

Statement on Coastal Erosion and Slate Quarry Project

The Isle of Luing Community Trust has been working on the proposed slate quarry in Cullipool to bring economic opportunities, create work and retain and attract young people for wider community sustainability. The potential to use the waste from the quarry for sea defences is a beneficial byproduct and will bring back a practice that was undertaken for many years when the quarry was active. The prior operation of the quarry and the use of the waste to shore up the coast was an important element in maintaining and protecting the shoreline of Cullipool beach. This work on the sea defences will slow the erosion of the shoreline and benefit the whole village and alleviate risks of flooding for many houses. One of the houses is that of our director and chairperson who will be a beneficiary of this aspect of the project and this may be considered to represent a potential conflict of interest. The potential conflict for this director with the sea defence work was noted in the board minutes with the entire board supportive of the plans to develop the quarry for the benefits it will deliver to the island, and decisions to move forward have been made unanimously and in-line with our current policies.