

## Response ID ANON-JXWR-X9E1-J

Submitted to Development of the Islands Bond  
Submitted on 2021-10-25 17:54:58

### Questions

1 What are your initial thoughts on the proposed criteria of the Islands Bond?

Please give us your views:

The initial view is that this is far too little, spread too thinly, to do anything meaningful. It is difficult to identify where the money will make the most impact - it should certainly concentrate on helping those who are being forced off islands, to stay, or come back, rather than being available to those who have no connection with a place (unless they have specific skills needed, that are unavailable locally).

A grant of £50,000 is a lot but will not help with the vastly over-priced housing situation.

Grants can inflate prices. A loan scheme would possibly help a lot more.

Investment in broadband (to help people run work from islands) and crofting regulation to free up crofts (and create new crofts) would be a better use of public funds.

I am not a resident of an island but am representing residents of islands. The island groups are flawed - you seem to have grouped geographically whereas accessibility, infrastructure, facilities etc are much more important.

2 Which island location do you currently live in? (If applicable)

Not Answered

3 If you are a resident of an island, what do you think are the most significant population challenges in your area and why?

Please give us your views:

Our members tell us that the challenges include:  
crofts not being used but not being freed up;  
crofts being taken by people wanting a holiday plot, not a croft;  
croft and house prices outwith the reach of locals;  
not enough employment opportunities;  
lack of broadband to enable island working;  
lack of schools - families leave to get their children educated;  
too many second homes, holiday homes, retirement homes

4 If you are a resident of an island, are there any particular demographics underrepresented in your area that you think the Islands Bond should target?

Age - Young People, Age - Working Aged Adults

Please set out your reasons and try to be specific about the demographic or demographics you refer to:

Our members point out that whilst we need to support young folk and families, there are many not-so-young living in housing poverty, employment poverty, fuel poverty - poverty generally.

5 What do you think should be the priority focus for the Islands Bond?

Both

Islands Bond Priority:

both of the above and other - general well-being of those living on islands. The focus should be on making it a bit easier to stay or attractive to come back. There is less need to incentivise 'new' residents.

6 What additional capital investment through the Islands Bond would most influence people's decision to stay or move to our Islands?

Islands Bond Capital Investment Ideas:

Capital investment should be targeted at services that will affect a lot of people - not grants to a few.

7 Do you agree that there would be a need for an advisory service to support those relocating to island communities?

Agree

8 In your opinion, what should be the main purpose and role of an advisory service to support those relocating to island communities?

Role of a Resettlement Service:

People often seem to have an idea about island life that doesn't equate with the reality of it. An advisory service should start before people move to an island - somewhere to get information on what it will be like, then somewhere to go to for help when there.

9 Who should be involved in the delivery of an advisory service to support those relocating to island communities?

Who should deliver a Resettlement Service:

Local authority, community groups, professionals (education, health etc).

You are perhaps putting too much emphasis on relocation rather than retention and return.

10 If you are an individual with lived experience of, or an organisation with experience of, challenges related to protected characteristics, how positive do you think the impact of the Islands Bond may be?

Neither Positive nor Negative

Please set out your reasons:

11 Beyond those outlined in the Consultation Paper, what other methods of measuring the progress and impact of the Islands Bond might we adopt?

Suggestions for Measuring and Evaluating the Islands Bond:

Of those who received the grant, did it prevent them needing to leave, did it help them return and they stayed, did it help them relocate and stay?

12 Any other comments on the Islands Bond

Any other comments:

If a grant is received and the recipient then leaves, they need to return the grant.  
It should be needs-assessed.

About you

13 What is your name?

Name:

Patrick Krause

14 What is your email address?

Email:

patrick@crofting.org

15 What is your post code?

Post code:

IV40 8AX

16 Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

Organisation

17 What is your organisation?

Organisation:

Scottish Crofting Federation

18 The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference:

Publish response only (without name)

19 We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Yes

20 I confirm that I have read the privacy policy and consent to the data I provide being used as set out in the policy.

I consent

## Evaluation

21 Please help us improve our consultations by answering the questions below. (Responses to the evaluation will not be published.)

Matrix 1 - How satisfied were you with this consultation?:

Slightly satisfied

Please enter comments here.:

Some questions were difficult to answer as an organisation representing many people (e.g. starting off the question with "as an island resident do you...")

Matrix 1 - How would you rate your satisfaction with using this platform (Citizen Space) to respond to this consultation?:

Very satisfied

Please enter comments here.:

The platform is good but you still need to have well-crafted questions.