



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR: 2 OCTOBER 2024

COMMITTEE DECISION REPORT

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: 24 SEPTEMBER 2024

At its meeting on 24 September 2024, the Sustainable Development 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>Item Title</i>	<i>Agenda Number</i>	<i>Committee's Decision</i>
Minute of Meeting of 18 June 2024	1	The Minute of Meeting of 18 June 2024 was approved.
Declaration of Interest	2	Mr Duncan MacInnes MBE, Mr Norman Macdonald and Mr Angus McCormack declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 9 as members of the Outer Hebrides Local Action Group (LAG) and remained in the meeting during consideration of the item.
Outer Hebrides Heritage Opportunities	3	This item was withdrawn and would be submitted to future meeting of the Committee
Tasglann nan Eilean Forward Plan and Policies	4	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approves: (1) the Tasglann nan Eilean Forward Plan 2024-2028 at Appendix 1 to the Report; and (2) the updated policy documents for the Comhairle's Archive Service at Appendices 2-6 to the Report.
Crofting Law Reform Proposals 2024: Consultation	5	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle agrees to: (1) homologate its response to the Scottish Government Consultation, as appended to the Report; and (2) write to Scottish Government to support the Comhairle consultation response and to seek clarification on the issues raised in respect of the new Bill.
Homelessness Annual Report – 2023-2024	6	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the contents of the Report.
Annual Assurance Statement 2024	7	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle approve the Annual Assurance Statement at Appendix 1 to the Report for submission to the Scottish Housing Regulator by 31 October 2024.

Development Plan Scheme 2024 Update – Participation Statement	8	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) approve the Participation Statement a detailed in the Appendix to the Report; and (2) authorise the Chief Planning Officer to publish the Development Plan Scheme incorporating the Participation Statement.
Community Led Local Development Programme 2024-25	9	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle agrees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) note the progress of the Scottish Government Led Local Development (CLLD) Programme 2024-25; and (2) support increased collaboration between the Outer Hebrides Local Action Group (LAG) and the Comhairle, where reasonable.
Visitor Levy (Scotland) Act 2024 Update	10	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle agrees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) continue to develop proposals, engage with stakeholders and undertake a consultation to develop a detailed outline of an Outer Hebrides Visitor Levy Scheme to be presented to members for final review and a decision to enact it; (2) respond to national consultations and develop proposals on a proposed Cruise Levy if it was to be implemented in the Outer Hebrides, through a unified collaborative approach with local stakeholders and the Highlands and Islands Regional Economic Partnership; and (3) invite representatives from Stornoway Port Authority to a future meeting of the Committee.
International Territorial Levels: Consultation Response	11	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle agrees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the response to the Scottish Government consultation on International Territorial Levels at Appendix 1 to the Report; and (2) agrees the approach to providing feedback to the Scottish Government consultation on small area statistics geographies.
Net Zero: Place-Based Co-ordination Programme	12	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle endorse the development of a Place-Based Net Zero Co-ordination Programme.</p>
Sale and Refurbishment of Vacant Properties in Winfield Way, Balivanich.	13	<p>It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) agree to the further development of proposals to allow five vacant properties in Winfield Way, Balivanich, to be returned to domestic use; and (2) note that a further report will be brought to Members seeking approval of the final proposals.

Spaceport 1	14*	<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) note the update on progress since April 2024; (2) note the confirmed pre-construction costs in Tables 1 and 2, and the overall financial position of the enabling infrastructure phase of the Spaceport 1 project; (3) approve funding of £600k from the Comhairle's Islands Deal capital match fund to lever in financial support from Highlands and Islands Enterprise and secure the £1m allocation from the Islands Growth Deal; and (4) agree to award the construction contract, subject to ongoing discussions with Highlands and Islands Enterprise on their financial contribution to the enabling infrastructure phase of the Spaceport 1 Project.
Reports Outstanding	15	It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle note the Report.