Outer Hebrides Community Energy Fund
Case Study – Carloway Estate Trust Steering Group

Background

Carloway Estate Trust Steering Group was set up to explore the viability of a community buyout of the Carloway Estate on the Isle of Lewis. The Steering Group commissioned a full feasibility study of the estate, and applied to OHCEF for funding towards a Renewable Energy Feasibility Study.

Details of Work Carried Out

The renewables feasibility study focused mainly on wind and hydro potential within the estate. The report was split into two phases for wind and three for hydro. The Phase 1 wind report provided an initial assessment of potential wind sites and recommended sites for further investigation. The Phase 2 study investigated the most promising site in more detail and outlined the route to planning. The Phase 1 hydro study provided an initial assessment of the hydro potential, and the Phase 2 study provided more detail on one of the sites. The Phase 3 hydro report gave information on the route to planning.

Cost and Funding

Work	Total Project Cost	OHCEF Amount
Renewables Feasibility Study	£9,996.00	£9,496.20

Results and Local Impact

The work has left the group with more information on the potential for income generation through renewable energy projects on the Estate. This means that once the land is in community ownership, the community can make an informed decision on whether or not to progress any of these projects.

Comments and Lessons Learned

It is important to be aware of timescales, and to understand that there is likely to be slippage in these. We would not have been able to undertake the renewables study without this grant funding.

Contact Details

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