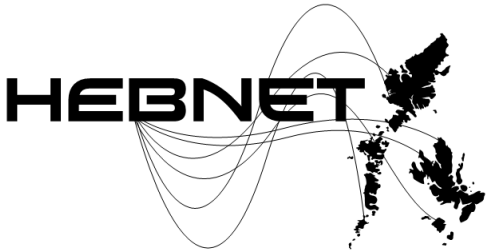
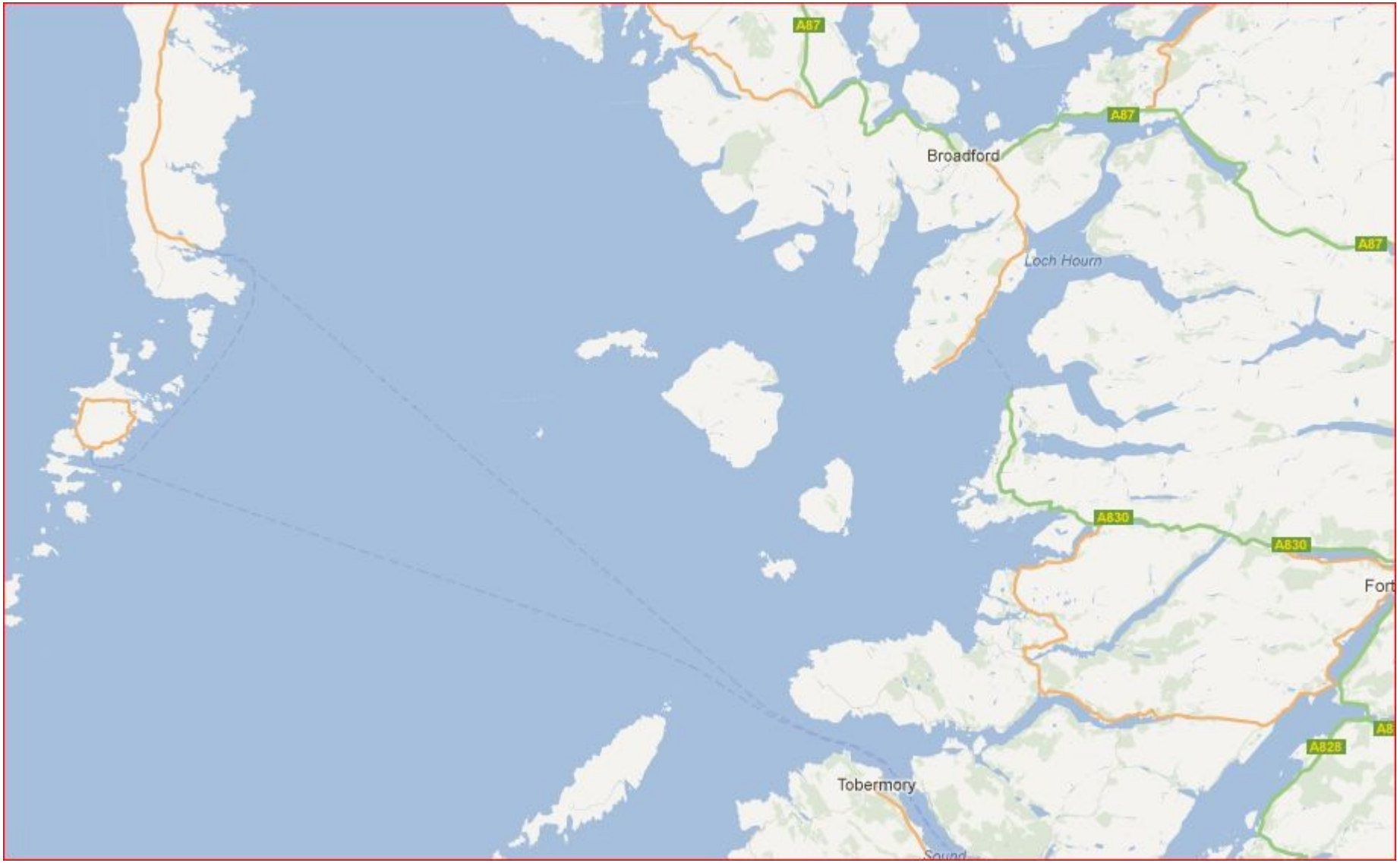
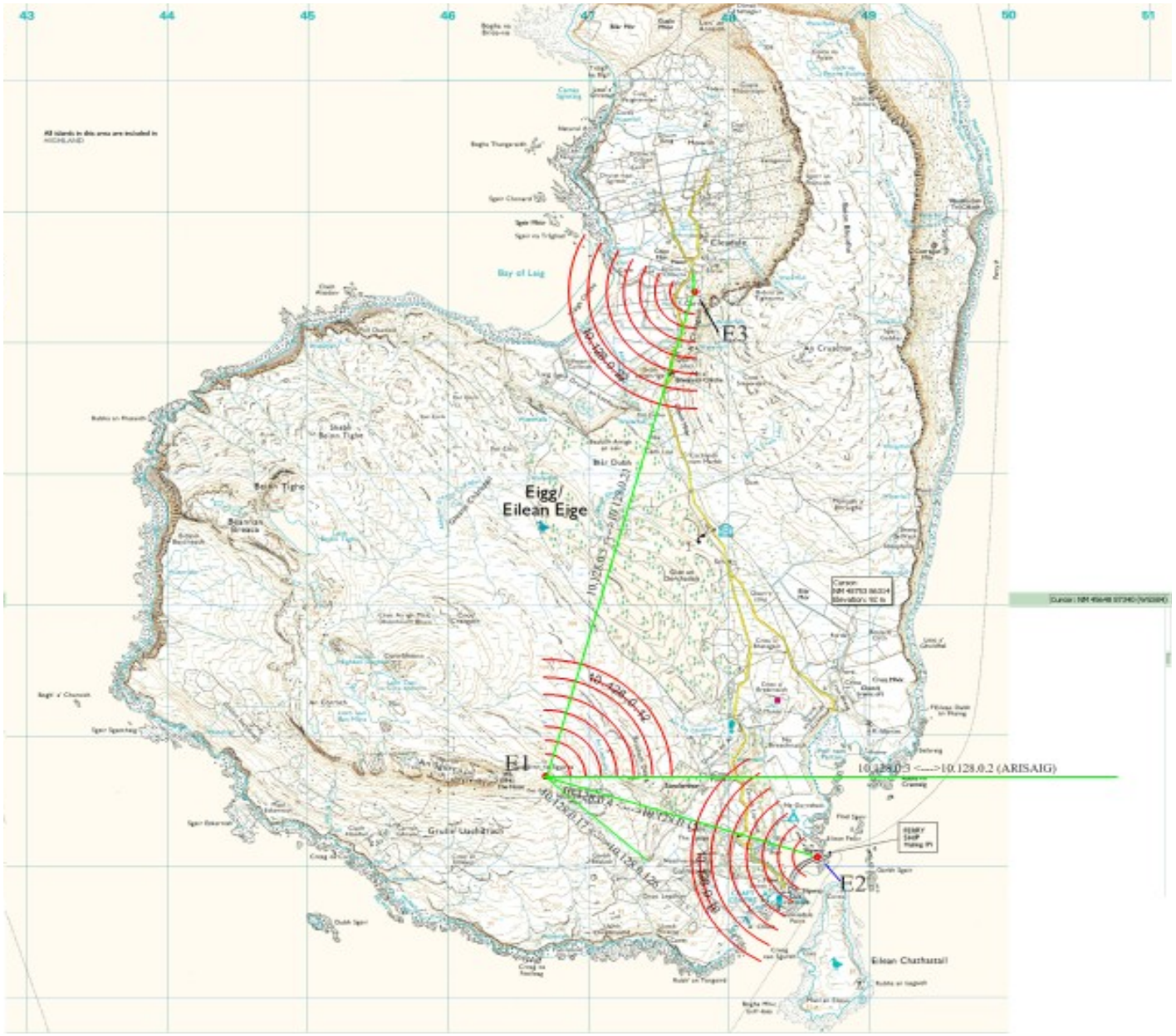



# HebNet CIC

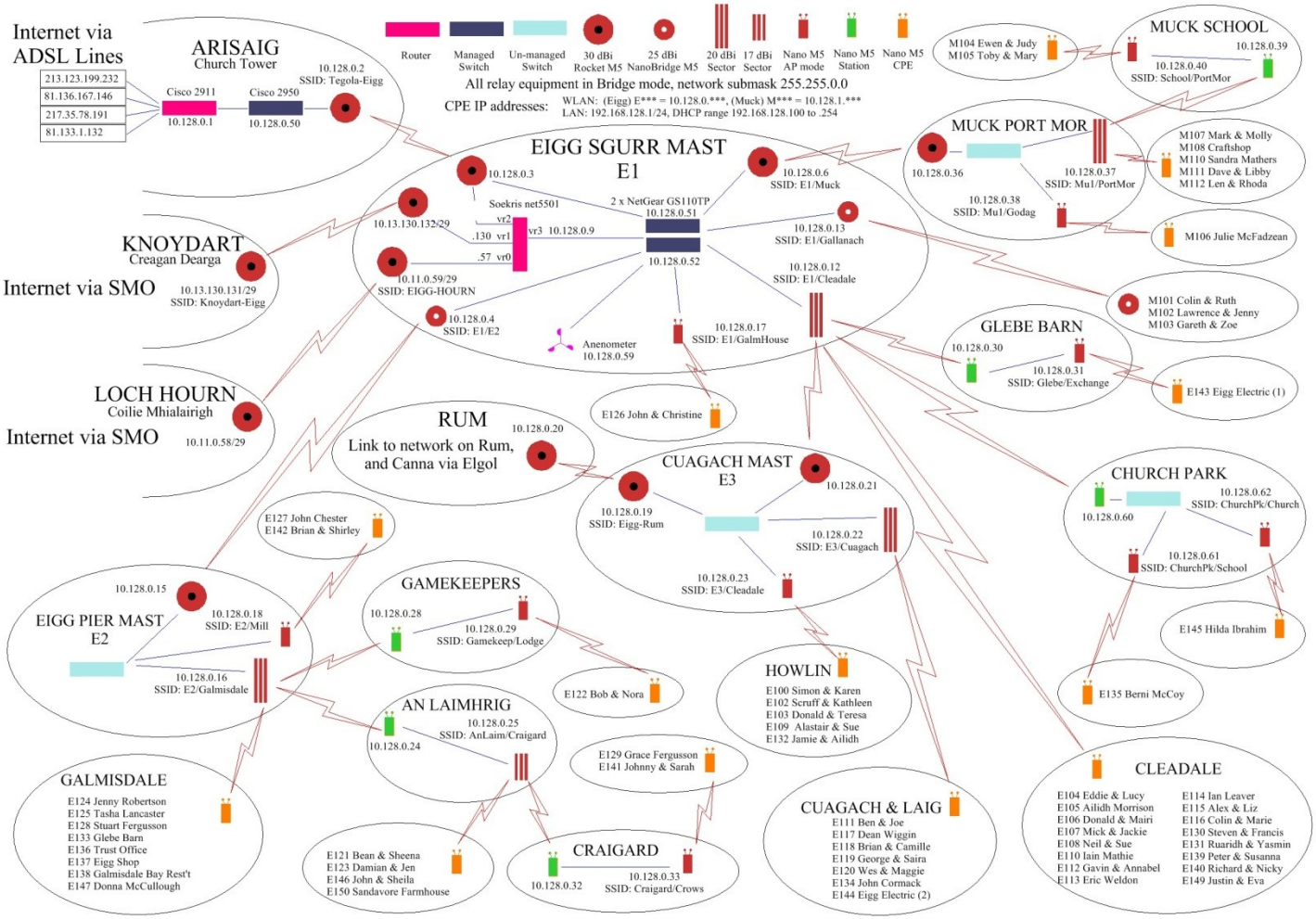
Fast, reliable and economic broadband for the Small Isles & Knoydart


A87
A87
Broadford
A87
Loch Hourn
A830
A830
Fort
A828
Tobermory


E3
Eigg/
Eilean Eige
E1
10.128.0.3 <----> 10.128.0.2 (ARISAIG)
E2
Bay of Laig
Eilean Chathastail

Loch Slapin
Loch Eishort
Loch Hourn
Loch a' Ghlinne
Rhum Island
Loch Nevis
A830
Loch Morar
A830
Loch Nan Uamh
A830

# SCHEMATIC LAYOUT OF NETWORK COVERAGE, EIGG AND MUCK



# What impact has HebNet had?

- Given all households decent broadband access *(fast, economic & reliable)*
- Opened up possibilities for distance learning for adults (e.g. access to UHI!)
- School pupils can log in from home – the GLOW project (Scottish schools national intranet) can be accessed
- Local businesses are no longer disadvantaged
- Social networking has become possible
- Local government online services are now available
- Potential for medical care has improved enormously
- A simple model for rural community broadband has been developed that is replicable almost anywhere

# What are the benefits of a community network?

- Ability to set your own pricing – connection fee and monthly subscription
- Ability to decide how much bandwidth you receive
- For support you call a local resident, not a call centre
- More money stays in the local economy
- Opens up job opportunities and home based employment
- New revenue streams can be generated from local wi-fi ‘hot-spots’ that visitors can access, after making a small payment to log into the network
- Backhaul can be purchased on a commercial scale – not possible for individuals

# How could Scottish Government help in establishing more community networks?

- Set up a dedicated fund.

- Require the operators of communication masts (BT etc) to allow affordable access by local communities for their own small antennae.