



Title of Report:	Installation of Water Bottle Refill Station at Rathlin Island
Committee Report Submitted To:	Environmental Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	14th June 2022
For Decision or For Information	For Information

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Climate Change and our Environment
Outcome	Our natural assets and spaces are managed and developed to recognised standards and processes
Lead Officer	Head of Operations

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	N/A
Included in Current Year Estimates	N/A
Capital/Revenue	N/A
Code	N/A
Staffing Costs	N/A

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	N/A	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	N/A	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	N/A	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	N/A	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	N/A	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	N/A	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the supply and installation of the first water bottle refill station at Rathlin Island.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Rathlin Development and Community Association (RDCA), assisted by Council Environmental Resource Officer, submitted an application to Sea Changers for the supply and installation of a water bottle refill station at Rathlin Island.
- 2.2 Sea Changers is a UK marine conservation charity which provides grant funding to UK based charities and not-for-profit organisations to carry out marine conservation related activities.
- 2.3 Funding from Sea Changers aims to address the increasing problem of plastic bottles, left behind along the coast as marine litter, which damage the marine environment and associated species.
- 2.4 The project ties in with the PlasticSmart element of council's LiveSmart initiative, in particular, the H2O on the Go water bottle refill scheme.

3.0 Grant Award

- 3.1 Rathlin Development and Community Association has been successful in receiving a grant award of £2,000. Total cost of the project is £2,590. Council to fund project costs in excess of grant award.
- 3.2 Rathlin Development and Community Association is one of only two applicants to date in Northern Ireland to receive funding from Sea Changers.
- 3.3 Sea Changers anticipate that the provision of water bottle refill stations will significantly reduce the number of non-reusable plastic drinks bottles on our beaches and coastline.
- 3.4 The water bottle refill station will be located at the council-owned toilet block at Rathlin Harbour and will be accessible to use at all times.

4.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Environmental Services Committee note the award of grant funding, supported by council, to Rathlin Development and Community Association to supply and install the first dedicated water bottle refill station on the island.