



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

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Minute of Meeting held in Council Chamber,
Council Offices, Stornoway on Thursday 28
March 2024 at 2.00pm.

PRESENT

Mr Kenneth Macleod (Convener)
Mr Paul Steele (Leader)
Mr Duncan MacInnes MBE (Depute Leader)
Mr Kenneth J Maclean
Mr Iain A MacNeil
Mr Iain M Macleod
Ms Susan Thomson
Mr Uisdean Robertson
Mr Grant Fulton
Mr Robert Mackenzie
Mr Ranald Fraser
Mr Norman Macdonald
Mr John Norman Macleod
Mr Donald Macsween
Mr John A Maciver
Mr Calum Maclean
Mr Donald F Crichton
Mr Iain M Macaulay
Mr Gordon Murray
Mr Rae Mackenzie
Mr Angus McCormack
Dr Frances Murray
Mr George Murray
Mr Norrie Macdonald
Mr Finlay M Stewart

APOLOGIES

Mr Malcolm K Macdonald
Mr Mustapha Hocine
Mr Angus Morrison
Mr Paul Finnegan

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Malcolm Burr
Mr Calum Mackenzie
Mr Tim Langley
Mr Donald Macleod
Mr Derek Mackay
Mr Sandy Gomez
Mr James Mackinnon
Ms Mary Clare Ferguson
Mr Steven Ferguson
Mrs Marina Macaulay

Prayer

The Meeting was preceded in prayer, led by Mr Donald Crichton.

MINUTES

Declaration of Interest 1

There were no declarations of interest.

CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

Request for Special Comhairle Meeting 2(a)

The Chief Executive submitted a document which detailed the request for a Special Meeting of the Comhairle, from nine Members of the Comhairle.

The Chairman ruled item 2(b) as urgent to allow the matter to be considered prior to the next meeting of the Comhairle.

It was agreed that the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that exempt information in terms of Paragraphs 6, 8 and 9 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, namely, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (other than the Comhairle), the amount of any expenditure proposed to be incurred by the Comhairle under any particular contract for the acquisition of property or the supply

of goods or services and any terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the Comhairle in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property or the supply of goods or services would be disclosed.

Loch na Obe Tender 2(b) The Chief Officer, Assets and Infrastructure, submitted a Report in respect of the Loch na Obe tendering process. The Report stated that one of the unsuccessful tenderers had complained about the procurement process following evaluation of their tender as non-compliant at the Technical Envelope Assessment stage. The Report detailed the tender evaluation process.

Mr Paul Steele, seconded by Mr Duncan MacInnes MBE, moved the following:

- (1) that the Comhairle note the Report; and
- (2) where appropriate, undertake pre-tender engagement on alternative options for construction.

Mr John N Macleod, seconded by Mr Calum Maclean, moved the following amendment:

that the Comhairle, in the interests of openness and transparency, agrees to accept the offer made by Duncan Mackay and Sons to pay for all costs associated with an independent review of the Loch an Obe tender process, inviting the input of all parties, on the basis that this review be undertaken by an appropriate professional jointly agreed by the Chief Executive and Duncan Mackay and Sons.

The Comhairle then proceeded to debate the motion against the amendment.

The Comhairle then proceeded to vote on the matter.

The vote was taken by roll call, as follows:

MOTION

Mr Kenneth Macleod
Mr Paul Steele
Mr Duncan MacInnes MBE
Mr Kenneth J Maclean
Mr Iain A MacNeil
Mr Iain M Macleod
Ms Susan Thomson
Mr Uisdean Robertson
Mr Grant Fulton
Mr Robert Mackenzie
Mr Donald Macsween
Mr Donald F Crichton
Mr Rae Mackenzie
Mr Angus McCormack
Dr Frances Murray
Mr George Murray
Mr Norrie Macdonald
Mr Finlay M Stewart

AMENDMENT

Mr Ranald Fraser
Mr Norman Macdonald
Mr John N Macleod
Mr John A Maciver
Mr Calum Maclean
Mr Iain M Macaulay
Mr Gordon Murray

The Motion, having received the majority of the votes cast, became the finding of the meeting.