

***Comhairle nan Eilean Siar***



***Action and KPI Progress Report***

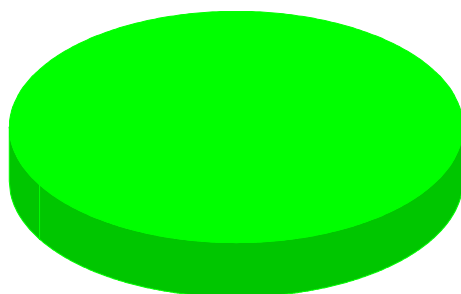
*April 2025 - June 2025*

*CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT: Economic and  
Community Regeneration*

## OVERALL PERFORMANCE - CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT: ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY REGENERATION

### Actions

On Track	100.0%
Monitoring Required	0.0%
Off Track	0.0%
No Targets Set/ Ongoing	0.0%
Total:	100.0%

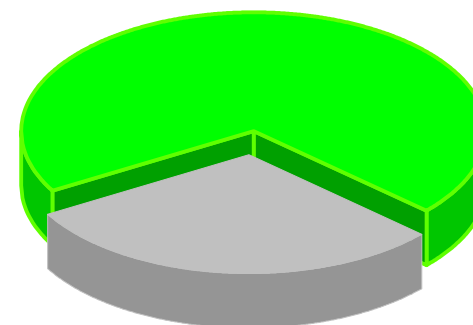


#### 18 Actions reported on

18	Actions with at least 100% of target
0	Actions greater than 79 and less than 100% of target
0	Actions with less or equal to 79% of target
0	Actions with no target set / ongoing

### KPIs

On Track	70.0%
Monitoring Required	0.0%
Off Track	0.0%
Annual	30.0%
Total:	100.0%



#### 10 KPIs reported on

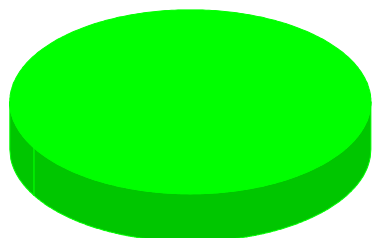
7	KPIs on track
0	KPIs monitoring required
0	KPIs off track
3	KPIs NA

## Economic and Community Regeneration

### Business Unit Overall Performance - Economic and Community Regeneration

#### Actions

On Track	100.0%
Monitoring Required	0.0%
Off Track	0.0%
No Targets Set / Ongoing	0.0%
Total:	100.0%

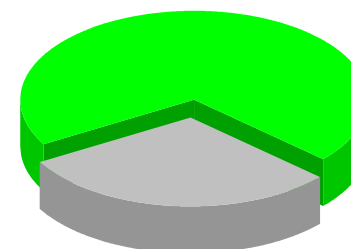


#### 18 Actions reported on

18	Actions with at least 100% of target
0	Actions greater than 79 and less than 100% of target
0	Actions with less or equal to 79% of target
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#### KPIs

On Track	70.0%
Monitoring Required	0.0%
Off Track	0.0%
Annual	30.0%
Total:	100.0%



#### 10 KPIs reported on

7	KPIs on track
0	KPIs monitoring required
0	KPIs off track
3	KPIs NA

Comments - Economic and Community Regeneration

2025/26 Quarter 1 Progress Comment:

During Quarter 1, progress was made in line with statutory and business plan requirements and targets. Particular achievements and areas to highlight include:

- Islands Growth Deal Programme re-set agreed and submitted to Scottish and UK Government.
- Local Housing Strategy 2025-2030 (draft) nearing completion following extensive consultation and engagement. Outcomes and actions have been agreed, and it is anticipated the consultative draft will be presented to the Comhairle in Q2.
- Spaceport1 enabling infrastructure completed April 2025.
- Development of the Scolpaig Habitat & Amenity Management Plan (HAMP) commenced, and HAMP Forum established.
- Emigration Exhibition launched at Museum nan Eilean Lionacleit (May) and Stornoway (June).
- 'Following the Fish' touring and online exhibition – a partnership of Tasglann nan Eilean with Highland Archive, Suffolk Archive and Norfolk Records Office – launched in May.
- Consultancy work on introduction of a Visitor Levy in the Outer Hebrides concluded and discussed, along with Cruise Levy Consultation, at Members Seminar on 7 May 2025, with Comhairle agreeing its approach to future levy introduction at June Committee series.
- Business Gateway number of start-ups supported during Q1 increased by 70% on the same period last year.
- Businesses supported to achieve growth up by 80% compared to the same period in 2024-25.
- Business Gateway (BG) Funding of £229,530 to the local business sector approved during Q1 (£208,250 loan and £21,280 grant). Three fisheries sector cases accounted for £163,750 of total approvals. More Business Gateway funding was approved during Q1 this year than in 2024-25 as a whole.
- Initial engagement on proposals for Inshore MPAs, with Marine Directorate scheduled to present proposed measures to Council Members in August, in advance of formal consultation later in the year.
- Partnership with Nature Scot to scope and commission a new Local Biodiversity Action Plan, which will also deliver on new requirements on Nature Networks mapping,
- Sgioba na Gàidhlig co-ordinated a meeting of Gaelic Development Officers in April 2025. This identified three areas of collaborative action which will be progressed by all partners, and agreement was reached to meet quarterly.
- Comhairle's Gaelic Student Placement Scheme, which has been running since 2015 with Bòrd na Gàidhlig support, re-opened and 13 students have been placed with a wide range of Gaelic organisations over the Summer.
- Sgioba na Gàidhlig successfully applied for funding from the Scottish Government for a one-year post of Gaelic Evaluation and Information Officer, beginning at the end of August 2025.
- Consultation took place on the Local Development Plan Scheme and draft Participation Statement, both of which were approved at the June Committee series.
- Active engagement with groups that are currently progressing the development of Local Place Plans and Development Planning team delivered Local Place Plan training to a range of other interested community groups.
- The CLLD Local Action Group (LAG) received an allocation of £322,032 for 2025-26 during Q1. Both the LAG and Youth LAG launched grant schemes in Q1 and it is intended to award funding during Q2.
- Review underway of Stage 1 of the Crofting and Land Management Bill.
- Major Developments Forum met in May 2025. From Comhairle's perspective, there was a particular focus in the quarter on liaison with SSEN-T and onshore / offshore wind developers on areas such as legacy housing, freight / logistics challenges. Comhairle's Internal Major Developments Oversight Board met March 2025.
- The Shared Ownership Joint Venture now meets monthly, supported by a Project Manager, and an application has been submitted to secure external funding to support financial and legal due diligence.

Anne Murray, Chief Officer, Economic & Community Regeneration, 11 August 2025

Action Progress - Economic and Community Regeneration

Strategic 1.1.1.Development projects associated with the Islands Deal are delivered.


Objective:

Service Profile

Economic and Community Development

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
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1.1.1.3.Deliver Primary Industries strand of Islands Deal Programme.	Domhnall MacDonald - Economic Development Manager	In Progress	01/04/2022	31/03/2027	25%	25%	
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#### ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS


Brevig Harbour Dredging - A range of surveys have been completed to assist in developing this facility, with scoping and modelling work being undertaken for the final stages of determining the works. This project will ensure the viability of the facility and enable existing and additional vessels to operate from the harbour.

Meat Processing Facility (Storas Uist) - This project is currently at the concept/ design stage, with plans anticipated to be submitted for approval during 2025-26.

Vatersay Gear Storage - Plans have been prepared, with planning consent in place and the project expected to commence during 2025-26. The project will facilitate diversification of fishing activities in the area and bolster a remote fishing fleet.

#### Service Profile

Planning and Building Standards


ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
1.1.1.4.Progress for on-island use in heat and transport through delivery of OH Energy Hub project.	Anne M Murray - Chief Officer, Economic & Community Regeneration	In Progress	01/04/2025	31/03/2030	25%	25%	

#### ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS

Revised Energy Hub project scope agreed at Committee in June. Outline Business Case developed on this basis and submitted to UK and Scottish Government for feedback.

#### Service Profile

Economic and Community Development

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
1.1.1.5.Lead the delivery of the Spaceport 1 project.	Alison MacCorquodale - Project Manager - Spaceport	In Progress	01/04/2025	31/03/2030	25%	25%	

#### ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS

Key project achievements in Quarter 1 2025/26 were:

6 days of filming by ARTE on Spaceport 1 / Uist documentary supported - April 2025

EAD fibre installation between Balemartin and Scolpaig completed – April 2025

Construction work completed & verified – 25 April 2025

HIE funding of £23k approved to support additional environmental work at Scolpaig – April 2025

Breeding Bird survey work commenced – April 2025

Emergent Bat survey work commenced – May 2025

Work on Habitat & Amenity Management Plan commenced – May 2025

Comhairle membership of HAMP Forum agreed – June 2025

#### Strategic


1.1.5.Growth in small and medium sized businesses demonstrated.

#### Objective:

#### Service Profile

Business Gateway

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
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1.1.5.1.Deliver Business Gateway services to support business start-up and growth.	Domhnall MacDonald - Economic Development Manager	In Progress	01/04/2022	31/03/2027	25%	25%	
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#### ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS

Delivery of a range of Business Gateway (BG) services continued during Q1.


Business Skills Workshops will no longer be delivered, in-person, across the islands during 2025-26, principally due to low uptake - and as there is an excellent Programme of Business Skills Webinars available nationally through BG.

2025-26 started encouragingly, as the number of start-ups supported during Q1 increased by 70% on the same period last year. Businesses supported to achieve growth were also up by 80% compared to the same period in 2024-25.

However, the number of new business enquiries dealt with decreased by 23% - which was anticipated given an unexpected 50% increase during 2024-25 as a whole.

#### Service Profile

Business Gateway

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
1.1.5.2.Deliver internal and external business support funding programmes.	Domhnall MacDonald - Economic Development Manager	In Progress	01/04/2022	31/03/2027	25%	25%	

#### ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS


Business Gateway (BG) continues to deliver a range of funding schemes, including: OHYESS (funded by HIE); OHDSS (funded through UKSPF); and OHBDS, OHFIS & RLF (funded by CnES).

BG performance has started encouragingly, with funding of £229,530 to the local business sector approved during the first quarter (i.e. £208,250 loan and £21,280 grant). Three fisheries sector cases accounted for £163,750 of total approvals.

This compares favourably to the same period last year, with £14,388 having been approved in Q1 then - and a total of £222,287 for the year to 31 March 2025. Therefore, more Business Gateway funding was approved during Q1 this year than in 2024-25 as a whole.

#### Service Profile

Economic and Community Development

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
1.1.5.3.Support growth and resilience within the fisheries and aquaculture sectors.	Domhnall MacDonald - Economic Development Manager	In Progress	01/04/2022	31/03/2027	25%	25%	

#### ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS

Vatersay Gear Storage - although planning consent was granted, there is current uncertainty around land ownership. However, the project is anticipated to commence when a Crown Estate lease is granted, which will facilitate diversification of fishing activities in the area and bolster a remote fishing fleet.

A range of projects located at marine facilities across the Outer Hebrides were supported with over £250k UKSPF grant in the last quarter of 2024-25 - with a number of similar proposals under consideration for UKSPF support in 2025-26. Those projects assisted in 2024-25 included:

- Ardveenish - Shore-power installation for up to eight vessels;
- Ardveenish - Upgrade to the ice-plant, with new internal working parts securing the plant's future;
- Vatersay - Fendering to be installed on both slipways, enabling landings at all tidal states;
- Acarsaid - Chains for existing pontoons supplied;
- Leverburgh - Chains for existing pontoons supplied and fitted;
- Carloway - Additional fendering for landing area supplied;

Additional Shore-power - 30 shore-power boxes for installation across the Outer Hebrides pier & harbours network purchased and supplied; and Lochboisdale Fish Processing - pelagic fish-processing equipment purchased/ supplied to Storás Uibhist;

Kallin Harbour Development - plans have been prepared for a new building - sited on an area cleared in 2024 - which will improve facilities at that Harbour.

The Comhairle is in contact with Marine Scotland to ensure that a share of Additional Fishing Quota is allocated to the Outer Hebrides, through a locally-managed Community Quota Scheme. Additional purchase of quota to be explored in order to diversify fishing opportunities in the local sector.

Consultation with Marine Scotland around local fisheries management measures and related socio-economic impacts of Priority Marine Features (PMFs) - in addition to PMAs - continued both online and in-person.

Scottish Government opened a consultation on the future management of Offshore Marine Protected Areas. The Comhairle responded to this consultation and submitted a report to Sustainable Development committee subsequently.


Consultation and engagement is expected in 2025-26 around the proposals for Inshore MPAs. The Marine Directorate have agreed to visit the Comhairle on the 19th of August to present the proposed measures to Council Members. The consultation will be released in November and will run for 4 months, closing in March 2026.

**Strategic** 3.1.1. The Gaelic language, natural heritage and culture of our communities is supported and promoted.

**Objective:**

**Service Profile**

Economic and Community Development


ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
3.1.1.1. Implement the Comhairle's Local Biodiversity Action Plan	Murdo MacKay - Dev - Development Manager	In Progress	31/03/2021	31/03/2027	50%	25%	 GREEN

**ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS**

Officers are working with Nature Scot and planing colleagues to deliver a new LBAP procured from external consultants. This piece of work will also deliver Nature Networks mapping by November 2025.

**Service Profile**

Economic and Community Development


ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
3.1.1.3. Support the local tourism industry develop a new visitor strategy up to 2030	Murdo MacKay - Dev - Development Manager	Completed	01/04/2022	31/03/2027	100%	25%	 GREEN

**ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS**

Officers continue to engage with Outer Hebrides Tourism on various issues as they arise. The Strategy to 2030 has been completed by OHT. Survey work on the visitor economy has also been carried out and will be precented to members in September.

**Service Profile**

Gaelic, Heritage and Culture

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
3.1.1.9. Retain and renew formal partnerships with British Museum and National Museums Scotland, including loan agreements, and seek opportunities for partnerships with other museums and archives (local and national).	Colin George Morrison - Team Leader - Heritage and Culture	In Progress	01/04/2022	31/03/2027	40%	25%	 GREEN


### ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS

Loans for the 2025 Emigration Exhibition from National Museums Scotland, Fleming-Wyfold Collection, the Scottish National Mining Museum and Scottish Diaspora Tapestry have now been installed at both MnE Lionacleit and Stornoway. The exhibitions were launched on 31 May and 13 June respectively.

The 'Following the Fish' exhibition – a partnership of Tasglann nan Eilean with Highland Archive, Suffolk Archive and Norfolk Records Office – was launched in May. The physical exhibition is touring venues in both Scotland and England and there is also an online exhibition.

### Service Profile

Gaelic, Heritage and Culture

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
3.1.1.13.Review and deliver the Comhairle's Gaelic Language Plan	Dr Donald Weir - Gaelic Support Officer	In Progress	01/04/2022	31/03/2027	25%	25%	 GREEN

### ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS

A meeting was held on 22 April 2025, where Gaelic development officers from a wide range of public organisations were in attendance. This meeting was organised by Sgioba na Gàidhlig to discuss possible strategies, and partnership working amongst organisations in attendance at the meeting, in order to develop the use of Gaelic in the communities of the Isles and to assist in the implementation of the Comhairle's Gaelic Language Plan. Organisations represented included the following: from the Comhairle, officers from Education and Children's Services, Sgioba na Gàidhlig, the Multimedia Unit, and the Library Service; MG Alba; Acair; e-Sgoil; Fèisean nan Gàidheal; An Lanntair; An Taigh Ceilidh; and Cothrom.

It was felt that the following was working very well in terms of developing and promoting the language: raising the profile of Gaelic in social media and through digital developments; organising events for older people and young children; supporting and encouraging the parents of children in Gaelic Medium Education; increasing interest and pride in the language through music; getting high level political support; and bringing in funding to the Isles. It was felt, however, that the following were particularly challenging in terms of developing and promoting the language: a lack of time for, and encouragement of, employees to improve their Gaelic language skills in the workplace; a lack of confidence amongst young people who have left school in terms of using Gaelic; a need to expand career pathways in which Gaelic is considered an essential skill; competition amongst organisations for available funding; a lack of Gaelic usage by parents, and people in communities generally, when communicating with children who are in Gaelic medium education; a lack of training and of shared aims amongst Gaelic development officers; a lack of Gaelic courses and events that are appealing to S1 to S6 pupils; and a lack of data and narrative that emphasises to the public, in an effective way, the value of Gaelic to the economy of the Isles. At the conclusion of this meeting, three actions to take forward were agreed by all the organisations in attendance, namely:

- Organisations should be encouraged to give more time to employees to develop their spoken Gaelic skills.
- Adults with Gaelic skills should be encouraged to increase their use of Gaelic in talking to children.
- Evidence about the value of Gaelic to the economy of the Isles should be communicated to the public.

It was agreed that this group of organisations would continue to meet quarterly and would invite other organisations involved in the development of Gaelic to attend in future.

Sgioba na Gàidhlig successfully applied for funding from the Scottish Government for the one-year post of Gaelic Evaluation and Information Officer, beginning at the end of August 2025. This Officer will lead on identifying and quantifying the impact and value of Gaelic in terms of socio-economic development across the Western Isles and provide an information feed for the Comhairle and partner agencies on all matters related to Gaelic. He/she will collect and collate data to generate reports and case studies to exemplify findings. In doing this, he/she will work with, and support, the Comhairle's Communications team in the dissemination of information and data related to the socio-economic value of Gaelic to the Isles, and will also assist in the normalisation of the use of Gaelic within the Comhairle and across all services by assisting in the implementation of the Comhairle's Gaelic Language Plan and Gaelic First Policy. He/she will also assist in the preparation and circulation of bilingual press releases, provide regular Gaelic content for the Comhairle's social media accounts, and will assist in the provision of simultaneous interpretation in the Comhairle Chamber.

The establishment of "Areas of Linguistic Significance (ALS)" in terms of the new Scottish Languages Bill is a measure by which Gaelic language planning can be better integrated with community development and public service provision within parts of Scotland which have a particularly significant relationship to the language, providing a community framework within which Gaelic language planning activity can take place, with enhanced support for the language. The Government defines an ALS as:


- An area where at least 20% of the population have Gaelic language skills
- An area which is historically connected with the use of Gaelic
- An area that has GME provision
- An area with significant activity relating to the Gaelic language or Gaelic culture

However, there are inherent dangers in the lack of clarity as to what the definition actually means. Sgioba na Gàidhlig therefore prepared a Report for Committee which emphasised that designation of the whole of the Western Isles as one ALS was essential. If some rural districts, which contain a very small percentage of the population and are losing young people to larger villages or towns or their hinterlands, are given preferential status and designated as ALS, there is a real danger that the critical mass of Gaelic speaking people living in undesignated areas will feel devalued and unsupported. Furthermore, the Stornoway/Broadbay area has more children in GME and a higher number of Gaelic speakers than all other island districts put together, and must therefore not be left out of ALS status. This Report was agreed at Committee.

The Comhairle's Gaelic Student Placement Scheme, which has been running since 2015 with Bòrd na Gàidhlig support, has usually employed between 10-12 Gaelic speaking students for ten weeks every summer with organisations across the Western Isles who use Gaelic in the workplace. The Scheme has been very successful in developing the Gaelic skills of students and giving them valuable experience of a professional work environment. This Summer, 13 students have been placed with a wide range of Gaelic organisations.

#### Service Profile

#### Economic and Community Development

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
3.1.1.15.Support growth and resilience within the local Crofting and Agricultural Sector.	Domhnall MacDonald - Economic Development Manager	In Progress	01/04/2025	31/03/2030	25%	25%	 GREEN

#### ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS

Officers are currently engaged in reviewing Stage 1 of the Crofting and Land Management Bill and will be present a report to the Primary Industries MOWG for further discussion in the first instance, prior to submission.

The Abattoir MOWG meets regularly to assist in keeping the Stornoway abattoir operational for the overall benefit of local crofters.

The Comhairle also attends meetings of the Scottish Government's Cross Party Crofting Group and the Crofters Commission Board.


CnES officers continue to engage with crofters and the agricultural sector - along with Scottish Government and other relevant NGO's - in order to promote resilience and growth within the local crofting and agriculture sector.

**Strategic** 3.1.3.Planning and infrastructure meet the needs of our communities.

#### Objective:

#### Service Profile

#### Housing

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
3.1.3.3.Develop, monitor and review the Comhairle's Local Housing Strategy (LHS) 2024-2029	Lorraine Graham - Homeless Services Manager	In Progress	01/04/2022	31/03/2029	25%	25%	 GREEN

#### ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS

The draft Local Housing Strategy 2025-2030 is nearing completion. Following extensive consultation and engagement, five outcomes have been agreed as detailed below, with 38 corresponding actions:

Outcome 1: The supply of housing meets the needs of the population of the Outer Hebrides and supports initiatives to grow, balance and retain our population in line with the Comhairle's strategic plans

Outcome 2: High quality, energy efficient homes reduce fuel poverty and decrease our buildings' contribution to climate change

Outcome 3: Homeless and potentially homeless clients can access appropriate advice, support and accommodation as required


Outcome 4: People can access services and advice that assists them to live independently and provides appropriate support if their circumstances change

Outcome 5: Communities are strengthened and supported through engagement, advice, involvement, and partnership working

It is anticipated that the consultative draft of the LHS will go to Committee for noting in September 2025, and thereafter to Scottish Government for the peer review process, and it will also be released for general consultation. Once this final consultation process has been concluded, comments returned, and recommendations received from Scottish Government, the final LHS will be prepared and returned to Committee/Comhairle in early 2026.


**Service Profile**

Planning and Building Standards

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
3.1.3.7.Undertake preparatory work for new Local Development Plan (LDP).	Mairi MacIver - DS - Development Plan Manager	In Progress	01/04/2023	31/03/2027	65%	65%	 GREEN
<b>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS</b> HebPlay - Play Sufficiency Assessment consultation launched. Development Plan Scheme and draft Participation Statement prepared and out for consultation. Co-production of Coastal Change Adaption Plan (CCAP) work to inform Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) initiated with Assets colleagues. Liaison with groups preparing Local Place Plans continues. Sign off from DPEA on outline format of draft Evidence Report received from Scot Gov Reporter  Policy review completed. Data analysis concluding. Call for Ideas and engagement portal / forms further promoted. Mechanisms to manage and record representations being assessed LDP flier in Council Tax bills. KAG offer with A&DS ended Development Plan Scheme setting outline timetable to be prepared for June Committee series ----- Pre 2025/26: Draft Infrastructure Capacity Study received and being reviewed , and work on Strategic Flood Risk Assessment underway. Engagement with KAG group continues. Policy review work underway.  Second area based workshop held covering Barra and South Uist, Surveys issued to DM staff and Members. LDP Monitoring progressed and data collation progressing. Place workshop held with senior managers and key agency stakeholders.							

**Strategic** 3.1.4. Our communities are safe, inclusive, and resilient.**Objective:****Service Profile**

Planning and Building Standards


ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
3.1.4.17.Support safe, inclusive, and resilient local communities by the maintenance of an effective building standards service as set out in the Scottish Government Verification Performance Framework and the Verification Operating Framework.	John A Gillies - Building Standards Manager	In Progress	01/04/2023	31/03/2027	25%	25%	 GREEN
<b>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS</b> Recovery from the cyber incident of 2023 has continued through 2024 and into the first quarter of 2025. In quarter 1 of 2025-26 Building Standards has substantially recovered normal operation and this is reflected in improved performance figures in comparison with the previous year. Some work remains to be done to fully restore back-office systems but this is not having a direct affect on performance and service delivery.							

**Strategic** 3.1.5.Reduce inequality and poverty and promote social mobility.

**Objective:**

**Service Profile**

Economic and Community Development


ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
3.1.5.2.Support the delivery of the Outer Hebrides Fuel Poverty Strategy and explore the concept of a Local Energy Economy for the Outer Hebrides.	Anne M Murray - Chief Officer, Economic & Community Regeneration	In Progress	01/04/2022	31/03/2030	25%	25%	 GREEN
<b>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS</b> <p>The concept of a Local Energy Economy where local (renewable) generation supplies local demand is under consideration. Direct supply from turbine to home / business is not possible because the island electricity network cannot accept intermittent generation from wind turbines. The solution therefore may be for a locally-owned, not-for-profit Energy Supply Company to purchase, through the medium of the wholesale electricity market, electricity from a local (renewable) generator for onward sale at discount to local consumers. A detailed study of this opportunity is about to be tendered. Wider work around Fuel Poverty continues with the Comhairle fully engaged with Orkney and Shetland Island Councils in the 'Island Councils Affordable Energy Group' where initiatives like a discounted Island Tariff or VAT exemption for island fuels are under consideration. Work progressed, led by 'Power Circle' looking at local energy supply options.</p>							

**Strategic** 4.1.1.Communities are empowered and continue to be at the heart of our decision making.

**Objective:**


**Service Profile**

Economic and Community Development

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
4.1.1.6.Oversee the delivery of the Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) Programme in accordance with grant obligations with the Scottish Government and the Memorandum of Understanding with the Local Action Group.	Domhnall MacDonald - Economic Development Manager	In Progress	01/06/2022	31/03/2026	25%	25%	 GREEN
<b>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS</b> <p>The CLLD Local Action Group (LAG) received an allocation of £322,032 for 2025-26 during Q1, including Tranche 2 funding. This is split between £100k of revenue with the remainder being capital funding - which represents a reduction from 2024-25, when the overall budget was over £400k. This reduction was expected, as all national CLLD budgets were cut by Scottish Government (SG) in its most recent budget. It is also anticipated that the early allocation of Tranche 2 funds will enable a more strategic approach and implementation of the 2025-26 CLLD Programme.</p> <p>For 2025-26 the LAG's overarching ambition remains to promote "Collaboration and Community Empowerment through inclusion, equality and diversity". Their main priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Wealth Building;</li> <li>• Dùthchas and Dualchas (with a focus on identifying new approaches that can lead to economic benefits);</li> <li>• Working towards Net Zero;</li> <li>• Connectivity and Sustainable &amp; Efficient Transport; and</li> <li>• Supporting Children and Young People via the Youth LAG (YLAG).</li> </ul> <p>To support its priorities, four project strands were identified by the LAG: Community Engagement; Grant Scheme(s) &amp; LAG-led projects; Strategy Development; and the YLAG. The 2025-26 Programme therefore builds on activity commenced during 2024-25, as suggested by the most recent Scottish Government guidance.</p> <p>Both LAG and YLAG recently launched grant schemes - and hope to award funds during Q2, i.e. by the end of August 2025.</p>							


**Service Profile**

Planning and Building Standards







ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
4.1.1.8.In line with the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 encourage communities to inform the Development Plan and participate in the Planning process by prompting preparation by communities of Local Place Plans.	Mairi MacIver - DS - Development Plan Manager	In Progress	01/04/2025	31/03/2030	60%	25%	 GREEN
<b>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS</b> <p>Latest: In person, email and Teams contact had with several groups currently progressing Local Place Plans. Review/sense check of Harris and Barra LPPs provided to groups. Further LDP and LPP training delivered to west Lewis community groups.</p> <p>Archive: Delivering a programme of targeted and general promotion of engagement undertaken including specific training for CLD colleagues, Community Councils and community land owning/interest groups, general mailing to LDP contact database and newsletter specifically about Local Place Plans issued. Dedicated LPP webpage with resources established on Planning pages.</p>							

**Strategic** 4.1.2.Reduction in our carbon footprint and development of an island route map to net zero.**Objective:****Service Profile**

Economic and Community Development

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ACTION STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	% COMP.	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
4.1.2.3.Support renewable energy development, maximising local socio-economic benefit.	Anne M Murray - Chief Officer, Economic & Community Regeneration	In Progress	01/04/2022	31/03/2030	25%	25%	 GREEN
<b>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS</b> <p>Major Developments Forum met in May 2025. From Comhairle's perspective, there was a particular focus in the quarter on liaison with SSEN-T and onshore / offshore wind developers on areas such as legacy housing, freight / logistics challenges. Comhairle's Internal Major Developments Oversight Board met March 2025.. The Shared Ownership Joint Venture now meets monthly, supported by a Project Manager, and an application has been submitted to secure external funding to support financial and legal due diligence.</p>							

## Scorecard - Economic and Community Regeneration

2025/26 SBP PIs - Economic and Community Regeneration	Unit	Target	Actual	Indicator	Comments
1.1.1.CD028 Proportion of Island's Deal projects delivered. Responsible Officer: Anne M Murray	%	12.00	Annual		The service have set milestone targets increasing year on year towards a target of 18 by 2030.
1.1.5 - CD007: Business Gateway: Number of new business enquiries dealt with. Responsible Officer: Domhnall MacDonald	#	70.00	102.00	 GREEN	Of the Q1 total of 102 new business enquiries dealt with, 57 were pre-start enquiries and 45 were from existing businesses.
1.1.5 - CD014 (DD020): Number of jobs created/safeguarded. Responsible Officer: Domhnall MacDonald	#	11.25	39.50	 GREEN	13 full-time and 9 part-time jobs were created by new start businesses. in addition 13 full-time and 3 part-time jobs were created along with 7 full-time and 1 part-time jobs safeguarded by existing businesses supported to grow.
1.1.5 - CD015 (DD019): Number of existing businesses supported to achieve growth. Responsible Officer: Domhnall MacDonald	#	1.25	9.00	 GREEN	8 businesses were supported to achieve growth, with one business also returning for additional support subsequently.
1.1.5 - CD016 (DD021): Number of young people supported in business. Responsible Officer: Domhnall MacDonald	#	10.00	27.00	 GREEN	Young people (under 30) supported during Q1 included: 5 start-ups; 2 existing businesses supported to achieve growth; and 20 business enquiries dealt with from both pre-start and existing businesses.
1.1.5 - CD017 (DD022): Number of new business start-ups. Responsible Officer: Domhnall MacDonald	#	8.75	17.00	 GREEN	The number of start-ups supported in Q1 was up 70% from the same period in 2024-25.
3.1.1.CE028: Number of Organisations receiving financial assistance from the Sgioba na Gàidhlig Small Grants Budget (Trend KPI). Responsible Officer: Dr. Donald Weir.	#	5.00	10.00	 GREEN	
3.1.1.CE032b: Level of funding secured from Bòrd na Gàidhlig, excluding the "Clasaichean Coimhearsnachd" project. Responsible Officer: Donald Weir	£	0.00	157,000.00	 GREEN	Bord na Gaidhlig introduced the new "Strategic Stream" funding model in 2024-25, where funding of £157,500 has been provided to CnES over 3 years till 1/11/27.
3.1.3.CD010A (DD065A): Percentage of building warrants and amendments to building warrant issued (following a first or subsequent report) within 10 working days (Annual). Responsible Officer: John A Gillies	%	90.00	Annual		
3.1.3.CD011A (DD067A): Percentage of first reports issued within 20 working days. (Annual). Responsible Officer: John A Gillies	%	95.00	Annual		