



**COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR: 15 FEBRUARY 2024**

**COMMITTEE DECISION REPORT**

**POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE: 7 FEBRUARY 2024**

At its meeting on 7 February 2024, the Policy and Resources Committee considered the business referred to below. The Committee has approved the recommendations detailed for approval by the Comhairle. Where the Committee has exercised delegated powers 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><b>Item Title</b></i>	<i><b>Agenda Number</b></i>	<i><b>Committee's Decision</b></i>
Minute of Meeting of 29 November 2023	1	The Minute of Meeting of 29 November 2023 was approved.
Declaration of Interest	2	There were no declarations of interest.
Minute of Meeting of Budget and Strategy Board of 16 January 2024	3	The Minute of Meeting of the Budget and Strategy Board of 16 January 2024 was noted.
Minute of Meeting of Community Safety Board of 31 January 2024	4	The Minute of Meeting of the Community Safety Board of 31 January 2024 was noted and the recommendations at item 3 were recommended for approval.
Minute of Meeting of Human Resources Sub-Committee of 5 February 2024	5	The Minute of Meeting of the Human Resources Sub-Committee of 5 February 2024 was noted.
Minute of Meeting of Comataidh na Gàidhlig of 6 February 2024	6	The Minute of Meeting of Comataidh na Gàidhlig of 6 February 2024 was noted and the recommendations at items 5, 6 and 7 were recommended for approval.
Cyber Incident Update	7	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle notes the update on the process of recovery from the cyber attack on the Comhairle's systems on 7 November 2023, as set out in paragraph 6.1 to 6.5 of the Report.
Council Tax on Second Homes	8	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:  (1) agree to amend the current policy to charge 200% on second homes; and  (2) agree that second home properties on the market for sale or long term let, continue on the pre-April 2024 100% charge for a period not exceeding six months from the date that the property is advertised.

Education Provision: Stornoway Primary Sports Development Update	9	<p>It was agreed, insofar as the interests of the Committee were concerned, to recommend that the Comhairle agree to:</p> <p>(1) proceed with the proposed amendments to the building size and design set out in the report in the interests of bringing the project development costs to within the range of the £2M budget; and</p> <p>(2) proceed with the project, as costed at £2.25M, if no further construction savings could be identified, and strictly subject to the successful application for external funding via the Free School Meal Expansion Programme, should the funding bid be unsuccessful, the matter will return to the next committee series for the consideration of members as to how to proceed.</p>
Residential Placements for Children and Young People	10	<p>* It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the interests of the Committee were concerned, that the Comhairle note the financial position for specialist residential provision for 2023/24.</p>
Spaceport Update	1	<p>11 * It was agreed to recommend, insofar as the interests of the Committee were concerned, that the Comhairle:</p> <p>(1) note the update on progress with the Spaceport 1 Project; and</p> <p>(2) agree the Spaceport 1 Project Board's recommendation that Option 2 is the preferred way forward in terms of the appointment of the spaceport operator and delivery of the construction phase of the project.</p>
Heat in Buildings Bill Consultation	12	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the response to the Consultation.</p>
Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places	13	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the polling districts and polling places detailed in the Appendix to the Report.</p>
British Sign Language (BSL) Plan 2024-2030	14	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <p>(1) note the BSL Progress Report 2018-2024 at Appendix 1 to the Report;</p> <p>(2) note the requirements of the BSL (Scotland) Act 2015 for public bodies in Scotland to publish BSL plans every six years, the second of which is to be published by April 2024; and</p> <p>(3) approve the draft BSL Plan 2024-2030, at Appendix 2 to the Report.</p>
Reports Outstanding	15	<p>There were no reports outstanding arising from decisions of the Committee.</p>