



Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity
Lorna Slater MSP

9th March 2023

Dear Lorna Slater,

Sale of Kinloch Castle, Isle of Rum

We are writing to update you on what is happening on Rum, from the community perspective.

Firstly, can we thank you and your officials for your support so far. NAME REDACTED has been very helpful and his department very positive to work with. The Land Commission has succeeded in bringing the parties together to work towards a sustainable solution. We have had some useful discussions chaired by Hamish Trench. And now also with NAME REDACTED at Historic Environment Scotland.

What has become clear over the last 3 months is that a new future for Kinloch Castle is possible. We are very keen to be given the time and opportunity to explore what this future could look like.

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EIGHT PARAGRAPHS REDACTED



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Scottish Government

We have made huge progress in a very short period of time. SENTENCE REDACTED. Your support and encouragement has been pivotal to this. We are very grateful for the offer of financial support via the Islands Policy Unit, however it has proved incredibly challenging to spend meaningfully within such a constrained time period (to end of financial year). We would like to use this or other SG support to instead further investigations into a broader approach to the Castle's future, including the possibility of alternative outcomes to restoration. This would include employing a Project Manager and bringing in specialist resource to fully explore what could be possible. As IRCT we will continue to commit significant time and our own staff resource to ensuring we create a sustainable future for Rum.

We would like therefore to use the SG resource on offer to do this. It is likely to take 6 months to complete and, if approved, we would look to appoint someone early in the next financial year. Your flexibility and support to do this would be very much appreciated.

We assure you of our continued engagement in the process of securing a sustainable future for Rum and its community.

With best wishes

Sincerely



NAME REDACTED
Isle of Rum Community Trust