



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR 17 FEBRUARY 2011 at 7.00pm

COMMITTEE DECISION REPORT

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE: 17 FEBRUARY 2011 at 9.30am

At its meeting on 17 February 2011 the Policy and Resources Committee considered the business referred to below. The committee approved the recommendations detailed for approval by the Comhairle. Where the Committee has exercised delegated power or used the conditional delegation provisions for any item, this is stated.

Items marked with an asterisk* were considered with the press and public excluded from the Meeting.

| <i>Item Title</i> | <i>Agenda Number</i> | <i>Committee's Decision</i> |
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| Minute of Meeting of 16 December 2010 | 1 | The Minute of Meeting of 16 December 2010 was approved . |
| Declaration of Interest | 2 | <p>Mrs Morag Munro declared an interest in Item 16 as a Director of Harris Development Ltd and left the meeting during consideration of the matter.</p> <p>Mrs Annie Macdonald declared an interest in Item 23, as a relative was employed on the Western Isles Schools Project and left the meeting during consideration of the matter.</p> <p>Mr Donald I Nicholson declared an interest in Items 24 as a Board member of HHP and in Items 29 & 38 as he had a business relationship with the principals involved and left the meeting during consideration of the matters.</p> <p>Mr John A Maciver declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 38 as the Report related to a relative.</p> |
| Minute of Meeting of ICT, Procurement and Asset Management Sub-Committee of 10 February 2011 | 3 | The Minute of Meeting of ICT, Procurement and Asset Management Sub-Committee of 10 February 2011 was approved. |
| Minute of Meeting of Comataidh Buileachaidh Plana Canan of 10 February 2011 | 4 | The Minute of Meeting of Comataidh Buileachaidh Plana Canan of 10 February 2011 was approved. |
| Minute of Meeting of Human Resources Sub-Committee of 10 February 2011 | 5 | The Minute of Meeting of the Human Resources Sub-Committee of 10 February 2011 was noted. |
| Minute of Meeting of Joint Services Committee of 11 February 2011 | 6 | The Minute of Meeting of Joint Services Committee of 10 December 2010 was approved, subject to the amended recommendation in relation to Reshaping Care for Older People – Change Fund Guidance. |

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| Minute of Meeting of Local Government Employees Joint Consultative Committee of 15 February 2011 | 7 | <p>The Minute of Meeting of Local Government Employees Joint Consultative Committee of 15 February 2011 was noted and it was agreed to recommend as follows:</p> <p>(a) that the views of the Joint Consultative Committee in relation to Item 3 would be incorporated in the Report to be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee;</p> <p>(b) in relation to Item 4 that the recommendations be agreed in principle subject to negotiation between the Comhairle and its recognised trade unions in relation to mileage;</p> <p>(c) in relation to Item 7 that further discussions take place in relation to mileage and that the rate be formally approved at the next series of meetings; and</p> <p>(d) that an additional day's leave be granted to employees required to work on 29 April 2011 and that it not be designated an additional public holiday.</p> |
| Report to Members and the Controller of Audit | 8 | It was agreed to recommend that the Audit Report and the Action Plan be noted. |
| General Fund Third Quarter Capital Monitoring 2010/11 | 9 | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the forecast outturn as the Revised Approved Programme for 2010/11. |
| General Fund Third Quarter Revenue Monitoring 2010/11 | 10 | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <p>(1) note the Report; and</p> <p>(2) request that the Director of Technical Services submit a Report to the next meetings of service Committees in relation to the budgetary pressures arising from the cost of fuel particularly in relation to bus contracts and heating costs and detailing the steps being taken to address these pressures.</p> |
| Business Plans and Budgets 2011/12 | 11 | It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Committee's interests were concerned, that the Service Business Plans 2011/12 be approved. |
| Mainland Placement Panel | 12* | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note:</p> <p>(1) the decisions taken by the Mainland Placement Panel; and</p> <p>(2) the forecasted combined expenditure of £1.174m in respect of the placements detailed in the Appendix attached to the Report.</p> |
| Specialist Mainland Placements for Children | 13* | <p>It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Committee's interests were concerned, that the Comhairle note the forecasted costs for specialist mainland placements, as detailed in the Report, and the actions being taken to address the issue.</p> <p>Arising out of consideration of the above item it was agreed to recommend that the Director of Education and Children's Services be requested to submit a further Report examining the possibility of establishing a Behavioural Unit in the Western Isles, on the basis that the Report would also include information in relation to:</p> <p>(1) Extended Learning Provision; and</p> <p>(2) an estimate of the number of young people who would be continuing in mainland placements as adults.</p> |
| Technical Services: Building Maintenance STO Progress Update | 14(a)* | It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Committee's interests were concerned, that the Comhairle note the Report. |
| Building Maintenance STO | 14(b)* | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle agree the recommendations of the Director of Technical Services, as set out in the appended paper to the Report, as the basis of a revised operating model for the delivery of building maintenance and that the Director of Technical Services, in consultation with the Chief Executive and Director of Finance and Corporate Resources, would bring forward a detailed Report to the March 2011 meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee setting out the financial and operational changes for implementation from 1 April 2011 and that that Report would contain clear timescales and a deadline for achieving a break-even position. |
| Write Offs | 15 | It was agreed to recommend that the debts listed in Appendix 1 to the Report totalling £34,167.30 be written off. |

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| Loan to Harris Development Ltd | 16* | It was agreed to recommend that the decision of the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources to provide a loan in the sum of £60k for cash flow purposes to Harris Development Ltd be homologated. |
| Winter Maintenance Expenditure 2010/11 | 17 | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report. |
| Reshaping Care for Older People – Change Fund Guidance | 18 | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) note the Scottish Government Change Fund Guidance for Reshaping Care for Older People; (2) note the requirement for local partnerships a prepare change plans that set down how the funding would be used to achieve a shift in the balance of care; (3) note that change plans should be prepared and agreed by the Comhairle, NHS Board, Third Sector and independent sector partners and submitted to the Scottish Government by 28 February 2011; (4) note the allocation of £531k to NHS Western Isles and Eilean Siar Partnership for 2011/12; (5) remit to the Joint Planning and Liaison Group to lead on the preparation of the initial Change Fund application, ensuring appropriate early interaction with Voluntary, Independent and Community Planning Partners and, insofar as the Comhairle's interests are concerned, it be delegated to the Director of Social and Community Services, in consultation with the Chairs of Joint Services and Policy and Resources Committees, to agree the final submission of the application ; and (6) agree that the Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership was best placed to oversee and monitor the delivery of the Change Fund within the Western Isles. |
| Update Report – Local Area Co-ordination | 19 | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report. |
| Adult Day Care Provision in Barra | 20 | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) a review of the current provision of adult social day care in Barra, in consultation with all key stakeholders, in particular NHS Western Isles and including the undertaking of an Equality Impact Assessment; and (2) a report, with recommendations, regarding the options for future service delivery for social day care on Barra, is brought back to the June 2011 series of Comhairle meetings. |
| Capital Works: Programme and Progress | 21 | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report. It was agreed to note that the Director of Social and Community Services would circulate information to all Members providing an update in relation to St Brendan's Care Home. |
| Repairs and Maintenance (Revenue) Programme 2010/2011: Quarterly Expenditure Report to 31 December 2010 | 22 | It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Committee's interests were concerned, that the Comhairle note the Report. |
| Western Isles Schools Project Update | 23 | It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report. |

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| Former Gibson Hostel Site, Stornoway | 24 | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle accede to the request from HHP to relax the sale conditions as detailed in Item 17 of the Minute of Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee of 29 March 2007 to enable 24 units rather than 22 units to be constructed on the former Gibson Hostel Site, Stornoway.</p> <p>Arising out of consideration of this item it was agreed to recommend that the Chairmen of Policy and Resources and Environment and Protective Services Committees and of the Local Housing Strategy MOWG be appointed to a Liaison Group with HHP to discuss matters of common interest in relation to affordable housing.</p> |
| Use of Video Conferencing | 25 | <p>It was agreed to recommend that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the Report be noted; (2) the points highlighted in paragraph 6.1 and 7.1 of the Report be considered in the review of the constitutional documents; and (3) the facility in the Council Offices, Tarbert be expressly included in the review of video-conferencing. |
| Proposed Joint Working Arrangements with Northern Constabulary | 26 | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Director of Technical Services to agree terms for the lease of partial Comhairle premises with Northern Constabulary for the purposes of sharing office facilities at Carloway Care Centre and Tarbert Old Primary School.</p> |
| Capital Programme: Lionacleit Synthetic Pitch | 27 | <p>It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Committee's interests were concerned, that the Comhairle agree to release £197k within the approved Capital Project SD-SH10, Lionacleit Synthetic Pitch, as detailed in the Project Initiation Document attached as Appendix 1 to the Report.</p> |
| Capital Programme 2008-13: Water Services Improvements Programme – Council Offices | 28 | <p>It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Committee's interests were concerned, that the Comhairle agree to release the remaining £85k from the approved Capital Project CS-PR7, Water Service Programme – Legionella Statutory, as detailed in the Project Initiation Document appended to the Report.</p> |
| Craigston Coastal Protection Works Contract Costs | 29 | <p>It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Committee's interests were concerned, that the Comhairle note that significant additional works had been required to complete the Coastal Protection Project at Craigston, Isle of Barra, which increased the overall contract costs for this work by £144,957.33.</p> <p>Arising out of consideration of the above matter it was agreed to recommend that the Chief Executive be requested to submit a Report concerning the performance of consultants on marine works, with particular reference to the Craigston Coastal Protection Works Project.</p> |
| Outer Hebrides Biomass Development – Detailed Assessment | 30 | <p>It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Committee's interests were concerned, that the Comhairle:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) approve capital expenditure to a limit of £30k for advance works associated with project SD-G6, Outer Hebrides Biomass Project notwithstanding that the proposed level of expenditure would exceed 13% of the anticipated cost of the project; and (2) authorise the Director of Technical Services to procure the necessary consultancy services to undertake the detailed assessment of biomass heating provision at the Shawbost School, Lionel School and Sgoil Lionacleit. |
| Spend to Save Programme 2011-2014: Property Maintenance | 31 | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle agree:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) to the development of an asset investment programme of £2m on the basis detailed within the Report; (2) the criteria and weightings included as Appendix 1 to the Report be approved and it be noted that a prioritised programme of works be developed for consideration by the Comhairle in March 2011; (3) that the works, where feasible and within the context of Best Value, be carried out by the Technical Services Property Maintenance Delivery Team; and (4) that the Director of Technical Services be authorised to undertake as much of the work as possible during 2011/12 and 2012/13. |

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| Spend to Save Investment Programme 2011-2014 – Road Strengthening | 32 | <p>It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the Committee's interests were concerned, that the Comhairle:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) agree the development of an asset investment programme of £5m on the basis of Option 2 detailed within the Report and that the Director of Technical Services be authorised to undertake as much of the works as possible within the first two years of the programme; (2) note that a prioritised programme of works would be developed for consideration by the Comhairle in March 2011; (3) agree the criteria and weightings included as Appendix 1 to the Report; and (4) agree that the works to be carried out in 2011/12 be procured through a combination of the existing Area Engineering Contracts and by competitive tendering. |
| Isle-Pact and GP Wind Projects: Management Arrangements | 33* | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) delegate authority to continue the current project management arrangement for the duration of the ISLE-PACT and GP Wind projects, provided that the Chief Executive and Director of Development remain satisfied that these represent best value to the Comhairle; and (2) agree not to seek competitive tenders for these services in terms of Contract Regulation 4(2)(i)(n) due to the expertise and prior knowledge of the project of the individual concerned. |
| Technical Services | 34* | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle agree, in principle, to the management, business unit and team structure detailed in Appendices 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 to the Report, subject to consideration of the detail of the proposals by Human Resources Sub-Committee.</p> |
| Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland Consultation: Number of Councillors | 35 | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle authorise the Chief Executive to respond, on behalf of the Comhairle, on the basis of paragraph 6.2 of the Report and that the response highlight that the outcome of the consultation may require to be revisited in the light of public sector reform.</p> |
| Emergency Towing Vessels and MCA Modernisation Proposals – Progress Update | 36 | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the progress of the Task Group.</p> |
| Contractual Arrangements with the Crown Estate | 37 | <p>The Clerk sought and obtained the Chairman's permission to withdraw this item.</p> |
| Contractual Matters | 38* | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the recommendations detailed in the Report.</p> |
| Reports Outstanding: Progress | 39 | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report.</p> |
| URGENT ITEM | | |
| Best Value Service Review 6 Month Follow Up – Integrated Transport | 40 | <p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) note the progress following the completion of the Best Value Review of Integrated Transport; and (2) agree that a Report be submitted in relation to progress in relation to integrated transport to the June 2011 meeting of the Committee. |