by mobile operators to be provided to CoHI members 	<p>Gareth Wells/Digital Director</p>	<p>Item on agenda for discussion.</p>
<p>UHI</p> <p>The next meeting of the CoHI will consider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the UHI can be supported to realise its full potential to become a driver of economic growth in the Highlands and Islands. This work should fuel the innovation agenda and be carried out through co-design and collaboration. 	<p>David Mackay/Faheem Bhatti/Karen Frew</p>	<p>Item on agenda for discussion.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How best to address the governance challenge, recognising the federal nature of the UHI, but also that a variation of that model may be required (noting that efficiency is not the same as centralisation). 		Item on agenda for discussion.
FUEL POVERTY		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite Ofgem and National Grid to brief members at the next COHI meeting. • Evaluate learning from Hebrides Energy and assess opportunities for taking this approach more widely across COHI region 	Cheryl McNulty/Marian McSeveney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Grid & Ofgem have been invited and will present at allocated agenda item. • In 2015, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar received CARES funding of £73,414 towards a feasibility study to consider the potential to create a community owned Energy Supply Company. As a result of the findings of the Study work is progressing to establish an ESCO to become operational during 2017/18.
ISLAND CONNECTORS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Ewing will meet Argyll and Bute Council regarding support for renewables projects and the Scottish Island Renewables Delivery Forum. • Mr Ewing and SG officials to update COHI on further developments. • All COHI members to consider opportunities for influencing UK Government ahead of its support (CfD) announcement in the coming weeks. 	Donna Mackinnon/Marian McSeveney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Ewing spoke with and wrote to Amber Rudd before purdah 22/23 March - she was unwilling to give any assurances on the inclusion of Remote Island Wind in the Q4 2016 CfD auction. • Announcements were due in the summer on parameters for the auction however there has been significant delay to the process caused by the changes at UK Govt , both at Cabinet (Greg Clark replaced Amber Rudd) and Departmental level (ie DECC has become part of Business Energy and Industrial Strategy). • A decision will be made by UK Govt Cabinet Committee but no decisions made (as of mid October 2016). • Angus Campbell wrote to Theresa May and Lord Dunlop in August 2016 . • Mr Wheelhouse wrote to Greg Clark on the 21st September restating the case for the islands, urging them to end uncertainty and to set a

		<p>date for the next Scottish Island Renewables Delivery forum(last meeting was Sept 2015) .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSE have told Western Isles developers that due to ongoing uncertainty they will delay the submission of the Needs Case for the transmission cable to Ofgem by a few months . This should not affect the ability of projects to compete any Cfd auction.
EU FUNDS POST 2020		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Government and HIE, UHI and SFC to organise a workshop for CoHI members to consider key priorities post 2020 for the Highlands and Islands area. 	Kat Feldinger	Item on agenda for discussion.