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NAME REDACTED
Isle of Rum Community Trust

2 May 2023

Dear NAME REDACTED

Thank you for your email of 31 March following up your original letter of 9 March regarding progress and next steps on Kinloch Castle.

I know that officials in the Sponsorship Hub have been in contact with NAME REDACTED while recent changes to Ministerial responsibilities have been confirmed and I am grateful for your patience.

I am also keen to build on work to date, and widen the scope of our considerations on the best way forward for the island of Rum and the potential role of Kinloch Castle.

I will be visiting Rum on Friday 12 May with colleagues from NatureScot. I would like to use my visit to take soundings from the local community and engage further with the Isle of Rum Community Trust (IRCT) and Rum Community Association on potential options going forward. I have asked my officials to pull together a programme and colleagues will be in touch shortly to confirm arrangements.

Clearly, the governance work that IRCT has been progressing recently both in relation to the castle and wider community aspirations is of critical importance moving forward. I am looking forward to hearing your thoughts on this work as well as any other opportunities or suggestions you might have on how we work together going forward.

In the meantime, I would encourage continued engagement with NatureScot, who I know are keen to co-ordinate discussions with the Scottish Land Commission (SLC) and Historic Environment Scotland (HES).

Kind regards



LORNA SLATER